



St Briavels Parochial C of E Primary Newsletter

No 104 February 12th 2026

Letter from Mrs Frey



Dear Families,

This term in our worships, we have been thinking about how being resilient can help us to achieve more. We have learnt about a range of people who have all shown great resilience in their personal stories, from Malala to Harry Kane and a host of other people whose stories have inspired many. We have thought about how being resilient is like being a bouncy ball that springs back up after being dropped, or being strong enough to "bounce back" from tough times. We also know that keeping going when things are tricky is important as that helps us to learn. A key feature of many of the stories we have heard is that we must work hard and never give up hope. Resilience is one of our school values and we work to develop this in all of our children as we know that it will aid them greatly not only in school but in life beyond our school doors.

This week, we have also thought about Children's Mental Health week in our classrooms. The theme this year is belonging and what that means to children. Belonging is important to us and we want our children to feel that they belong to our school community where they are loved, respected and celebrated for being themselves.

Part of our wider community is our wonderful PTA who work hard to raise funds and put on events for our children and families. We are always grateful for all they do and all the more so as our current committee stands down – you have been phenomenal to work with and I am so grateful for your commitment over the past few years. If you would like to ‘take the baton’ and continue what has been started, please do see the PTA update below for more information.

At the end of last term, I sent out an online safety update to all families, I hope it was useful. As we head into the holidays again, if you need any support around online safety please take a moment to look back at this letter as in it there were many websites and groups that can help you if needed. We are also happy to help in school too – do reach out to us. There will be a further update for you before Easter.

As I write this, the sun has finally come out from behind the clouds and it is a beautiful afternoon. It reminds me of the brighter days to come and whilst the forecast next week is not ideal, I hope you are able to have a good break.

I look forward to seeing everyone back in school for term 4.

Natalie Frey

Executive Headteacher

Sunflowers



This term, the Sunflower children have shown a wonderful fascination with dinosaurs and their environment. They were set the challenge to make a dinosaur world to play with. After looking at books and discussing what the dinosaurs needed in their environment, we set to work creating this land, following instructions of how to use new materials, sharing equipment and displaying our creative skills.

This was extended to learn about volcanoes, looking at cross section pictures, watching eruptions on the big screen and carrying out our own science experiments pretending we were making our own volcanoes.









We have been making the most of our weather. We have wrapped up warm, putting our independence skills to the test, ready to play in the snow. We have learnt about temperature, how it changes and how to measure it using a thermometer. The children explored the outdoor blocks and the massive, muddy puddles in the 'Big' playground.

We also have discussed how we can look after outdoor animals when the weather is so wet and cold and made bird food to help them.

Bluebell Class



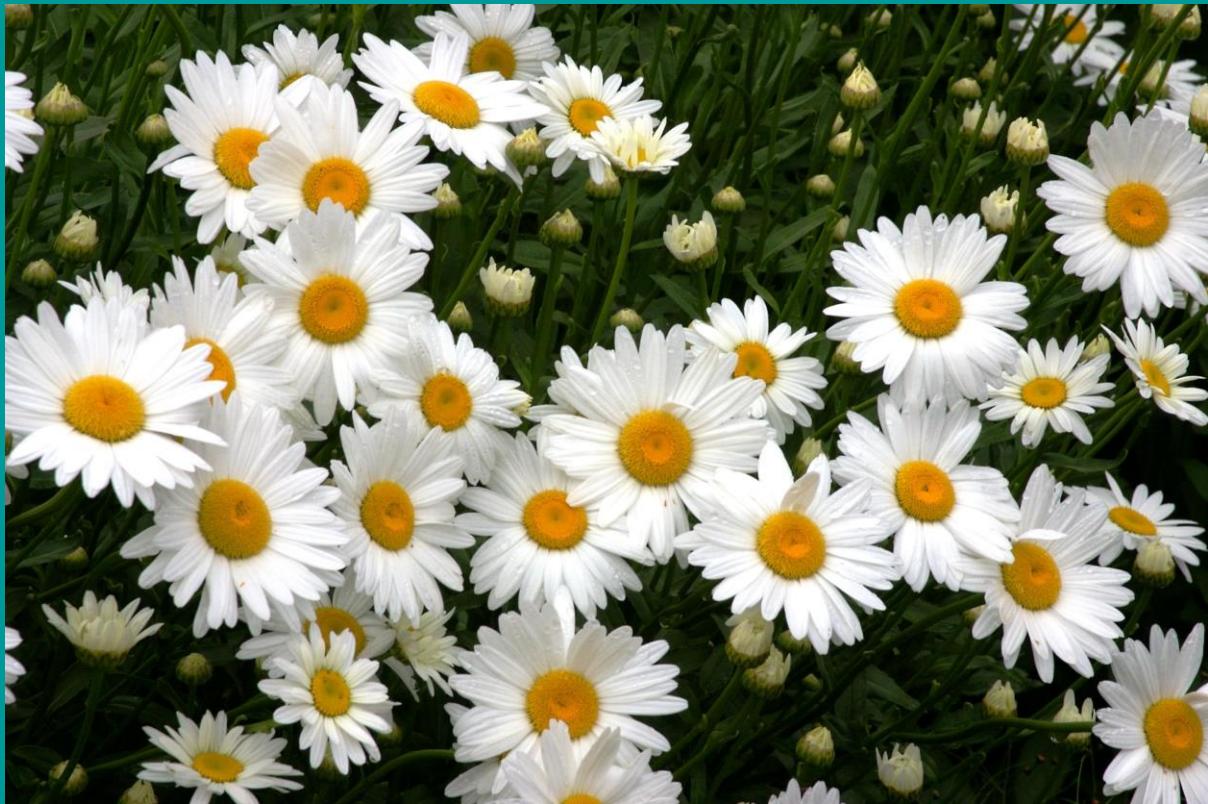
Another busy term. Bluebell Reception have been finding out about the Lunar New Year celebrations and have enjoyed hearing traditional tales from China. They have also explored lots of Chinese art, Chinese writing and traditions. We would like to say a big thank you to Elodie's mum and dad for inviting us to see their donkeys, we had a lovely afternoon finding out about them, feeding them carrots and petting them. It was a very enjoyable experience.

Year 1 have been continuing with their studies on the history of flight and are really looking forward to their trip next term. They had a very enjoyable afternoon making paper aeroplanes and testing them to see how far they flew.

As always, if you are able to we would love any donations of good quality books, toys or puzzles. We are thinking about all things that grow from seeds next term, so if you have any spare compost or seeds we would be very grateful to receive them.



Daisy Class

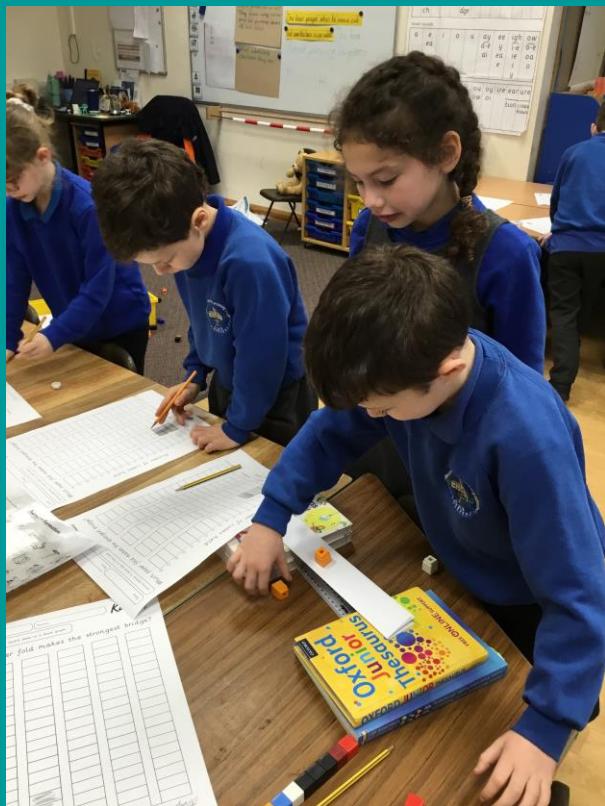


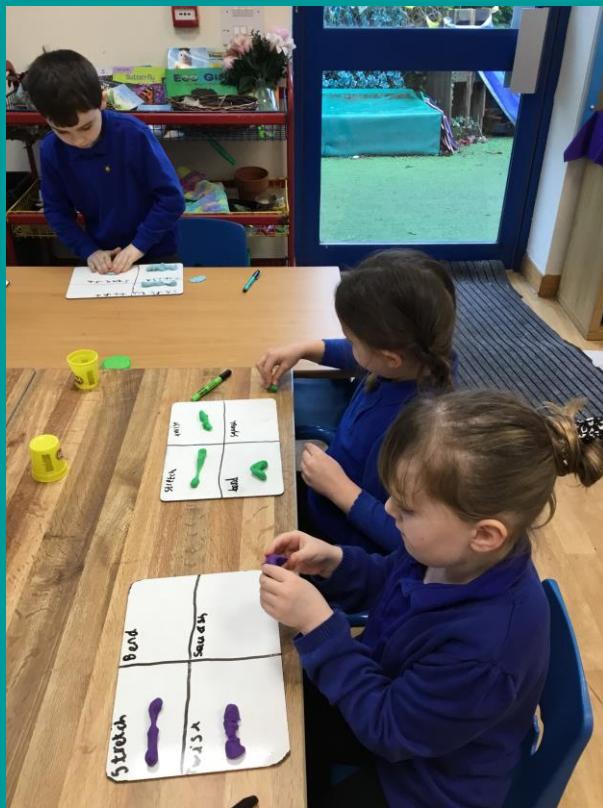
What a term we have had! We have been learning all about the uses of materials and using our senses to taste, smell and hear different things. We have all loved learning all about flight and we are looking forward to our trip to Bristol Aerodrome. Year 1 have had fun being pirates and writing about them. Year 2 have enjoyed 'The Bear and the Piano' and writing their own version of the story. In RE, we have created some super art work of where we can find Allah and the 99 names for him.

I hope you all have a restful half term and look forward to Term 4.

Mrs Critchley,







Poppy Class



Poppy Class have had a wonderful term learning about the Romans in History. This topic culminated in our trip to Caerleon on Monday where we experienced a Roman banquet as slaves and rich people. The food was at times rather miserable - peacock brains and stuffed doormice to name but a few of the dishes. We were all glad we didn't have to try them for real.

We explored the barracks, both the ruins and a room set up for eight men from the legion where they slept, cooked and spent time together. We also dressed up as Roman soldiers and discovered that the armour was very heavy.

Away from the museum, we visited the Roman baths. The children were mesmerised by the ruins of one of the baths where the water was animated. They had expected it to be filled with real water but in order to preserve the ruins this is not now possible. They were far less keen on the toileting arrangements, Romans wiped their bottoms with a shared sponge on a stick dipped in vinegar to clean it!

Wishing you all a super half term break.

Mrs Kear, Mrs Frey and Mrs Morse.









Speedwell Class



Despite the never-ending January, this term has absolutely flown by. We all loved to start the year with the Young Voices songs and it was lovely to see the excitement that the children headed off to Birmingham with, as well as the buzz that returned! The same musical theme has luckily continued in PE where the children practised and performed an amazing Bollywood themed dance.

This term, our English focus has been all about Tutankhamun and Howard Carter, the children writing wonderful biographies to finish the unit off. During Science lessons, the class has been full of enthusiasm, with lots of science experiments taking place to learn more about electricity, states of matter and changes of materials. In Art, the children have explored different mark making media, using creative ideas of Maurice Sendak (Where the Wild Things Are) as inspiration, to create our own Wild Things scene.

Wishing you all a lovely break and I look forward to seeing you all again soon.

Mrs Lindqvist







Foxglove Class



It feels like Foxglove class have achieved a lot in what has been quite the busy term. Starting off with Young Voices was amazing and I know everyone who went had a wonderful time. It was incredible to see all that hard work the children have put into learning the songs and dances pay off. We've also been on a few trips to secondary schools this term. Year 5 were able to experience a wonderful art lesson at The Dean Academy, creating faces using fruit while the Year 6's watched a play at Wyedean.

In History this term, we've been looking at the Vikings: who they are, where they came from and why they were so interested in Britain. Next term, we'll be departing from snowy Scandinavia to looking at the blistering hot deserts of the world. Meanwhile in PE, we've had a lot of fun exploring balance in gymnastics and working on our attitudes while performing street dancing.

I wish you all a lovely half term and hope you are looking forward to the next term.

Mr Ford







ELSA News

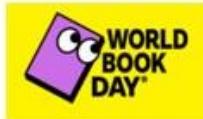


This term in ELSA, children have been learning about the *Zones of Regulation* to help them understand and manage their emotions. By exploring the blue, green, yellow and red zones, children are beginning to recognise how they feel, what their bodies are telling them, and which strategies can help them return to a calm, ready-to-learn state.

I thoroughly enjoyed joining the children on the trip to Young Voices as well and it was so lovely to see so many of them dancing and singing to their favourite tunes.

Mrs Hill

World Book Day



March is nearly upon us and that can only mean one thing - World Book Day is just around the corner! On Thursday 5th March, we will be celebrating all things reading and books.

We invite the children and staff to come to school dressed up either as book characters or in their favourite comfy reading clothes.



At WFF, we also have a tradition of inviting children to get creative in sharing their favourite books and we love that this often gets the whole family involved! This year, the challenge is to create a '**Book in a Jar**'. One jar, one story – nothing else. Get creative!

Here are a few examples for inspiration!



Family Pig Race Night

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 6th March
5:30-8:30

If you would like to attend, please email your food choices and/or pig name to ntaylor@st-briavels.glos.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: _____

PTA news

Time has now come to pass on the baton.

Jade, Aby and I (Claire) are all stepping down from the PTA by the end of the school year.

We have really enjoyed our time providing activities for the children and adults. (hopefully, you have enjoyed them too)

This means that there is now the opportunity for the next group of parents to take over and make it their own.

We are announcing this now so that we can offer a hand over period, maybe take on a joint event with the new parents.

St Briavel's School has an amazing supporting parent group who make running events so much easier, and we couldn't have run the events we have without them.

If you are interested putting yourself forward as a Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary or Treasurer please get in touch,

We will have a catch up on Tuesday 24th March, 7:30 pm – at The George, where we can offer more information if needed.

We look forward to seeing you there, please come along even if you cannot commit to a core role, your support will be appreciated.



Thanks you to all our families who donated their pre-loved items to our latest Rags to Riches collection – we raised £38!!!

Dates for your diaries

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

Thurs 12 Feb - Speedwell Class Cake Sale

Fri 13 Feb - PTA Crazy Hair Day

LAST DAY OF TERM - Fri 13 Feb

FIRST DAY OF TERM - Mon 23 Feb

Tues 24 Feb - Reception & Year 6 Height, Weight, Vision Checks (NHS Programme) (more info to follow)

Fri 27 Feb - Years 1 & 2 Bristol Aerospace Trip

Thurs 5 March World Book Day (more info to follow)

Fri 6 Mar - 5.30-8.30pm, Pig Race at St Briavels School in aid of Malvern Garden project

Wed 11 March Maths Morning - Years 1 to 6 Parents invited to classrooms (more info to follow)

Thurs 12 March – Thursday 19 March Book Fair (more info to follow)

Tues 24 March PTA School Disco (more info to follow)

Thurs 26 March Poppy Class Cake Sale

LAST DAY OF TERM - Fri 27 Mar

Tues 31 March Malvern Practice Build Day

FIRST DAY OF TERM - Mon 13 April

Wed 22 April - Class Photographs

Term Dates 2025/26

Please note these are for the academic year starting in September 2025 .

Term dates can be found on our website here:

https://www.wyeforestfederation.co.uk/web/term_dates/372930

Term Dates 2025/26						
SEPTEMBER						
Mon	1	8	15	22	29	
Tues	2	9	16	23	30	
Wed	3	10	17	24		
Thur	4	11	18	25		
Fri	5	12	19	26		
Sat	6	13	20	27		
Sun	7	14	21	28		
OCTOBER						
Mon		6	13	20	27	
Tues		7	14	21	28	
Wed	1	8	15	22	29	
Thur	2	9	16	23	30	
Fri	3	10	17	24	31	
Sat	4	11	18	25		
Sun	5	12	19	26		
NOVEMBER						
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DECEMBER						
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Sun	7	14	21	28		
JANUARY						
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FEBRUARY						
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Sat	7	14	21	28		
Sun	1	8	15	22		
MARCH						
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APRIL						
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Sun	5	12	19	26		
MAY						
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Sun	3	10	17	24	31	
JUNE						
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JULY						
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Sun	5	12	19	26		
AUGUST						
Mon		3	10	17	24	31
Tues	4	11	18	25		
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Thur	6	13	20	27		
Fri	7	14	21	28		
Sat	1	8	15	22	29	
Sun	2	9	16	23	30	
Term Time		Holidays		Inset Days		
Bank Holiday						