



# NEWSLETTER

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**TERM 1, 2 & 3 2022-23**





Dear Parents and Carers,

As we begin the fourth term of the school year, we would like to take a moment to reflect on the amazing achievements of the past three terms. We have had an eventful year so far, and it is only fitting that we share the highlights with you. In this newsletter, you will find updates on the latest school events, activities, and accomplishments.

## Transforming the Play Space

We are grateful to the team from DBD Play for transforming the play space at the heart of the school. The children have been thrilled to use this space, named 'The Bank', and share it across the school.



## New Resource Base

The building work on the new Resource Base has been completed, and we are delighted to announce that the centre is now open.



### Exciting School Visits

In Term 1, Year 3 visited the Bristol Hindu Temple and enjoyed a tour and talk by the Panditji. They have written beautiful thank-you letters. Year 4 visited St Anne's Church and were given a tour by the Church Warden and Canon. Year 6 went on a local area walk to Rosemary Green to plant napweed, which will encourage bees and insects to the area and help to improve the biodiversity of our local area.



### Sleep Routines Talk

Dr Ranj visited the school and talked to parents about sleep routines. He then visited Years 1 and 2 briefly before delivering an assembly to KS2 about sleep routines and the importance of sleeping well.



### Celebrating Black History Month

In Year 5, we celebrated Black History Month by looking at poetry by Joseph Coelho and Benjamin Zephaniah. We particularly enjoyed the poem 'I love me mudder'. We also completed a predictive piece of writing about Malorie Blackman's book, Thief, and we will carry on learning about Malorie Blackman's work next term.







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## Christmas Festivities

We enjoyed Christmas at May Park with our Christmas Lunch supplied by our Kitchen staff from Edwards & Ward and Christmas Jumper Day on the 8th December. We would like to say a massive thank you to everyone that donated to Children in Need and Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day this year. We raised £295.34 for Children in Need and £160.69 for Save the Children.

## Gardening and Community Support

Thank you to the May Park PTA Gardeners who have successfully cleared the trees and bushes behind the bike tunnel (by the polytunnel) to prevent it from falling into disrepair. We also extend our gratitude to the One Tree Per Child project, who donated 75 fruit trees to our children to plant at home. Our children enjoyed receiving their trees and a visit from Marvin Rees, the local Mayor.



## FREE FRUIT TREES



Bristol One Tree per Child have 4,700 free fruit trees for Bristol school children to take home and plant.

Would you be interesting in receiving one?



Your apple, pear or plum tree will grow to a final approximate height of 3m with a spread of 4m (10 x 12ft) and should fruit within 2-3 years.

Please plant in the ground where there is space for their final size.



## Winter Raffle and Fair

Thank you to all who donated prizes to and/or entered our Winter Raffle, helping to make it a huge success. Together, we raised £1000 for the PTA, which will be spent directly on trips, projects, and equipment for students and their families. Another special thank you goes to our super-generous first-prize winners, who have made sure there will be another chance to win a pair of tickets to Shambala 2023 in the Spring raffle next year! We would also like to acknowledge Claire and all the fantastic volunteers from the PTA and local families who made the Winter Fair possible and brought the festive vibes.

## Multi-family group for years 4 and 5

Multi-family groups in schools are an intervention that help children with emotional and/or behavioural challenges, by bringing together different families and education staff into one group. Children have the opportunity to work alongside their parents/carers inside school on a range of fun activities (like games, challenges and art and craft activities) in order to learn new skills and work on personalized targets.

The approach is one that brings families together to find new solutions so that the children can be helped to behave better, be happier or more settled and engage with teaching and learning opportunities in school.

The multi-family group at May Park takes place each Friday morning between 9 and 11 a.m. If you think your child could benefit from this group, and you can commit to taking part alongside your child for a period of around 10 weeks, please contact Miss Parton for further information. We are looking for 6-8 families but will run another group later in the year.



## Healthy schools

We are working towards our Healthy schools award and as part of this are currently aiming to complete the modestars shift award which is focussed on travel and physical activity. Earlier this term, years 2-6 took part in a Be Active assembly and workshops with the sustainable travel team from Bristol City Council.

## Road Safety

Last term during road safety week the Reception classes had the Road Safety Kit which enabled them to practice being safe on the roads and the rest of the school took part in 'Be Bright, Be Seen' workshops.

## Voices in a Pandemic

Following the pandemic our school was involved with VIP clear project (Voices in a Pandemic - Children's lockdown experiences applied to recovery) undertaken by UWE. The experiences and stories that were shared by the children and those from other Bristol schools have inspired the creation of a book - 'Learning to live with Fog Monsters' with the aim of helping young people, parents, carers and teachers talk about unseen, uncertain and intangible threats that affect different people in different ways. Our children that were part of the focus group will receive a book each and the project has donated 2 class sets to our school.

## MCAS

Please set up your My Child At School account if you haven't already done so as this is where we take payments for school dinners and lost books as well as getting your permission for school visits etc. If you would like to make additional donations to school visits, you can do this by using the payment item tab on the left hand side in the MCAS app.





## East Bristol Foodbank

We are a refer for East Bristol Foodbank. Please contact one of the pastoral team if you would like to access this help. We also distribute food weekly which has been donated by a food group. Unfortunately, due to increasing pressures on everyone, they are receiving a reduced amount of donations. If you are able, we would love to receive any donations and distribute them though our school community. Please bring any donations to the front office.

## Mr Omar

We all wish Mr Omar a speedy recovery and we all hope to see him up and about soon. Meanwhile, our road safety is in safe hands due to Gill Knight, our site supervisor, stepping in to cover the role.

## Dress to Express Day

We took part in Dress to Express Day in support of children's mental health. The purpose of the day was to express our interests, feelings and uniqueness.





## Attendance News

- Please ensure that we have three emergency contact numbers and are informed of any changes to your phone numbers or addresses.
- If your child has a medical or dental appointment, please show an appointment card/text or letter for the absence to be authorised.



## Penalty Notices for Absence

We are working hard to improve the overall school attendance. One of the strategies that we are using is asking the council to issue penalty notices. If your child has 8 unauthorised absences in a 10 week period then you are at risk of receiving a penalty notice.

## Congratulations!

Year 5 are earning the most pasta for good behaviour at lunchtimes and therefore earned a reward of extra playtime in the first week of term 3. Also, well done to the 278 pupils who have attendance of 96% or above!

## How can you help your new Crossing Patrol and keep children safe?

We currently have a problem at the beginning and end of the school day with parents and carers parking on the zig zags, parking on pavements or stopping in the middle of the road to drop off or pick up their children.

The school keep clears are there to provide a space where people wishing to cross the road can see approaching traffic clearly and drivers coming up to the crossing point can see anyone waiting to cross and take appropriate action.





(cont. from page 8) By parking on the zigzags you are forcing the School Crossing Patrol and those wanting to cross with her to walk out into the road when they may not be clearly visible to other road users. When you are a child this is even more dangerous because vehicles can block any view that you might have or any view that drivers may have of you. Add to that the fact that children can act unexpectedly and can dart out into the road without warning, it becomes even more obvious that blocking this keep clear space is both dangerous and selfish.

The mandatory school keep clear markings are approved to protect pedestrian entrances and School Crossing Patrols. They apply to everyone including Blue Badge holders. If you park on them and the Parking Attendants visit, you could find yourself liable to a £70 fine. This is reduced to £35.00 if you pay within 14 days of its issue. Only emergency vehicles are allowed to park on the enforceable zig zags.

If you have to drive please park away from the zigzags. It is always difficult when you are driving as parking fills up quickly at all schools. If you are running late it is even harder to find somewhere safe to park. Give yourself a few extra minutes so that you are not tempted to park in a dangerous place.

The other problem we have is that children are being let out of cars into the middle of the road with traffic that may, at that moment, be stationary when the SCP is crossing people, but can move off very quickly once she leaves the road. Your child may still be in the road in moving traffic. One incident we saw was chilling enough to watch but must have been awful for the child. A child got out of the car into traffic, the driver behind the child's vehicle got impatient and pulled out around the car with the child stranded in the road. Their parent was moving off and they were left in moving traffic until someone took pity on them and stopped to let them cross.

Please don't let that happen to your child. Find a space and let them get out onto the pavement side of the road and walk on to school.



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(cont. from page 9) Please support your school and the wider school community by keeping the markings clear and maintaining good visibility and crossing routes for everyone wishing to access the school. Thank you.

Frances Dansie, at:  
[frances.dansie@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:frances.dansie@bristol.gov.uk)

## What's on at May Park?

Bristol Blades Fencing - every Friday



**The fun starts here**

**Rainbows** learn by doing - they get their hands dirty, do sports, arts and crafts, and play games.  
For girls aged 4 to 7. Wednesdays 5.30pm to 6.30pm.

**Brownies** offers girls exciting opportunities to take on new challenges, make brilliant friends and discover the world around them.  
For girls aged 7 to 10. Wednesdays 6pm to 7.30pm.

**Guides** At Guides, you can explore new places, get involved in leadership opportunities, and learn a huge range of new skills.  
For girls aged 10 to 14. Wednesdays 6.30pm to 8pm.

**Volunteers** can get experience working with children, a leadership qualification, first aid and safeguarding training, and a reference.  
You'll commit to helping the unit for 2 hours a week.

**May Park Primary School**

**Girlguiding** WE DISCOVER, WE GROW

[girlguiding.org.uk/joinus](http://girlguiding.org.uk/joinus)  
or call **0800 169 5901**  
Select 17th Bristol.

**May Park Primary School**

**MORNING STARS**  
**BREAKFAST CLUB**

**rise and shine**



## Morning Stars Breakfast Club

Morning Stars Breakfast Club is open every morning, throughout the school year, taking children from Reception to year 6. We are open at 7.45 and close our doors promptly at 8.30. Entrance costs £2.50 per session which can be paid in advance or on the day, this includes breakfast. Children can choose between a choice of hot and cold cereals, toast and bagels with juice or milk to drink. Activities include boardgames, Lego, seasonal crafts, drawing, Beyblades and much more. We also play outside in the wood, on the MUGA and playground. One of our most popular activities is dodgeball.

Children said they liked breakfast club because, "I like the porridge." "I like playing table tennis." "I like everything about breakfast club."

Why not come along for a session and meet our friendly caring staff?

**"It's a life saver my child loves it."**

**"Nice to mix outside of year groups."**



**"[I'd be] lost without it, it's brought my reception child out of their shell."**





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