

An update from Mrs Edwards



We have reached the midpoint of Term 4 – can you believe it? It has been wonderful to see the sunshine returning. I don't know about you but it always lifts my spirits and I have definitely noticed a real buzz around school.

A real noticeable change this term has been a shift in pupil resilience. I cannot tell you the amount of pupils who are so keen (and very rightly so) to share their progress, celebrate their efforts and reflect on how they are improving and how far they have come across the year. What definitely warms my heart is how many pupils are now focusing on pushing themselves to be the best version they can be, rather than comparing their achievements with others. We are very proud of the way for how they also champion each other within their class teams.

As always a special shout out to you as families and our staff team for your continual determination to provide the best for our pupils. They are absolutely brilliant and teamwork really does make the dreamwork! A special thank you for also bearing with us whilst we manage our outside space – your support is greatly appreciated!

Mrs Edwards

Cultural Appreciation Week



Our **Cultural Appreciation Week** is coming up at the end of term, and we are very much looking forward to celebrating the wonderful diversity that makes our school community so special.

We warmly welcome families, if they are able, to come into school and share a tradition, story, activity, or experience from your culture with your child's class. This could be something as simple as talking about a family celebration, sharing music, traditional food or clothing, or explaining how your culture is celebrated.

If visiting school is not possible, pupils are welcome to bring in photos or special items that celebrate their culture to share with their class.

We cannot wait to see and hear the many wonderful stories and traditions that make up our school family.

Important dates this term:



Term Four

Friday 20th March

Red Nose Day – Pupils are invited to wear something red and there will be a donation tab on Arbor. This year's theme is "Take Yourself Funny for Money" so pupils are invited to bring in their best joke.

Monday 23rd March

Y3 Class Assembly

Wednesday 25th March

Parents Evening for families whose children are on our SEND register.

Wednesday 25th March

RSHE Parent Consultation – One session at 9am and one at 2:30pm. Tea and coffee will be provided. This will be a chance to understand how and what is taught and to look at resources to be shared with pupils.

Thursday 26th March

In our efforts to celebrate our school's diversity, we will be recognising International Day of Epilepsy Awareness. Pupils are invited to wear something purple.

w/c Monday 30th March

Cultural Appreciation Week

Thursday 2nd April

End of Term 4 and Celebration Assembly

Friday 3rd April

Good Friday – School closed.

Term Five

Monday 20th April

Term 5 begins.

Thursday 7th May

Class Photos

w/c Monday 11th May

Y6 SATs week

w/c Monday 18th May

Science Week

Monday 18th May

Y2 Class Assembly

Friday 22nd May

Term 5 ends

Happy Retirement!



This term we say a very special thank you to Mrs Cooper, our wonderful School Business Manager, who will be retiring after serving the school since 1996 – a huge 30 years! Over the years she has supported countless pupils, families and staff, and it is always great to see so many families remember her from when they were pupils at the school and hear about the memories they share! Thank you, Mrs Cooper for your dedication and commitment to our school team! We wish you a very happy retirement filled with relaxation, enjoyment and, of course, many lovely afternoon teas.



We also say a fond farewell to Mr Morris, our fantastic school caretaker, who is heading off to enjoy his retirement and embark on many new adventures. Thank you for taking great pride in looking after our school and ensuring it is always a safe and welcoming place for everyone. We wish you all the very best for the exciting



Ensuring resources stay with their owners

Just a polite reminder that pupils should not bring personal items or toys from home into school unless they have been specifically requested by a member of staff as with our Cultural Appreciation request for example.

We know that many children have special belongings they are excited to share but bringing them into school can sometimes lead to them being misplaced, damaged, or causing distractions during learning time which none of us want for them.

We thank you in advance for your support with this.

You may have also seen the amount of lost unnamed lost property we have collected when collecting your children or attending our school parents' evenings. Please ensure your child's name is on all items to ensure they are rightfully reunited with their belongings.

Safeguarding update:

Keeping our children safe is always our highest priority. If you ever have any concerns, please remember our safeguarding team – Mrs Edwards, Mrs Stimpson, Mr Olver and Mrs Bowering – are always available to speak with families and offer support.

Many children enjoy online games and social media platforms such as Roblox. While these can be great fun, they can also carry risks. We encourage parents and carers to use parental controls and privacy settings, and to regularly check who their child may be communicating with through games or apps.

Talking openly with your child about staying safe online can make a big difference.

For further guidance, you may find these websites helpful:

NSPCC Online Safety – www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety

Internet Matters – www.internetmatters.org

CEOP – www.ceop.police.uk

Lateness matters!



Good attendance remains a key priority for us as a school - every minute of learning really does matter! Even being a few minutes late can mean that children miss important parts of the school day, such as morning routines, the start of lessons so that they understand the learning concept, or opportunities to settle calmly with their class teams before learning begins.

It is difficult to believe but:

- 5 minutes late every day adds up to over 3 days of lost learning across the school year.
- 10 minutes late each day can mean more than a week of missed learning time.

Please support us by:

- Ensuring children arrive at school before the school day begins
- Establishing consistent morning routines
- Allowing extra travel time where possible – especially with all the roadworks in the area at the moment!

Thank you for your continued support in helping every child make the most of their time in school.

Out of school opportunities:

Parents and carers of children in Year 6 and if you have children beyond this are invited to join Dr Susie Davies and Jennifer Powers for an interactive online webinar on **Tuesday 17th March, 6:30–8:00pm**. This session is designed for pupils to attend alongside their families and will explore the impact of screen time on wellbeing, as well as sharing practical tips for creating a healthy balance with technology:



THE HEALTHY SELFIE FAMILY WEBINAR



How to like yourself in the digital age.

TUESDAY 17th MARCH, 2026 at 6:30pm to 8:00pm on TEAMS.

An interactive webinar for preteens/teens (year 6+) and their parents on how to get a healthy balance with technology, with:

Dr Susie Davies and Jennifer Powers.

Register at www.papayatalks.com or via the QR code.

Family tickets £3 - proceeds to PAPAYA.



- SUITABLE FOR **SCHOOL YEAR 6+** TEENS AND TWEENS, PARENTS, AND CARERS.
- EXPLORING THE IMPACT OF SCREEN TIME ON **WELLBEING AND MENTAL HEALTH**.
- **TOPS TIPS** ON GETTING A HEALTHY BALANCE WITH TECH.
- **WELLBEING** EXERCISES FOR ADOLESCENTS.



Susie Davies is a GP with a special interest in adolescent mental health. She is the founder and CEO of PAPAYA and is passionate about improving mental health outcomes for today's adolescents.



Jennifer Powers is founder of the Unplugged Coalition. She is also a popular PAPAYA speaker, regional leader for Smartphone Free Childhood and frequent media commentator on the impact of addictive technology on children.

EASTER EGG CHALLENGE



Tuesday 7th April 2026

**TURNBERRIES COMMUNITY
CENTRE, THORBURY
BS35 2BB**

10AM-12NOON
AIR-POWERED ROCKET CARS

12.30PM - 2.30PM
EGG DROP PARACHUTES

<https://eequ.org/book/easter-egg-challenge-thornbury-day-1-with-bloodhound-education-ltd-21336>



**FULLY FUNDED FOR CHILDREN
LIVING OR ATTENDING A SCHOOL
IN SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE
WHO ARE ELIGIBLE FOR BENEFIT-
RELATED FREE SCHOOL MEALS.**



0208 150 3767



accounts@bloodhoundeducation.com

EASTER EGG CHALLENGE



Wednesday 15th April 2026

**ST MARY'S CHURCH HALL,
THORNBURY
BS35 1DR**

10AM-12NOON
INDOOR ROCKETS

12.30PM - 2.30PM
EGG DROP PARACHUTES

<https://eequ.org/book/easter-egg-challenge-thornbury-day-2-with-bloodhound-education-ltd-16446>



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