



Berkley C of E First School

Headteacher: Mrs Thompson

Telephone: 01373 887390

'Let your light shine'

NEWSLETTER

Friday 5th January 2024

KEY INFORMATION:

Drop off: It is only Owls and their siblings who enter at 8.40am.

All other classes from 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. Do not arrive before 8.50am (unless an Owls) as some classrooms may not be supervised.

BIBLE REFERENCER OR PRAYER

Open our minds so that we may receive Your eternal wisdom. Open our spirits so that we may know Your leading and guidance. And open our hearts so that we may receive Your wonderful love.

Dear Families,

Welcome back everyone, we were so pleased to see our wonderful pupils come through the school gates yesterday. We hope the break brought some much needed rest but also some fun and family time. It was disappointing not to swim yesterday when we were all ready, the children instead did some fun races in the hall and shared their swimming outfits, hats and goggles.

We are very grateful to return to mild weather but may I just remind you if the weather did change we have a severe weather plan to follow.

This term the classes will be starting new units of work within the curriculum. The classes in English will be learning from a particular text purchased last term. This was an area on our school development plan for this year and the teachers are really excited about these resources and planning tools. We will be reviewing the English lessons and how the children have responded.

Mrs. Hirons and Mrs. Appleby will be running clubs this term please see the diary dates. If you know someone who would like to run a club we would be interested to hear from them.

BIRTHDAYS:

Happy Birthday to Isla who has celebrated her birthday.



Happy New Year to you all, best wishes for 2024, thank you for the biscuits and chocolates which I enjoyed over the holidays. I am sure 2024 will bring joy and happiness for many and it will continue to be a year of discovery, exploration and celebration.

A big thank you from all our staff for the lovely cards and presents they received.

The new year stands before us, like a chapter in a book, waiting to be written. Melody Beattie

Mrs S Thompson

Head Teacher

Diary Dates

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

Date	Time	Event
Monday 8th January		
Tuesday 9th January	3:15-4:15pm	Musical theatre club
Wednesday 10th January	3:15-4:15pm	Blogging club Cooking Club Don't forget to order your lunches on Parent Pay.
Thursday 11th January	3:15-4:15pm	Swimming—Badgers and Rabbits Football club
Friday 12th January		
Monday 15th January		
Tuesday 16th January	3:15-4:15pm	Musical theatre club
Wednesday 17th January	3:15-4:15pm	Blogging club Cooking Club Don't forget to order your lunches on Parent Pay.
Thursday 18th January	3:15-4:15pm	Swimming—Badgers and Rabbits Football club Change to School Lunch Menu for this day only —Census Day (Please see note below)
Friday 19th January		

Future diary dates.

Tuesday 23rd January

Bags2School Collection

SAFEGUARDING


Mrs Thompson is the DSL and Mrs Appleby and Mrs Windridge are the Deputy DSLs. 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. Please email the school in the holidays if you need to contact a DSL.

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 figures this week are calculated across Thursday 4th and Friday 5th January.**

Attendance	
For w/c 01.01.2024	
Attendance	Absences
97.41%	2.59%
Learning time lost:	
5 Days	

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

Classes	Rabbits	Squirrels	Badgers	Owls
w/c	98.68%	100% 	95.37%	96.67%

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



Safer Internet Day 2024 - Theme Announced

Safer Internet Day 2024 will take place on the 6th of February 2024, with celebrations and learning based around the theme 'Inspiring change? Making a difference, managing influence and navigating change online'.

Safer Internet Day is the UK's biggest celebration of online safety. Each year they cover an online issue or theme that speaks to the things young people are seeing and experiencing online. Created in consultation with young people across the UK, this year Safer Internet Day will be focusing on change online, this includes covering:

- Young people's perspective on new and emerging technology
- Using the internet to make change for the better
- The changes young people want to see online

The things that can influence and change the way young people think, feel and act online and offline

Important Note re School Lunches — Thursday 18th January

Please note that as the above date is Census day, a different menu will be offered for school lunch on that day

The main meal option will be a Hot Dog served with Chips and Baked Beans. Alternatives of a Vegetarian Hot Dog with Chips and Baked Beans or a Jacket Potato will also be available. The pudding on that day will be Ice Cream with alternatives of a Yoghurt or Fruit also available as usual.

Please note that Parent Pay will not list the new options above. Please therefore order your meals as usual but taking into account the swaps above i.e. if you select the main meal currently showing for 18th January, which is Pasta Bolognese, your child will automatically receive the Hot Dog with Chips and Beans.

Please note the above change applies on Thursday 18th January only.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the School Office.



SENCo Sharing: Happy New Year!

Dates in Diary: SENCo Surgery dates for this term: **Thursday January 18th and Tuesday January 30th**. Please contact school to make a 15 minute appointment. (3.15pm, 3.30pm and 3.45pm)

News from Somerset:

The Children's Autism Outreach Team (CAOT) is part of [Children and Young People's specialist service](#) (previously known as SPOT) and works with parents and carers and their child or young person with a diagnosis of autism. The team provides help with understanding a child's situation; supporting and empowering them to provide strategies where needed and increasing their social opportunities.

[Children's Autism Outreach Team \(CAOT\) \(somerset.gov.uk\)](#)

CAOT Coffee Morning Dates for 2024



To gain continued support from the team you are very welcome join CAOT at several of our coffee mornings, they start at 10am until 12pm.

This is an opportunity to catch up with the team and meet other families. Refreshments are available to purchase. The coffee mornings will be open to everyone known to the team.

If you would like to attend, could you please let us know so we have an idea on numbers and know to update you about any last-minute changes here are our mobile numbers.

Barbara Mills 07584 175262 Kate Standen-Scott 07920 211167

Dawn Thake 07973 686350 Kate Letten 07977 412499

THESE ARE THE TWO CLOSEST VENUES, OTHERS ARE AVAILABLE PLEASE LOOK ON THE WEBSITE ABOVE.

Boswells Café, Quedam Shopping Centre, Yeovil BA20 1EY

No coffee morning in January 2024 due to Christmas holiday

7th February 6th March

No coffee morning in April due to e Easter holidays

1st May

5th June

3rd July

No coffee morning in August due to summer holidays

4th September

2nd October

6th November

4th December

The Mendip School, Prestleigh, Shepton Mallet, BA4 4NJ

15th January

19th February

18th March

15th April

20th May

17th June

15th July

No coffee morning in August due to summer holidays

16th September

21st October

18th November

16th December

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
