



## Berkley C of E First School

Headteacher: Mrs Thompson

Telephone: 01373 887390

# 'Let your light shine' NEWSLETTER

Friday 12th 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 Owl) as some classrooms may not be supervised.

### BIBLE REFERENCE OR PRAYER

May we serve all those around us in the many roles we hold. Grant that by preferring your love to everything else, we may walk in the way of your commandments.

### Dear Families,

We made it to the swimming pool this week and the children were overjoyed, especially the Rabbits who may not have visited a larger pool before. Well done for managing a new environment.

We have sent a survey home regarding an after school care club, thank you for completing this, it will help us establish the need and requirements. We really want to be able to provide the correct amount of wrap around care for our families.

### TAKE A LOOK AT OUR LEARNING



### BIRTHDAYS:

Happy Birthday to Charntay & Elsie who celebrated their birthdays this week.

Have a lovely weekend everyone and stay safe.

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 15th January		
Tuesday 16th January	3:15-4:15pm	Musical theatre club
Wednesday 17th January	3:15—4:20pm	Blogging club
	3:15—4:15pm	Cooking Club
<b>Don't forget to order your lunches on Parent Pay.</b>		
Thursday 18th January		<b>CENSUS DAY</b>
		Special Lunch day (Revised menu—Please see note below or contact School Office with any queries)
		Swimming—Badgers and Rabbits
	3:15-4:15pm	Football club
Friday 19th January		
Monday 22nd January		
Tuesday 23rd January		Bags2School Collection (No bags before this day please)
	3:15-4:15pm	Musical theatre club
Wednesday 24th January	3:15—4:20pm	Blogging club
	3:15—4:15pm	Cooking Club
<b>Don't forget to order your lunches on Parent Pay.</b>		
Thursday 25th January		Swimming—Badgers and Rabbits
	3:15-4:15pm	Football club
Friday 26th January		

### Future Diary Dates

Tuesday 6th February

E-Safety Day


### 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	
For w/c 08/01/2024	
Attendance	Absences
97.10%	2.90%
Learning time lost:	
14 Days	

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

Classes	Rabbits	Squirrels	Badgers	Owls
w/c 08/01/2024	100% 	96.14%	96.30%	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](http://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.

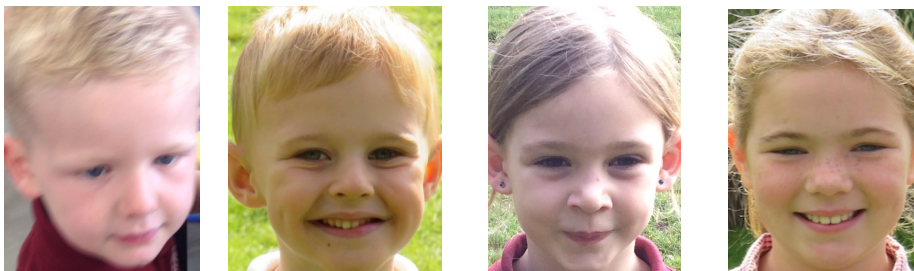
## Star of the week



## Reading Superstar



## Demonstrating our Christian Value



### HEADTEACHER AWARD



*Isla– Focussed and good concentration*

*Myles– Fantastic skills in the playground*





## Safer Internet Day 2024

Safer Internet Day 2024 will take place on the 6<sup>th</sup> 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](#)

### [For Parents - Roblox Checklist](#)

This is a useful resource to for parents, particularly as Roblox is one of the most popular game out there.

Roblox and SWGfL have collaborated together and created a checklist for parents which includes:

- How to report abuse.
- How to block users.
- Setting up a parent control pin.

And more.

The resource can be downloaded here.

[Roblox checklist \(swgfl.org.uk\)](https://www.swgfl.org.uk/roblox-checklist)

## Blogging Club

Please note that pick up time for Blogging Club has now changed to 4:20pm to help ease congestion in the car park at the end of the day for those parents picking their children up from after school clubs. Pick up time for Cooking Club will remain as 4:15pm.

## **\*\*Reminder \*\* Change to the Lunch Menu—Thursday 18th January**

Just another reminder that, as Thursday 18th January is Census Day, the lunch menu on that day will be different to the choices shown on Parent Pay. The main meal will be Hot Dog with Chips and Baked Beans with a vegetarian alternative of Vegetarian Hot Dog or an alternative of Jacket Potato. The pudding will be Ice Cream, with alternative options of Yoghurt or Fruit as usual. The order you have placed on Parent Pay will be automatically swapped to the new menu options above e.g. if you have selected Pasta Bolognese for that day, your child will receive the Hot Dog with Chips and Baked Beans. Any queries, please contact the School Office.

The Pod

ZONE

## Chill Out & Have Fun

Aged between 8 and 16 years old,  
and have a brother or sister with additional needs?  
Do you help to look after someone at home?  
Come to the Zone and meet new friends!



Wednesday 6-8pm (fortnightly)

Frome Community and Venues

Please contact us to discuss a place, as places are limited  
07736 470328

[info@thepodcharity.org.uk](mailto:info@thepodcharity.org.uk)

The Pod is a registered charity in England and Wales. Charity number 1161092

SENCo Sharing: Reminder Parents Surgeries after school on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January and Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January. Please contact school office for an appointment.

Happy New Year!

Promotional material

10 top tips for parents to support children to read

Updated 26 April 2022



## 1. Encourage your child to read

Reading helps your child's wellbeing, develops imagination and has educational benefits too. Just a few minutes a day can have a big impact on children of all ages.

## 2. Read aloud regularly

Try to read to your child every day. It's a special time to snuggle up and enjoy a story. Stories matter and children love re-reading them and poring over the pictures. Try adding funny voices to bring characters to life.

## 3. Encourage reading choice

Give children lots of opportunities to read different things in their own time - it doesn't just have to be books. There's fiction, non-fiction, poetry, comics, magazines, recipes and much more. Try leaving interesting reading material in different places around the home and see who picks it up.

## 4. Read together

Choose a favourite time to read together as a family and enjoy it. This might be everyone reading the same book together, reading different things at the same time, or getting your children to read to each other. This time spent reading together can be relaxing for all.

## 5. Create a comfortable environment

Make a calm, comfortable place for your family to relax and read independently - or together.

## 6. Make use of your local library

Libraries in England are able to open from 4 July, so visit them when you're able to and explore all sorts of reading ideas. Local libraries also offer brilliant online materials, including audiobooks and ebooks to borrow. See [Libraries Connected](#) for more digital library services and resources.

## 7. Talk about books

This is a great way to make connections, develop understanding and make reading even more enjoyable. Start by discussing the front cover and talking about what it reveals and suggests the book could be about. Then talk about what you've been reading and share ideas. You could discuss something that happened that surprised you, or something new that you found out. You could talk about how the book makes you feel and whether it reminds you of anything.

## 8. Bring reading to life

You could try cooking a recipe you've read together. Would you recommend it to a friend? Alternatively, play a game where you pretend to be the characters in a book, or discuss an interesting article you've read.

## 9. Make reading active

Play games that involve making connections between pictures, objects and words, such as reading about an object and finding similar things in your home. You could organise treasure hunts related to what you're reading. Try creating your child's very own book by using photos from your day and adding captions.

## 10. Engage your child in reading in a way that suits them

You know your child best and you'll know the best times for your child to read. If they have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) then short, creative activities may be the way to get them most interested. If English is an additional language, encourage reading in a child's first language, as well as in English. What matters most is that they enjoy it.

The impact of Reading for Pleasure has become a focus for much research.

### Why Reading for Pleasure?

- increases reading attainment
- increases writing attainment
- improves breadth of vocabulary
- develops self-confidence and pleasure in reading in later life
- improves understanding of other cultures
- increases community participation
- increases empathy



(Clark & Rumbold, 2006; Howard, 2011; Wigfield & Guthrie, 1997; Clark and Douglas 2011)

### Importance of Reading for Pleasure

- reading enjoyment has been reported as more important for children's educational success than their family's socio-economic status (OECD, 2002)
- large gap in achievement between secondary school students who read books for pleasure and those who do not (OECD, 2010; Mol and Bus, 2011)
- regularly reading stories or novels outside of school is associated with higher scores in reading assessments (PIRLS, 2006; PISA, 2009)