



St Briavels Parochial C of E Primary Newsletter

No 96 October 24th 2024

Letter from Mrs Frey



Dear Families,

As we head into half term, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the great start we've had to the school year. Our children have settled back into their routines wonderfully, and it has been super to see their enthusiasm for learning.

As ever, our teachers have been hard at work implementing a curriculum designed to engage and inspire our children. In English, we have continued to foster a love for reading and storytelling through the use of our new scheme Literacy Tree. In mathematics, we've focused on building strong foundational skills that will support our students in future learning.

Science lessons this term have been especially exciting, with hands-on experiments planned for all year groups. We encourage you to engage in discussions at home about what they are learning—curiosity is a powerful tool!

During the second week back, we have our autumn term parents' evenings, these are a great opportunity to discuss your child's progress with their teacher and we look forward to welcoming you all into school. Please do contact the office if you still need to make an appointment.

Your involvement in our school community has been as strong as ever. We have welcomed parents, grandparents and community volunteers into school to support us with reading, choir and of course

our gardening club in preparation for Malvern this term. We are also thrilled that our PTA continues to be a rich source of fundraising and events and they have much planned for after the holidays to look forward to. Thank you to all who give their time to support us in school, we are hugely grateful of your time and help.

The autumn term also brings about many new policies and I wrote to you in conjunction with the local authority a few weeks ago about our attendance policy. Attendance is much improved compared to this time last year and we thank you for your support in this.

There are also a number of other new policies available for you to read on our website including our safeguarding and behaviour policies. If you would prefer paper copies of any of these documents, please do not hesitate to contact the office who will be happy to print these off for you.

Finally, I want to wish you all a wonderful autumn break and I look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 4th November.

With love

Natalie Frey

Sunflowers



This term we have welcomed many new children into Sunflowers and with the support of the returning children they have already settled in extremely well.

This term we have been focusing on kindness, respect and sharing. The children are really developing these skills well and we have seen many independent examples of these in the children's play.





The children have also been looking at extending their maths skills. We have been looking at number recognition and number lines, numbers on a dice in table top games and PE, measuring using blocks, shape recognition and pattern making.







When discussing harvest, one of the core texts was Little Red Hen. This sparked a big interest in windmills and how they work. We made our own paper windmills and made our own bread hedgehog rolls, again using our maths and sharing skills.





During our Pre-school afternoons we are supporting the children with their road safety skills.



Bluebell Class



We have had a very busy start to the term and all the children have settled well into our school routines. Bluebell reception children have been exploring the topic of 'What Makes Me Me' and have celebrated differences, found out that not everybody enjoys the same things and explored how it's good to be an individual. We read lots of lovely texts where the characters are all different from the norm, but are proud to be who they are, such as 'Elmer', 'Julian is a Mermaid' and 'Croc and Bird' as well as many others.

Year 1 have had a very busy term finding out about holidays in the past, cave paintings and seasonal changes in the environment. We have followed their lead in literacy and are producing some lovely leaflets about hibernating animals, as this is an area they are particularly interested in.

As always, if anyone is having a clear out of good quality books or toys we are always grateful to receive donations. Next term we are finding out about space amongst other things. We will be reading 'Look Up' by Nathan Bryan and 'Astro Girl' by Ken Wilson-Max. If any of you have a telescope or anything astronaut related we could borrow for dressing up, we would be very grateful.





Daisy Class



We had a lovely time at Bearse Farm this month. The children enjoyed splitting logs, building a campfire and using this to bake bread. They also loved seeing the animals and exploring the environment. We would like to thank Tim and Emily for organising the visit for us.

In PE, it's been all about games this term, trying to find space to attack and how to work as part of a team. Working together has been an underlying theme in the class too. We all love our Forest School sessions and we have been spotting changes in nature as the winter is approaching. We have been exploring arrangements in art and have explored using inks to create our own pieces based on Autumn leaves. We look forward to sharing these with you shortly!

But now, we are all ready for the half term!





Poppy Class



We have had a brilliant start to the term and have really enjoyed exploring the Stone Age to the Iron Age. The homework the children have created has been so lovely to share and shows their enjoyment of this time period.

We are very lucky to have two PGCE students in Poppy class - Mrs Thomas and Miss Rees. They will be with us until the 6th December.

Poppy class had an amazing time visiting Stonehenge. We were able to look at the stones, visit the barrows and look at recreations of Neolithic houses. A huge thank you to Claire Deacon and Anna Bedford for supporting us on this trip.

Have a lovely half-term.

Mrs Kear





Speedwell Class

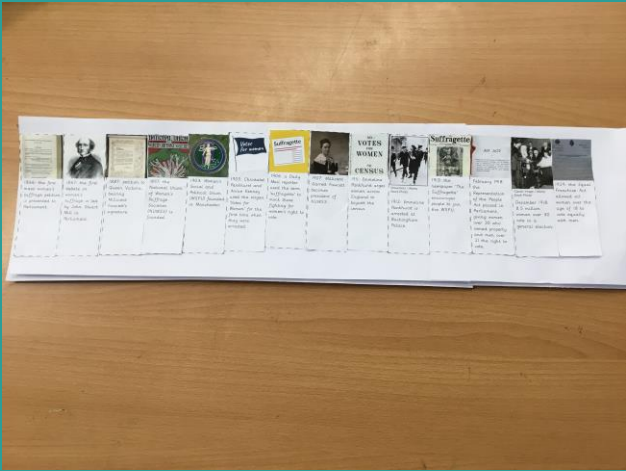


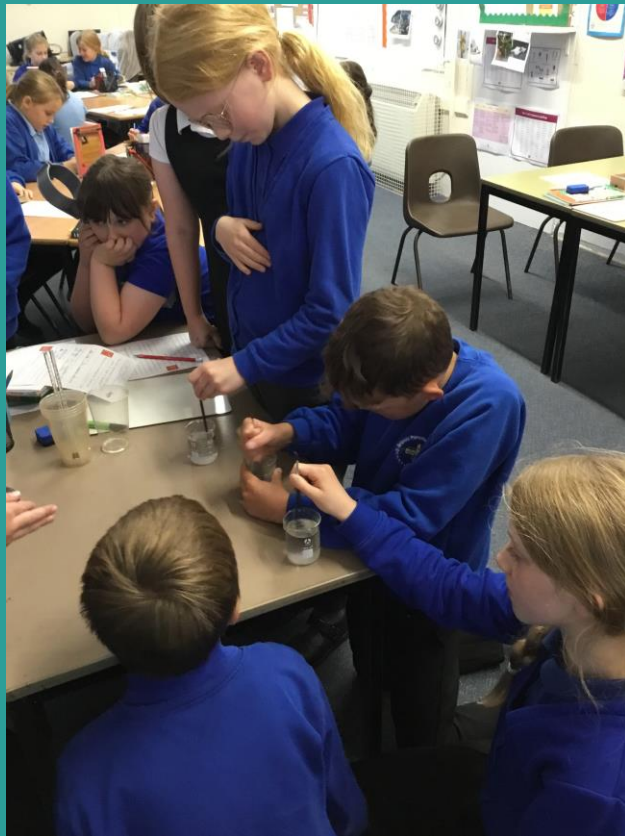
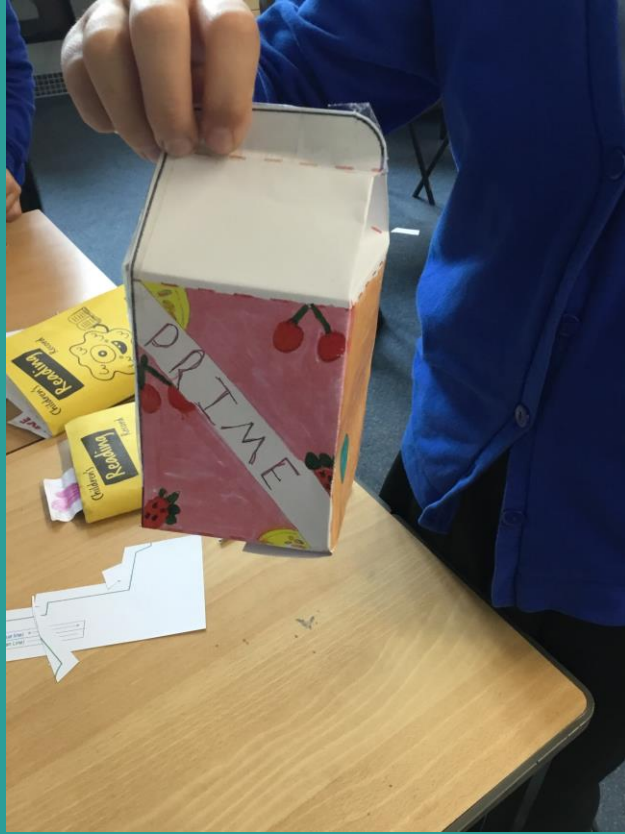
What a first term back we have had. We have really enjoyed our English book 'FARTHER' and 'Until I Met Dudley'. The children have written super narratives and explanations.

In science, Year 4 have learnt all about digestion and teeth and Year 5 have had fun sieving, filtering and dissolving solids, and liquids. History has been all about the census and learning about why women boycotted the census and what we can learn about the past.

I hope you all have a restful half term.

Mrs Critchley





Sporting Events

Children from Year 5 and 6 have been busy competing in sporting events this half term.

A group of boys took part in a boys football tournament where they narrowly missed out on making the semi final. A group of girls took part in a girls tournament and played really well as for some it was the first time they ever played football.

A team of boys and girls took part in cross country at Five Acres, they had to run around the school field. All the children performed amazingly at all events.





Foxglove Class



What a lovely start to the term! Foxglove have enjoyed their time back in school and have settled well after the summer. We've loved looking at our class books, 'Leila and the Blue Fox' and 'The Arrival'. They have had the chance to write some lovely stories and even a great blog post about Leila's lessons she learnt on her trip to the Arctic.

In science, Year 5 have learnt more about the properties of materials and had a lot of fun separating materials using sieving, evaporation, filtering and dissolving solids, and liquids. In Art, the children have especially enjoyed converting their 2D pictures into 3D models. Please enjoy some pictures of their activities.

I hope you all have a wonderful half term.

Mr Ford





Reading News



Reading Raffle

At St Briavels, we love books and reading! To encourage reading at home, we hold a termly Reading Raffle at the end of each term. This year we are super excited about our Reading Raffles as we have the most wonderful mix of books for the winners to choose from. A huge thank you to our PTA who have kindly funded our raffle books, as well as to the wonderful staff at the Chepstow Books and Gifts who helped put together the selection.

And just as a reminder - Every child has an opportunity to earn a raffle ticket every week of the term which will then enter the raffle at the end of the term. But, the children need your help! The reading has to be done at home with an adult who writes a short log into the child's reading record. Three logs a week earns a raffle ticket. The Reading Records are checked every Monday.

ELSA News



It's been a great start to the new academic year seeing some new faces. Lots of children have been learning new emotional vocabulary to use when talking about their emotions.

This year I've started a 'Chill & Chat' session for year 6 on a Wednesday lunchtime. This gives them an opportunity to have some time in the ELSA room to play games and talk in a more relaxed environment and bring up any worries or concerns they may have. They have all seemed to enjoy it so far, and it's been lovely getting to know them more out of the classroom.

Mrs Hill

Malvern Spring Festival Garden Competition



The theme for Malvern this year is 'Around the World- Using a City or a Country as Inspiration' and the Federation have voted for Hawaii. We will begin to take ideas from the children and they have been invited to submit designs which will inform the final plan.

Our final gardening club is Friday 25th October and will resume again after February half term. This term we have been busy harvesting our produce and tidying the garden and pots around school. We've also started to plan and write ideas down for next year's School Garden.

To help with the costs of Malvern we will be fundraising throughout the year, with our first event (the Pig Race) coming up on Friday 15th November. Please see our poster below for more details. If anyone has any raffle prizes that could be used on the night please get in touch.



Family Pig Race Night

In order to help to cover our costs for the schools Malvern Garden competition and to be able to take children to and from the showground during the festival, we are holding a family fund raising pig race.

Amy Swinehouse

Harry Trotter

You can come along and bet on a pig for each of the 6 races, (50p per pig per race) if your chosen pig wins you will receive a share of the winnings.

Additionally, sponsor and name a pig for £5 for a chance at an owner's prize! The "piggier" the name. the better!

St Briavels School Hall
Friday 15th November
5:30-8:30

If you would like to attend, please email your food choices and/or pig name to ntaylor@st-briavels.gloucs.sch.uk and pay via bank transfer to :

Malvern Garden. Acc no. 12108563. Sort code 30-99-50. Ref- child's name

Choice of main meal to enjoy before the racing starts with dessert at the interval.

Adult: £7.50
Child: £5

Menu Choices:
Jacket Potato with either: chilli, vegetarian chilli, tuna, cheese or beans

Please state how many adult and child tickets you require.

Name	Adult tickets	Child tickets

Please select a filling for each of your jacket potatoes.

Chilli	Vegetarian Chilli	Cheese	Tuna	Baked Beans

If you would like to sponsor a pig, please include £5 in your payment.
Piggy name: _____

Dates for your diaries

Please check letters home for more details about events. Dates may change.

Thursday 24 October Foxglove Class Cake Sale

LAST DAY OF TERM - Fri 25 October

FIRST DAY OF TERM - Mon 4 November

Tuesday 5 November Speedwell Class Swim lessons commence (7 weeks)

Monday 11 November Parent Meetings (3:30pm – 6:00pm) Slots available to book from October.

Wednesday 13 November Flu Immunisations (all year groups)

Wednesday 13 November Open Morning for prospective Parents. Please book with School Office

Wednesday 13 November Parent Meetings (3:30pm – 6:00pm) Slots available to book from October

Friday 15 November Malvern Fundraiser – Pig Racing.

Wednesday 20 November Phonics Morning (Bluebell & Daisy Class) – Parents Invited to Classrooms

Friday 22 November Reception/Year1/Year 2 Christmas Pantomime trip to Drill Hall

Wednesday 27 November Open Morning for prospective Parents. Please book with School Office

Thursday 28 November Photographs (Individual & Sibling Groups)

Friday 29 November INSET DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED

Wednesday 11 December Christmas Performance for Year 1 to Year 6 (afternoon)

Thursday 12 December Christmas Performance for Year 1 to year 6 (evening)

Friday 13 December Year 3 to Year 6 Christmas Pantomime trip to Savoy Theatre

Wednesday 18 December Christmas Jumper Day

Wednesday 18 December School Christmas Lunch

Friday 20 December Christingle Services at St Briavels Church Reception/KS1 service at 9:00am – Reception children will perform their Nativity at the service KS2 service at 10:00am

LAST DAY OF TERM - Fri 20 December

FIRST DAY OF TERM - Mon 6 January

We update key dates on our website (www.wyeforestfederation.co.uk), please check there and in your emails for notifications

Term Dates 2024/25

SEPTEMBER							OCTOBER					NOVEMBER						
Mon		2	9	16	23	30	Mon		7	14	21	28	Mon		4	11	18	25
Tues		3	10	17	24		Tues	1	8	15	22	29	Tues		5	12	19	26
Wed		4	11	18	25		Wed	2	9	16	23	30	Wed		6	13	20	27
Thur		5	12	19	26		Thur	3	10	17	24	31	Thur		7	14	21	28
Fri		6	13	20	27		Fri	4	11	18	25		Fri	1	8	15	22	29
Sat		7	14	21	28		Sat	5	12	19	26		Sat	2	9	16	23	30
Sun	1	8	15	22	29		Sun	6	13	20	27		Sun	3	10	17	24	

DECEMBER							JANUARY					FEBRUARY						
Mon		2	9	16	23	30	Mon		6	13	20	27	Mon		3	10	17	24
Tues		3	10	17	24	31	Tues		7	14	21	28	Tues		4	11	18	25
Wed		4	11	18	25		Wed	1	8	15	22	29	Wed		5	12	19	26
Thur		5	12	19	26		Thur	2	9	16	23	30	Thur		6	13	20	27
Fri		6	13	20	27		Fri	3	10	17	24	31	Fri		7	14	21	28
Sat		7	14	21	28		Sat	4	11	18	25		Sat	1	8	15	22	
Sun	1	8	15	22	29		Sun	5	12	19	26		Sun	2	9	16	23	

MARCH							APRIL					MAY						
Mon		3	10	17	24	31	Mon		7	14	21	28	Mon		5	12	19	26
Tues		4	11	18	25		Tues	1	8	15	22	29	Tues		6	13	20	27
Wed		5	12	19	26		Wed	2	9	16	23	30	Wed		7	14	21	28
Thur		6	13	20	27		Thur	3	10	17	24		Thur	1	8	15	22	29
Fri		7	14	21	28		Fri	4	11	18	25		Fri	2	9	16	23	30
Sat	1	8	15	22	29		Sat	5	12	19	26		Sat	3	10	17	24	31
Sun	2	9	16	23	30		Sun	6	13	20	27		Sun	4	11	18	25	

JUNE						JULY						AUGUST						
Mon		2	9	16	23	30	Mon		7	14	21	28	Mon		4	11	18	25
Tues		3	10	17	24		Tues	1	8	15	22	29	Tues		5	12	19	26
Wed		4	11	18	25		Wed	2	9	16	23	30	Wed		6	13	20	27
Thur		5	12	19	26		Thur	3	10	17	24	31	Thur		7	14	21	28
Fri		6	13	20	27		Fri	4	11	18	25		Fri	1	8	15	22	29
Sat		7	14	21	28		Sat	5	12	19	26		Sat	2	9	16	23	30
Sun	1	8	15	22	29		Sun	6	13	20	27		Sun	3	10	17	24	31

Term Time		Holidays	
Bank Holiday		INSET days	