

St. John the Evangelist Church School

NEWSLETTER



Term 1.8 Thursday 25th October 2018



BATH & WELLS
Multi Academy Trust
'That they may have life, life in all its fullness' John 10:10

Dear Parents and Carers

Parent consultations

It was lovely to see so many of you attending the parent consultation meetings this week. I have received some very positive feedback about our approach this year, both in the timing of the event and the way that it has been organised, including the booking of appointments online. We always value your feedback and it would be good to know how other parents feel the consultation evening ran this time around so that we can continue to fine tune and improve the provision that we offer. Do see me on the gate or feel free to email the school office with your thoughts. If you were unable to attend the parent consultations, staff will be in contact with you after the break.

Playground improvements

My grateful thanks to you all for your patience and cooperation this week regarding the disruption caused by our playground improvements. I do hope you received my letter about this on Tuesday evening. There is still work to do but we hope that the children will be able to enjoy the new resources at the start of next term.

Preparing for Remembrance

Pupils in Eagles Base have been working hard in readiness for the forthcoming 100 years Remembrance anniversary.

Like all other BWMAT Trust schools, we have been working to produce a poppy board that will be displayed in the Chapter House at Wells Cathedral. St John's board commemorates the World War 1 nurse, Edith Cavell, who was born in Clevedon, and who helped over 200 Allied soldiers escape from German-occupied Belgium. As you are aware, she is also important to the school as we have a school house named after her.

Children have also taken part in making poppies that will form part of a large cross to be used in the town to commemorate Remembrance Day. This has been part of the school's ongoing community project, which aims to bring the work of the church community and the school closer together. The children in Years 5 and 6 drew and painted poppies and then researched each soldier from the town who died in battle. Their names have been written on the memorial by the children. This will be used in a service that takes place on Sunday 11th November. My grateful thanks to Mrs Simmonds and Mr Jeffrey for their work in coordinating these projects.



Poppies will be on sale from the school office after the break.

The children will mark Remembrance on Friday 9th November 2018 during school worship.

St John's Church will hold their Remembrance Day Service at the church on Sunday 11th November 2018. The service will commence at 10:30 and all are welcome.

Poor parking is now a serious issue!

Following a number of issues and complaints this week, I have written to you all regarding the parking situation outside of the school. You will have received this letter via Parent Pay today.

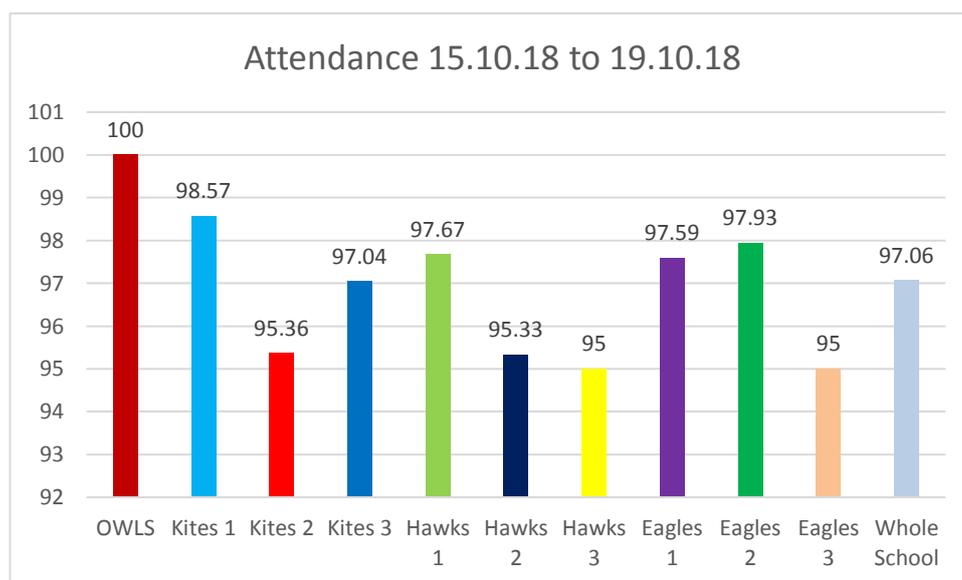
Safeguarding/Security Update

We have been reviewing our site safety and, as a result, the following will commence from Monday 5th November 2018:

The pupil entrance gate will be unlocked at 08:40. It will close at 09:00. Anyone arriving after this time will need to use the main entrance to the school.

At the end of the school day, all gates will open at the usual time but will be closed and locked at 15:30. After this time, entry and exit to the school will be via the main school door.

Attendance

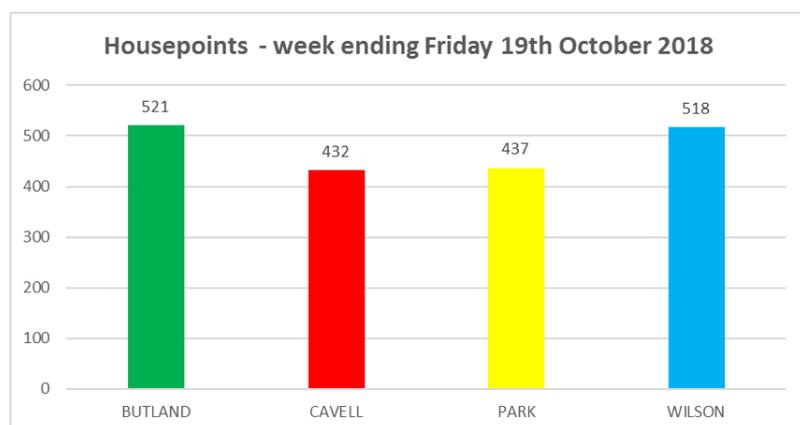


Our whole school attendance for last week was **97.06%**. I will report on the total attendance for this first half term when we return after the holiday.



A special well done to **OWLS base**, who manage a fantastic **100%** attendance last week. How fantastic!

Housepoints



Dates for your Diary

November 2018

- 05.11.18** Term 2 Starts
Ed Visit Y6 - Lifeskills
- 07.11.18** (Cost Approx. £15)
- 09.11.18** Pupil Worship - Remembrance
- 15.11.18** YR - Y5 Flu Vaccinations
Hawks Base - Raise the Roof Music
- 15.11.18** Workshop
Fund Raising - Children in Need
- 16.11.18** (Bring & Buy Sale)
Owls Base Maths Workshop
- 20.11.18** YR Parents invited (Adults only)

The full Parent Calendar can be found here:

<http://stjohnevangelistbwm.org/about-us/calendar>

Cross Country Event

Year 4, 5 and 6 performed very well at the North Somerset Cross Country Tournament on Wednesday 24th October. Year 5 boys, Year 6 boys and Year 6 girls came 3rd overall, which was a great effort. Leo came 2nd in his race. Well done to them all.



This week in Owl's Base

We have been enjoying a lot of wonderful stories and related learning activities in Owls this term. Last week we all took part in an amazing bread-making workshop (linked to 'The Little Red Hen') and took our delicious bread home to share with our families which, you might recall, the little red hen did not do!

This week we practised packing a healthy picnic and created colourful, healthy food pictures, using 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' as our inspiration. At snack time, we were excited to be eating these pictures, which involved tasting unusual fruits and vegetables that we had never eaten before. The verdict? Healthy food is fun and yummy.

That is good news, as we have also been learning to read and write the letter 'm' that says 'mmmmm'! As well as observing the exciting changes in our own garden this week, we have read 'The Enormous Turnip' and discovered what surprising things can happen, when everyone 'pulls together'. As one of the children said, "If everyone joins in, like in Owls, it makes it brilliant."



End of Term

Please note that the school will be closed tomorrow, Friday 26th October 2018, as this is an INSET day. We will reopen at 08:45 on Monday 5th November 2018.

Wishing you all a very enjoyable and restful half term break

Ian Doswell

Head teacher

Please be reminded that general safeguarding information can be found on our school website under the policies section. The Child protection officer for the Primary school is Mr Ian Doswell, or Mrs Nicola Short in his absence. If you have any concerns regarding the safety or welfare of any child in our community please do not hesitate to contact them.

E-Safety



[Link to Parent Zone for weekly updates >](#)

Parent Zone is a really useful website, offering good advice and articles to read about supporting the health and wellbeing of your child, as well as looking at key areas of safeguarding.

As well as providing the link to the website, we will now feature key articles each week for you to access more readily. This week, we look at the issues surrounding gaming, and also building self esteem in our children.

ARTICLE #1

Can children become addicted to online gaming?



As gaming addiction becomes an ever more frequent topic of conversation, [Dr Mark Griffiths](#), professor of behavioural addiction at Nottingham Trent University, provides advice and practical tips for parents concerned their child may be spending too much time playing games online.

In December 2017, the World Health Organisation (WHO) announced that it was [planning to include](#) Gaming Disorder (GD) in the latest edition of the *International Classification of Diseases*. This followed the American Psychiatric Association's decision to include Internet Gaming Disorder in the latest edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders in 2013. According to the WHO, an individual with GD is a person who lets playing video games 'take precedence over other life interests and daily activities,' resulting in 'negative consequences' such as 'significant impairment in personal, family, social, educational, occupational or other important areas of functioning.'

Most screen time is okay

I have been researching video game addiction for nearly 30 years and every week I receive emails from parents worried that their sons are addicted to playing online games or that their daughters are addicted to social media. When I ask why they are worried, the reason they usually give is 'because they spend most of their leisure time in front of a screen.' I think this is usually a case of adults thinking a child's behaviour is wrong because they think that what they are doing is 'a waste of time.'

Before a parent starts worrying, I ask them the same three things about whether screen time use is affecting their child's:

1. schoolwork;
2. physical education;
3. peer development and interaction.

Usually parents say that none of these things are affected. If that is the case, there is little to worry about when it comes to screen time. Parents should bear in mind that this is how today's children live their lives and that a lot of screen time doesn't always have negative consequences. I believe that the content and context of a child's screen use is more important than the amount of time spent in front of a screen.

PEGI games ratings IG-4.png

PEGI ratings: explained

3 <small>www.pegi.info</small>	Game is considered suitable for all ages. Comical violence.
7 <small>www.pegi.info</small>	May contain some frightening scenes. Violence is unrealistic and directed towards fantasy characters.
12 <small>www.pegi.info</small>	Slightly more realistic violence. Mild language used by characters. Sexual posturing and innuendo feature.
16 <small>www.pegi.info</small>	Violence towards human characters, including death. Sexual activity within game, but no visible nudity. Use of alcohol, drugs and tobacco by characters.
18 <small>www.pegi.info</small>	Adult classification. Violence, death and destruction within game. Characters may glamourise drugs, alcohol and crime and use expletives throughout.

When online gaming becomes excessive

I have spent many years examining both the possible dangers and the potential benefits of video game playing. I have found that the adverse effects of excessive game playing are likely to be relatively minor, and temporary, resolving spontaneously with decreased frequency of play. In some studies, I found that moderate video game players were more likely to have friends, do homework, and engage in sporting activities, than those who played no video games at all.

On the whole, evidence suggests that in the right context, video games can have positive health and educational benefits for children and adults.

However, if a parent is worried about excessive game play, I ask them, does your child:

1. play video games every day?
2. often play video games three to six hours at a time?
3. play video games for excitement or 'buzz' or as a way of forgetting about other things in their life?
4. get restless, irritable, and moody if they can't play video games?
5. sacrifice social and sporting activities to play video games?
6. play video games instead of doing their homework?
7. try to cut down the amount of video game playing but can't?

If the answer is 'yes' to more than four of these questions, then I say their child could benefit from spending time doing other things.

What can parents do?

Parents can begin by finding out what video games their children are playing. Parents might find that some of them contain material that they would prefer them not to be exposed to. If they have objections to the content of the games, facilitate an open discussion with children about this and, if appropriate, put in a few boundaries. A few aims with children could be to:

- help them choose age-appropriate games that they still find fun;
- talk with them about the content of the games so that they understand the difference between make-believe and reality;
- encourage video game playing in groups rather than as a solitary activity;
- set time limits and tell children that they can play for a couple of hours after they have done their homework, for example;
- follow recommendations from the video game manufacturer, such as sitting at least two feet away from the screen, playing in a well-lit room, not having the screen at maximum brightness, and trying not to play video games when feeling tired;
- ensure that they have plenty of other activities to pursue in their free time besides the playing of video games.

Maintaining a balanced recreational diet

In the right context, video games can be educational and help children to think and learn more quickly. They can help raise a child's self-esteem and increase the speed of their reaction times. Parents can also use video games as a starting point for other activities like painting, drawing, acting or storytelling. All of these things can help a child at school.

However, it needs to be remembered that video game playing is just one of many activities that a child can do alongside sporting activities, school clubs, reading and watching the television. These all contribute to having a balanced recreational diet.

ARTICLE #2

Building self-esteem



[Download your free parent guide here](#) (link)



Low self-esteem can affect everything, from school work to how your child socialises with others. Parent Info has partnered with the Dove Self-Esteem Project to build your child's body confidence and self-esteem

Children and young people today are under huge pressure to look a certain way. Anxieties over appearance can affect their health, friendships and performance at school.

In the UK, 9 in 10 girls with low body-esteem will opt out of fundamental life activities, such as engaging with family and loved ones, sharing their opinion, joining a team or club, or even leaving the house if they don't feel good about the way they look. Boys are also increasingly worrying about body issues and self-esteem.

Dove has been helping young people build body confidence and self-esteem for over 10 years by offering expert resources to children, parents and teachers. The resources are meticulously researched, written in collaboration with The Centre For Appearance Research (University of West England) and evaluated by body confidence experts.

Latest article

[How exercise can help raise your child's self esteem.](#) (link)

Community News

(Although these events are not endorsed by the school, they are shared with you for your information).

THE FRIDGE £1 ENTRY

A cool place to hang out with your friends!
 Open to year 3-6, we have hockey, table tennis, snooker, and consoles. There is a tuckshop available.
 Each week there will be a themed game and a prayer space available.

21/10 18/11 28/01 17/02
 17/03 19/05 16/06

5:30PM TO 6:45PM @ CHRISTCHURCH CLEVEDON

contact: kate dommell
 childrenandfamilies@christchurch-clevedon.org.uk Christchurch CLEVEDON



OCTOBER HALF TERM FOOTBALL CAMPS

29th, 30th & 31st October 2018

5 - 12 years old (Reception - Yr 7) | 9.00am - 3.30pm
Nailsea School, Mizzymead Road, Nailsea, BS48 2HN

£20 for 1 Day | £36 for 2 Days | £45 for 3 Days

Early drop offs available

Priority Football is offering 3 sessions from 9am – 3:30pm for children aged 5-12 years old at Nailsea School.

The days will include the Priority Football World Cup Tournament and 'Drill of the Day Competitions'.

Camps will be led by Bristol Rovers Coach Rob Prior and other academy and Level 3 coaches.

Professional Scouts also in attendance!



Book and pay online:

www.priorityfootball.co.uk/holidaycamps

07787 426 353 | 01275 261 004 | Facebook: PriorityFootball

STAY&PLAY

an afternoon of craft
for the family

When?

Thursday 1st November
1:30pm to 3:30pm

Where?

At 1st Clevedon Scout Hall
(far end of The Barn car park)

How much?

£1 per child
Max of £3 per family



Arranged by Thrive Community Church
hello@thrivecommunity.church

A magical, theatrical treat for children is in store at the Theatre Shop this half-term!

Theatre Orchard programmes Joan Aiken's spell-binding stories in *A Necklace of Raindrops* performed by One Moment in Time Theatre.

A Necklace of Raindrops - One Moment in Time Theatre

“The children sat enthralled by the beautiful stories and accompanying music, it was wonderful to watch.” Manchester Literature Festival

Enter a world of magic, mayhem and moonlit adventures. A necklace of raindrops that keeps its owner dry in the heaviest rainstorm; a house that stands on one leg and a granny who sews magic into every stitch - these are just some of the objects and characters that delight and captivate in Joan Aiken's spell-binding stories.

Dynamic physical storytelling, live music, shadow puppetry and magical moving paper scenery combine to bring these timeless tales alive for a new generation of story listeners. Featuring an enchanting live score with strings, wind and percussion.

Venue: The Theatre Shop, Queens Square, Clevedon, BS21 6HX

Date: Saturday 27 October 2018

Time: 11.30am & 2.30pm.

Tickets: £8. Recommended age 6+. Book online at www.theatreorchard.org.uk / www.theatreshop.org.uk or call 0333 6663366 (£1.50 booking fee applies)