



Berkley C of E First School

Headteacher: Mrs Thompson

Telephone: 01373 887390

'Let your light shine' NEWSLETTER

Friday 1st March 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

Let your light shine as we move into Spring time.
It is a hopeful time and this lifts us all up.
Amen



CLASS NEWS

Rabbits

This week Rabbits Class have enjoyed outdoor learning in our waterpools and wellies looking for signs of Spring! We have also been introduced to our new class book *The Tiny Seed* by Eric Carle and followed and written instructions. In PE we are being clowns and trying to control the naughty balls by using our fingertips and setting our own challenges. We have been really impressed by all the children's control and the very positive comments they have made when we have watched each others challenges- well done Rabbits!

Squirrels

Squirrels have been so focused this week on sequencing the story of *Stick Man*, we are really pleased with their concentration when working in small groups. Despite such a wet week the children still got out and spent some time during English finding clues hidden around the playground. It was our second swim of the term, well done Squirrels, everyone remembered their kits and it was lovely to see the children enjoying this time. Remember next week we are dressing up on the Friday, we will still be celebrating in class and as a school on World Book day.

Badgers

Last week in Badger's Class we discovered that we had dragons in our classroom! Can you believe it? We thought it would be a good idea to write our very own *Spotter's Guide to Dragons*. There were dragons everywhere, under my chair, in the cupboard, on the bookshelf, in a box and above the door. The children had to write lots of prepositions! In History the children learned more about Sir Isaac Newton. What a genius! We talked about gravity and learned that white light is made up of the seven colours of the rainbow. To prove this, we set up an experiment with a prism and a torch and saw the colours for ourselves. Finally, year two children had a fun morning developing their archery skills.

One more thing, just a quick reminder to keep up the reading at home three times a week. Don't forget, when the children have earned five stars, they will win a prize!

Owls

Owls class have had a fantastic week, that included everything from homework presentations to street dance! We started the week demonstrating our Christian value for the term of Hope with a can do attitude. We had an amazing street dance workshop in which everyone got fully involved. Despite the tricky routine I've been very impressed with their focus and determination during the session. I would also like to add that there was some great homework researching cities in the USA. It was wonderful to see so many children confidently presenting their findings to the rest of the class. Well done for a fantastic week and remember to read three times at home to get a sticker on Fridays.

Happy Birthday to Darci who celebrates her birthday this week

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs S Thompson





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

Theodore, Aiden & Amalie

Reading Superstar

Roman, Fletcher, Perry & Reece

Demonstrating our Christian Value

Rose, Noah & Alfie

HEADTEACHER AWARD

Bella H for her questions and answers in Maths.

SCHOOL UPDATES

WORLD BOOK DAY - With world book day being next Thursday we wanted to share some of the things we will be doing to celebrate. The pupils will be writing a fun whole school story and then reading this out in the Friday assembly. The children will take part in various tasks which will give them the opportunity to talk about their favourite book. The adults will be doing a secret visitor session, whereby a member of staff will come and read to the class and share one of their own favourite books.

Friday 8th March -We will continue celebrating, ***the children are welcome to wear some cosy PJs or something of their choice along with bringing in their favourite book.*** We decided that as the children swim on a Thursday a Friday would be more suitable.

Drop In Sessions for Parents/Carers

This will be a chance for your child to show you their work. All of the children's books will be ready and they can show you around their classroom.

Rabbits Class—Wednesday 20th March 2.20pm—2.40pm

Squirrels Class—Friday 15th March 2.20pm—2.40pm

Badgers Class— Tuesday 5th March 2.20pm—2.40pm

Owls Class—Tuesday 19th March 4.10pm—4.30pm

Interested in being our after school care club leader?

Please contact the school office on: 01373 887390 or email: office@berkleyschool.co.uk for more information.



Diary Dates

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

Date	Time	Event
Sunday 3rd March		Lions club sponsored swim
Monday 4th March	3:15-4:15pm	Craft and Play Club
Tuesday 5th March	3:15-4:15pm	Musical Theatre club
	2.20-2.40pm	Badgers Parent Drop In
Wednesday 6th March		Don't forget to order your lunches on Parent Pay.
	3:15- 4:15pm	Yoga club
Thursday 7th March		World book day
		Swimming—Owls and Squirrels
	3:15-4:15pm	Football club
Friday 8th March		Dress up for World Book day (Cosy PJs or something of your child's choice) . Bring in your favourite book!
Monday 11th March	3:15-4:15pm	Craft and Play Club
Tuesday 12th March	3:15-4:15pm	Musical Theatre club
Wednesday 13th March		Don't forget to order your lunches on Parent Pay.
		Yoga club
Thursday 14th March		Swimming—Owls and Squirrels
	3:15-4:15pm	Football club
Friday 15th March		RED NOSE DAY—Children welcome to wear a red nose.
	2.20-2.40pm	Squirrels Parent Drop In

Future diary dates:

Owls Class Parent Drop in —Tuesday 19th March 4.10pm—4.30pm

Rabbits Class Parent Drop in —Wednesday 20th March 2.20pm—2.40pm

Tuesday 26th March—Easter Service

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 26/02/2024	
Attendance	Absences
93.70%	6.30%
Learning time lost: 29 Days	

Please look at which class have earned the Balloons this week!!				
Classes	Rabbits	Squirrels	Badgers	Owls
W/C 26/02/2024	100% 	84.50%	94.62%	95.52%

Communication

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

- Call the school office and request a phone call or meeting with the class teacher.
- 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.
- Parents can also email the office, often they are able to respond on the same day but they will endeavour to get back to within two working days.

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



Internet Matters

Internet Matters' website provides advice and practical support to help your child with a wide array of online issues.

Issues covered include, online bullying, fake news, inappropriate content and more.

[Online safety issues - Advice to support children | Internet Matters](https://www.internetmatters.org/)

SENCO SHARING

SENCo Sharing: Parent Surgery Dates: Tuesday March 5th and Thursday March 21st 3.15-4.00pm. Please contact school for a 15-minute appointment.

Supporting Children and Young People with ADHD – Training

FREE ADHD Training- have you signed up yet?

The Educational Psychology Service is running training for all schools and their communities this academic year (2023-24).

What is it?

This **free** three-hour training session will look at ADHD, what it is as well as what it isn't, explore differences (neurodiversity), and offer practical strategies and guidance to support children and young people with ADHD.

Who is it for?

The training is for SENCos, teaching staff, parents and carers (of children and young people either with a diagnosis of ADHD or accepted on to the pathway for an assessment), Parent and Family Support Advisors (PFSAs), Family Intervention Service (FIS) Workers, School Nurses, other professionals working with you to support children and young people with ADHD.

The training will be delivered by Educational Psychologists and Assistant Educational Psychologists.

When is it taking place?

Wed 13th March 2024 (1pm-4pm)

Mon 22nd April 2024 (9.30am-12.30pm)

Wed 19th June 2024 (1pm-4pm)

I am a parent and or carer – what do I need to do?

Parent/carers interested in attending should speak to their school first to make sure they are able to attend the training and for support with registration.

I have a question about the training – who do I speak to?

If you have a question about the training, please email:

AutismADHDPreassessmentPathway@somerset.gov.uk

Please contact me via Berkley School Office email and I will book you on to your chosen day.