



Berkley C of E First School

Headteacher: Mrs Thompson

Telephone: 01373 887390

'Let your light shine' NEWSLETTER

Friday 19th April 2024

KEY INFORMATION:

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

Please remember classes open 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

In times when we seek support, open the doors of truthfulness and talk about your feelings.

Amen

CLASS NEWS

Rabbits

Rabbits Class have settled back into school routines really well and were very excited that we had a magic paintbrush to introduce our class book! The children also had their first ICT lesson using the school laptops, had a good try at the challenge of making jellyfish from jelly in RE and have also met Berkley Bunny our class mascot who will be visiting all our houses over this term! What a busy first week, have a lovely weekend everyone!

Squirrels

What a lovely week we have had in Squirrels. This week we found a lost and lonely penguin looking for somewhere to call home. We wrote questions using 'wh' question words to find out how we could help. Then on Wednesday, a large box arrived that had 'LOST' on the side. Inside there were lots of other animals that were lost. We wrote labels to attach to the animals using synonyms for sad and lonely that we created the day before.

Badgers

Wow what a week we have had! It has been so exciting! It all began when a massive beanstalk appeared in the classroom. What a surprise that was! We all wondered how it had got there and decided that someone must have left their bean at school over the Easter holiday. On Wednesday we noticed some feet at the top. We think it might be Jim. Wednesday turned out to be our most exciting day of all as we went to the Bath and West showground to the 'Field to Food' learning day. It was amazing! We saw sheep-shearing, made butter, stroked lambs and sheep, ate ice-cream, made apple juice, planted seeds, saw highland cows and much, much more! We even saw a member of the Royal family! It was such a brilliant day out and the children said, "It was the best day ever!" Well done to the whole of Badgers because you were a credit to Berkley School!

Owls

It has been wonderful to have everyone back after the Easter holidays - we have all enjoyed sharing some of the exciting things we got up to. This week, we have started lots of new topics, including learning about a travelling gorilla, mark making in the style of Van Gough and states of matter. On Thursday we experimented with various items exploring if they were solids or liquids. I am proud to say that all of the hard work and determination Owl's put into learning the street dance paid off. They put on an amazing performance at the Merlin Theatre and they are looking forward to performing in front of the parents this afternoon. Next week Year 4 have their residential at Mill on the Brue. Whilst they get to experience new challenges and celebrate their time at Berkley, the Year 3s get to become top of the school!

Happy belated birthday to Reggie who celebrated in the half term.



Welcome back everyone, it is always a pleasure to see the children come back through the school gates. I was very pleased with how they all settled to their lessons. The teachers received little gifts from the FBS and as a result the children had new resources to explore on their return, this was very exciting, thank you. I have enjoyed going out onto the playground to help the pupils use the basket ball hoops. I have seen pupils and staff having a go and the Rabbits were very enthusiastic.

Mrs S Thompson

Head Teacher



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

Lyla, Aiden, Theodore D, Matilda K

Reading Superstar

Ethan, Harley, Azra & Ada

Demonstrating our Christian Value

Roman, Charlotte, Madeline & Hadley

HEADTEACHER AWARD

Harley and Sonny for their focus and concentration on the first day back. Sonny you were confident to share your thoughts on which song we should learn this term in assembly and you were then singing along.

Joel.C in Rabbits for his excellent reading skills, I was very impressed in our assembly.

SCHOOL UPDATES

- We have booked Sports day at the Rugby Club and our Leavers Service, please find these on the diary dates.
- We wish our Year 4's a very happy and fun-filled time at Mill on the Brue Residential, they leave after their lunch on Wednesday.
- The Year 2 and Year 3's all had the most amazing time at the planned Field to Food Learning Day. This is organised by the Bath and West and their volunteers and we were thankful to get a place when signing up earlier in the year. Well done everyone, I had very good feedback from the staff regarding behaviour and attitudes.

THANK YOU

**Frome Eco
Party Kit**



Last year we were voted by the local community for each time a tableware kit was hired from Frome eco party we would receive a £1 donation. We are pleased to say we have kindly received an £80 donation from Frome eco party. We would like to thank each and everyone of you who kindly voted for us to receive this and we would like to give a very special thank you to Frome eco party. This money has been paid to the FBS.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Lidl's in Frome and Kat (Ryu's mum) for their efforts in ensuring we could give all of our children an Easter Egg this Easter. We hope they all enjoyed them.

The Frome International Climate Film Festival 2024.

It's being held on 19th May from 0900-1159 at the Cheese and Grain.

The films have been chosen from over 800 entries from 47 countries. Most are relatively short, from 2-15 mins but all have been chosen for their celebration of nature and their positive, inspiring ideas and approach to solving issues around climate change.

The first half of the day is devoted to children with appropriate films, exhibitions and arts and crafts. Events will include painting on a giant canvas and looking at sustainable fashion. A sensory room upstairs will include sounds from nature, birdsong.

The rest of the day is for more films and workshops, followed by an awards ceremony and music.

Diary Dates

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

Date	Time	Event
Monday 22nd April	4.20– 5.10pm	Martial arts club
Tuesday 23rd April	3:15-4:15pm	Musical theatre club
Wednesday 24th April		Yr 4's Residential to Mill on the Brue
	3:15– 4:15pm	Gardening club
	3:15—4:15pm	Yoga club
Thursday 25th April		Swimming Badgers and Rabbits
	1pm—2pm	Height & Weights Measurements Clinic (Rabbits only)
	3:15-4:15pm	Football club
Friday 26th April		Yr 4's return from Mill on the Brue collection from 2:35pm at the Standerwick Market (Same car park as the disco)
Monday 29th April	4.20—5.10pm	Martial Arts Club
Tuesday 30th April	3:15— 4:15pm	Musical theatre club
Wednesday 1st May	3:15– 4:15pm	Gardening club
	3:15-4:15pm	Yoga club
Thursday 2nd May		Swimming—Badgers and Rabbits
	3:15-4:15pm	Football club
Friday 3rd May	2:00-3:00pm	FBS Tea and cake for parents at Frome Standerwick market hall

Future diary dates:

Sunday 5th May—All age family service in church—all invited

Monday 6th May—May bank holiday

Wednesday 8th May—School photos

Thursday 9th May—Bag2School (**Mufti Day for the Class who collect the most!**)

Friday 5th July—Sports Day (timings TBC)

Tuesday 23rd July—Leavers Service (timings TBC)


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 15/04/2024	
Attendance	Absences
97.39%	2.61%
Learning time lost: 12 Days	

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

Classes	Rabbits	Squirrels	Badgers	Owls 
w/c 15/04/2024	97.06%	96.50%	96.92%	98.62%

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 however they will endeavour to get back to within two working days.

Our vision is 'let your light shine'. That goes beyond our school gates and is a vision for our whole community. If you feel your light may be a little dull please remember we are here to support each other. Please call us and Mrs Thompson would be happy to have a cup of tea and a chat if that is something you needed.

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



Search safely

If you let your child search independently, make sure safe search is activated on Google and other search engines, as well as restricted mode on YouTube. You can set your default search to one designed specifically for children, such as Swiggle, and can save time by adding these to your Favourites.

Year 3 'Field to Food' Learning Day



SENCO SHARING: NEXT SURGERY: 2ND MAY 2024 - 3.15PM ONWARDS.

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.

There are several workshops taking place in April around “Helping you child through anxiety” Information can be found on the posters below, or on [WISE Up Workshops \(somerseparentcarerforum.org.uk\)](#).

April 2024



WISE UP WORKSHOPS

Empowering Parent Carers to succeed

Helping your child manage their anxiety

We are pleased to share our WISE UP WORKSHOPS. These are open to all parent carers in Somerset who have a child with additional needs and/or a disability.

Children and young people can feel anxious about different things at different ages and different times. Anxiety becomes a problem for children and young people when it starts to get in the way of their everyday life.

Severe anxiety can harm children's mental and emotional wellbeing, affecting their self-esteem and confidence. These sessions will provide you information about anxiety. We will help you to identify the signs to look out for and strategies you can use to support your child.

The workshop will have 2 main parts.

Part 1 will provide information and ideas of things you can try (strategies).

Part 2 will give you time to discuss your own circumstances and form a plan of what you can try to help.

Dates and locations

17th April	South Petherton	12:30-14:30
18th April	Yeovil	19:00-21:00
23rd April	Taunton	10:00-12:00
24th April	Shepton Mallett	19:00-21:00
29th April	Glastonbury	10:00-12:00
30th April	Minehead	12:30-14:30

These workshops are free to attend to book your place please go to:
<https://somerseparentcarerforum.org.uk> or call 01458 259384



If you feel nervous about attending any of the Workshops, please give Somerset Parent Carer Forum a phone call on 07543 680 395 and they will arrange for their parent carer representative, who will be at the session, to talk to you beforehand so you will know someone. Everyone attending will be parent carers who are experiencing similar challenges. Bookings for the workshops are being managed by Somerset Parent Carer Forum. You don't need to be a member of the forum to attend but will need to be added to their database to enable your booking details to be secure.