



## Berkley C of E First School

Headteacher: Mrs Thompson

Telephone: 01373 887390

*'Let your light shine'*

# NEWSLETTER

Friday 24th November 2023

### KEY INFORMATION:

**Drop off: Owls and siblings only – 8.40am**

**All other classes at 8.50am.** The register is taken at 9am.

Please ensure your child arrives at school on time, we close the gate at 9am for security.

**Next Inset Days: Tuesday 2nd and Wednesday 3rd January 2024**

### BIBLE REFERENCER OR PRAYER

Jeremiah 34:26 shares, "For I will restore their fortunes and have compassion on them." It is God's heart for His chosen people to not only restore, but to compassionately restore something even better than before.

### Dear Families,

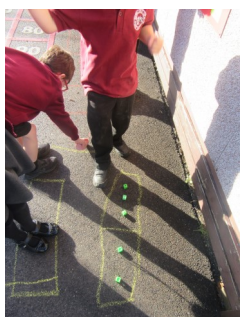
The children and adults are very excited about tomorrow's Christmas Fayre, we know a lot of work is going on behind the scenes. It is such a lovely time of year, this week we have seen the younger children heading into Church to celebrate the story of Jesus being born in a stable.

The cakes for Children in Need raised an amazing £194.16. Well done to everyone involved.



### TAKE A LOOK AT OUR LEARNING

We are part of a research project for mastery maths and this enables us to be at the forefront of educational strategies. This is Squirrels class forming bar models using their problem solving outdoors.



### BIRTHDAYS

**Happy Birthday to Skylar who celebrated her birthday this week and to Edward D who celebrates over the weekend.**

*Best Wishes for a lovely weekend.*

Mrs S Thompson

Headteacher



## Diary Dates

Please ensure you have ordered your lunches by **midnight** on a Wednesday on Parent Pay.

Date	Time	Event
Saturday 25th November	10.00 am — 12pm	Christmas Fayre held at Berkley school
Monday 27th November	3.15-4.15pm	Blogging Club
Tuesday 28th November	3.15– 4.15pm	Musical Theatre Club
Wednesday 29th November		<b>Don't forget to order your lunches on Parent Pay.</b>
	3.15-4.15pm	Construction Club
Thursday 30th November		Swimming—Owls and Squirrels Collective Worship
	3.15-4.15pm	Football Club
	5.30-6.00pm	Carols in Berkley churchyard
Friday 1st December		Squirrels Mufti day for winning Bag2School
Monday 4th December	3.15-4.15pm	Blogging Club
Tuesday 5th December	3.15– 4.15pm	Musical Theatre Club
Wednesday 6th December		<b>Don't forget to order your lunches on Parent Pay.</b>
	3.15-4.15pm	Construction Club
	7.00-9.00pm	Christmas Wreath Making
Thursday 7th December		Swimming—Owls and Squirrels Collective Worship
	3.15-4.15pm	Football Club
	1.30pm & 6.00pm	<b>Christmas Nativity (Rabbits &amp; Squirrel Class)</b>
Friday 8th December		Christmas jumper day—£1 donation

### Future diary dates.

Monday 11th December	9.30am	Christmas Service in Church
Wednesday 13th December	Please contact the school office if you need any help with the lunch.	<b>School Christmas Lunch</b> Please go to parent pay and either choose Main, Veg or Jacket Potato for this day. (Ignore the choice on this day) Christmas menu will be attached in an email and is also on the website.

### SAFEGUARDING

Mrs Thompson is the Designated safeguarding lead for the school and Mrs Appleby is the Deputy Safeguarding Lead. If you are worried about a child or young person who could be in danger please contact: • Children's Social Care on 0300 123 2224. Please take note of the helplines we always put at the end of our newsletter which will now be once a term. They are there to help and support those in need. We have an open door policy so please do come in if you want someone to talk to over a cup of tea.

The United Nation Convention on the rights of the child entitles them to a Right to Education (Article 28). If the attendance drops **below 95%, this is classed as poor/unsatisfactory attendance**, which reduces their chances of success. We have seen an increase in term time holidays, please only take holidays in the allocated holidays provided, thank you.

Attendance	
For w/c 20.11.2023	
Attendance	Absences
96.73%	3.27%
Learning time lost:	
16 Days	

**Please look at which class have earned the Balloons this week!!**

Classes	Rabbits	Squirrels	Badgers	Owls
w/c 20.11.2023	98.42%	99.04%	96.79%	94.00%

### Communication

In order to deal with any queries or concerns you need to:-

- Call the school office and request a phone call or meeting
- Ask for contact at the gate, face to face with the class teacher at the end of the day, the teacher will then get back to the parent with a phone call.
- Parent can also email the office and this is sent onto the teachers personal email.

### Sickness

Please be aware that we follow strict guidance from Public Health and have a 48 hours rule for sickness and diarrhoea.

**Public Health: Diarrhoea and vomiting 48 hours from last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting: Should be excluded for 48 hours from the last episode of diarrhoea not the first. Further exclusion may be required for children.**

Please ensure that you phone school every day to keep us updated.

### Term Time Holidays

Any holiday requests in term time need to be sent in writing to The Headteacher via our holiday request form that is available on our website or can be requested through the school office.

We have to follow strict guidelines in partnership with other Frome schools and we can not authorise holidays in term time.

**Please always let us know if you are going away by completing the form regardless of whether it is authorised or not.** Thank you for your understanding.

<https://www.berkleyschool.co.uk/community/parent-information/>

**Keep checking our website for all the latest information and any policies you need regarding Berkley School.**

[www.berkleyschool.co.uk](http://www.berkleyschool.co.uk)

## CAROLS IN BERKLEY CHURCHYARD



Please join us on Thursday 30th November

5.30pm - 6pm

for carols by candlelight.

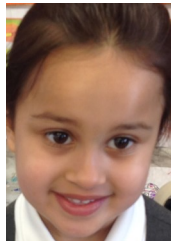
Please wrap up warm.



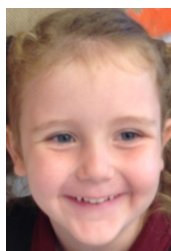
# Our Achievements!

On a Friday we dedicate the assembly to celebrating the successes and wow moments of the week. The children come home with a certificate for their efforts in particular areas. All the adults also have the opportunity to mention a child from any class who has made a difference to their week or who they have spotted doing something wonderful. These children receive a sticker on the day. We link our rewards to the skills they have demonstrated throughout the week and we value each child equally.

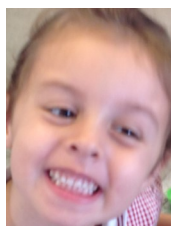
## Star of the week



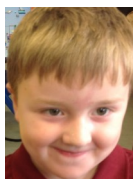
## Reading Superstar



## Demonstrating our Christian Value



### HEADTEACHER AWARD



***Tommy– Lovely creations in construction club***

***Bernie– Great outdoor partner skills***

***Owls Class– Fantastic engagement during Carol writing***





## Parents - Xmas devices

As Xmas is approaching many children and young people will be asking for new devices. It's important that parents think carefully about these devices and the parental features that are available. It's equally important parents think about what the device will be used for, e.g. an all-singing-all-dancing smartphone when it will only be used for messaging and the odd phone call, would a dumb phone be better?

Internet Matters has put together a couple of really good guides for parents:

How to choose the right phone for your child

[Mobile phones for kids guide - The Dos and Don'ts | Internet Matters](#)

## SENCo Sharing: SEND News from Somerset Council



The [Somerset Parent Carer Forum](#) have created a range of fantastic workshops based on topics parents have expressed would be helpful – [Workshops for Information, Support and Education \(WISE\)](#).

All the workshops are delivered or co-delivered by someone with lived experience of being a parent carer. Alongside this there will be information workshops held both face to face and online.

Quick link to what is on offer. [Flipbook \(flipbookpdf.net\)](#)

The Community Inclusion and Activity Team's Christmas Calendar is now available! Exciting inclusive activities include festive arts and crafts, presents from Santa, activity packs, woodland fun day and more.

For ALL children and young people in Somerset with a disability or additional needs. You do not have to be referred to any service to access these activities, unless otherwise stated.

The calendar, and more information about the Community Inclusion Activity Team, can be found on [www.facebook.com/LocalOfferSomerset/](https://www.facebook.com/LocalOfferSomerset/)



[Healthwatch Somerset](#) are holding an online showcase with a question-and-answer session on their latest report 'Reaching out: Looking at mental health support for young people in Somerset'. Read the full report, which includes case studies and comments from young people at [Reaching out: Looking at mental health support for young people in Somerset | Healthwatch Somerset](#)

Healthwatch asked those responsible for young people's mental health services to improve awareness, availability, and access to mental health support for young people. Given the widely reported impact of Covid on children and young people's mental health, they wanted to investigate the current situation to find out if young people are aware of the services available to them and how effectively they think these services are promoted and delivered.

There has already been strong interest in the event so consider submitting any questions before the event. You can email your questions to [info@healthwatchsomerset.co.uk](mailto:info@healthwatchsomerset.co.uk) with 'Reaching out showcase' as your subject heading.

The event will be help online on Tuesday 5 December, 7-8pm. You can register to receive your Zoom meeting link at <https://bit.ly/3SywC5P>

**Don't forget — Berkley Christmas Fayre is tomorrow!!!**

**Berkley School Christmas Fayre**  
**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2023 10am – 12noon**

Please come and support the Berkley School Christmas Fayre. Bring family and friends and have a free tea/coffee and mince pie!!!!

**There will be lots of Christmas stalls, fun games for the kids and grown ups!!!**

**Delicious Hot Chocolate Station**

**Father Christmas and his elves are looking forward to seeing all the Children with his sack of presents.**



Another **AMAZING Christmas Raffle** with some very generous gifts from local businesses including:

**Spa break for 2 Homewood Park Hotel** – including overnight stay, bottle of prosecco, 30 minute treatment each, Dinner for 2 (worth over £400)

**Bath Rugby tickets** to Bath v Ulster game (9<sup>th</sup> December)

**Beauty Vouchers**

**Patisserie May voucher**

**Dog Grooming Voucher** – Solly's Dog Grooming

**Neal's Yard Gift set** worth £100

**Gel nail voucher** – Lisa Fennel

**Back, Neck and Shoulder massage** – Gerogia B

And many more!!!!

Entry is free for all Children. Adults are a suggested donation of £3 which will include a free tea/coffee and mince pie.

Card Machines will be available on some stalls but please bring cash as well.

Christmas Raffle will be drawn at 11.45am.

