



Berkley C of E First School

Headteacher: Mrs Thompson

Telephone: 01373 887390

NEWSLETTER

Friday 3rd November 2023

'Let your light shine'

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

Heavenly Father

Give us the wisdom to know what's right and the
Courage to do what's right,
Amen.

Dear Families,

Welcome back to everyone after half term, it was a pleasure, as always to see all of our pupils. We have added some photos from our Harvest that took place at the end of last term, thank you again for attending and supporting our farmers market.

This term we have started our new learning units and it won't be long before children in Squirrels and Rabbits will be thinking about their special nativity. Our older pupils will be learning some new songs for Christmas also, it is such a lovely time in the school calendar.

Towards the end of this term we will be completing assessments of the children and if we have any concerns with their progress you will be contacted by the child's class teacher.

Our Year 4 pupils have started taking on the role of play leaders with the support of Mrs Davis, this encourages leadership and improves engagement at lunchtimes.



Our Christian Value:

This term our focus value will be Courage. We will start by looking at how courageous the soldiers were and why we remember them on remembrance Sunday.

The children will learn all about different types of courage and how we can show these.

BIRTHDAYS

Birthday wishes to Phoebe W who celebrated her Birthday this week.



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
Monday 6th November		Bag2school (new date) Don't forget to drop off your bags of unwanted clean clothes for 9am
	3.15-4.15pm	Blogging Club
Tuesday 7th November	3.15-4.15pm	Musical Theatre Club
Wednesday 8th November		Don't forget to order your lunches on Parent Pay Years 3 & 4 gymnastics at Liberty gym. Letter to follow
	3.15-4.15pm	Construction Club
Thursday 9th November	9.30am	Open morning for prospective parents Swimming—Owls and Squirrels Collective Worship
	3.15-4.15pm	Football Club
Friday 10th November		
Monday 13th November		ODD SOCKS day for Anti-bullying week
	3.15-4.15pm	Blogging Club
Tuesday 14th November		Rabbit Parents Phonics workshop— details to follow
	3.15– 4.15pm	Musical Theatre Club
Wednesday 15th November		Don't forget to order your lunches on Parent Pay. Flu vaccination whole school @ 1pm
	3.15-4.15pm	Construction Club
Thursday 16th November		Swimming—Owls and Squirrels Collective Worship
	3.15-4.15pm	Football Club
Friday 17th November		Children in Need—Spots Cake Day for Children in Need—Lets get SPOTTY

Future diary dates.

Saturday 25th November	10.00am	Christmas Fayre held at Berkley school
Thursday 30th November	5.30—6.00pm	Carols in Berkley churchyard
Wednesday 6th December	7.00—9.00pm	Christmas Wreath making
Thursday 7th December	TBC	Christmas Nativity




The FBS have once again organised Christmas Wreath making kits. We are going to hold a social Wreath making evening in the School Hall on Wednesday 6th December from 7pm until 9pm if you would like to join us or you can just take them with you. These kits are available to purchase on Parent Pay up until Friday 17th November.



Attendance	
For w/c 30.10.2023	
Attendance	Absences
96.12%	3.88%
Learning time lost:	
19 Days	

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.

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

Classes	Rabbits	Squirrels	Badgers	Owls 
w/c 30.10.2023	94.74%	94.29%	96.07%	98.33%

Communication

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

1. Firstly, always contact your child's class teacher.
2. If you have further concerns you can always ask to speak to Mrs Appleby our Senior teacher

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

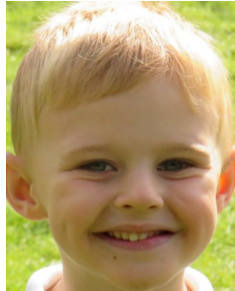




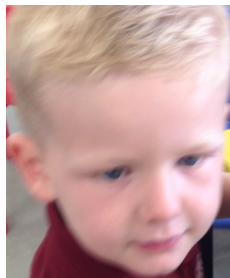
Our Achievements!

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.

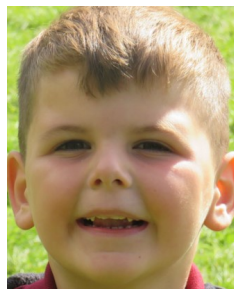
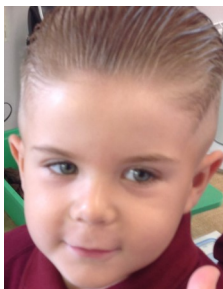
Star of the week



Reading Superstar



Demonstrating our Christian Value



HEADTEACHER AWARD

Owls & Squirrels for their first swim session



SENCo Sharing:

Surgery

Fifteen-minute slots to meet me, are available on Thursday 9th November and Tuesday 28th November. Please ring school, or email office@berkleyschool.co.uk to make an appointment for 3.15pm, 3.30pm or 3.45pm.

Topic for the Week: Dyslexia

Put your cursor over the link and press control and click at the same time.

A useful booklet on Dyslexia:

[Sign Up - FREE Guide for Parents download - British Dyslexia Association \(bdadyslexia.org.uk\)](#)

This is an informative visual description of the characteristics of dyslexia, produced by a company that sells an online learning package, so the first few pages promote this. Move on to the chapters to get to the key information....

[9f45180843874cf6a88a473604384e37:c711ca4a03b3965103cc0a5e52b76b6f \(website-nessvcdn.com\)](#)

An informative webinar on reading with a link to PowerPoint slides below.

[DAW Webinar Support for reading - YouTube](#)

[Parents Supporting Reading Webinar BDA FINAL 2.pdf \(mcusercontent.com\)](#)

Have a good week, Rebecca

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.



I'm worried or unsure! What should I do?

Remind your child what they should do if they feel worried or unsure about something they see online. Encourage them not to click on anything they are unsure about and to tell a trusted adult straight away so that they can help.

For more advice visit this website.

[Parents & carers | Childnet](#)

Advice for parents and carers to help support children and young people in their safe and responsible use of the internet.

www.childnet.com



Monday 13th November.

Odd Socks Day marks the start of Anti-Bullying Week. We have everything you need to celebrate what makes us all unique and spread kindness! We would like all children to come to school in odd socks and they will be taking part in different activities all week focussing on kindness and respect as part of our PSHE lessons.

POPPIES

We are pleased to let you know we will be selling poppies again in school this year. These will be available to purchase from Monday 6th November 2023. We have been advised to inform parents that they are asked to contribute a minimum of £1.00



Monday 20th Nov 1.30-4.30 pm
Cheese+Grain, Market Yard, Frome, BA11 1BE

POP-UP
Scrapstore
Do you want access to a warehouse of weird and wonderful objects? One person's waste is another person's treasure.

Join the scrap creation journey
scrapstore@thepodcharity.org.uk
07724315600

Bring a bag for life.

Supporting Toy II

The Pod is a registered charity in England and Wales. Charity No 1167692

Useful numbers and websites

Emergency numbers

Somerset Emergency Duty Line (out of hours)

0300 123 2327 (evenings and weekends) For any family in Somerset, you can speak to a social worker outside of office hours to report if you are worried about a child or if you feel in crisis and need urgent support.

Somerset Direct to report a safeguarding concern:

0300 123 2224 childrens@somerset.gov.uk If you are worried about a child or young person who could be in danger, please contact this number or call the police.

If you are experiencing domestic abuse:

Call the National Domestic Abuse Helpline on 0808 2000247 or visit www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk or contact somerset survivors on 0800 69 49 999, open 8am-8pm Monday-Friday and 9am-1pm Saturday & Sunday.

Other useful numbers and websites

Citizen Advice:

www.citizenadvicemendip.org.uk (response within 4 days) Somerset Telephone Advice:03 444 889 623 Free, confidential information and advice to assist people with money, legal, consumer and other problems.

Fair Frome:

Tel: 01373 488578 Mobile 07714 587129 (open Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10am –1pm) Local food bank providing food parcels and vouchers for local takeaways (in person or delivered)

Young Minds:

<http://youngminds.org.uk/> The UK's leading charity committed to improving emotional wellbeing and mental health of children and young people.

Kooth:

<http://www.kooth.com> A digital mental health support service. It gives children and young people easy access to an online community of peers and a team of experienced counsellors.

Chat Health:

<http://chathealth.nhs.uk/> Offers quick and confidential support to young people between the ages of 11 and 19. It's safe and easy for you to speak to a qualified health professional. Just send a message, you don't have to give your name. Discreet and quick. It only takes one message to start making a difference. You'll get confidential advice from trained health staff in your area.

YMCA Brunel Group:

Support & Advice—YMCA Brunel Group (ymca-bg.org) Online and physical support group and advice for 10-19 year olds.

CAP Debt Centre Manager

This has been established by Holy Trinity Church (Frome) in partnership with Christians Against Poverty, a debt charity based in Bradford West Yorkshire since 1996.

CAP offers a solution FREE for those who are in unmanageable debt and Phil Gray has been trained as a coach to work alongside families who find themselves in difficulty within the BA11 and BA3 postcode areas.

There is a freephone number (0800 328 0006) to ring to register as a client but he can be contacted prior, if that would be preferable, at philgray@capuk.org or on 07496 516089. There is also a website to visit capdebthelp.org

School nurse info:

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/what-is-a-school-nurse/>