Everyone can achieve

Everyone can learn

Everyone belongs

Air Balloon Hill Primary School

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Newsletter 02

18th September 2026

Gem Certificates



Celebration Assembly is to recognise pupils who have demonstrated exemplary use of their gem powers. Pupils from each class receive a gem certificate to celebrate their achievements. Congratulations to the following pupils who were celebrated this week:



Year 1 - Jasper, Ruben, Audrey M, Malachi, Logan and Dawnetta



Year 2 - Louie, Grace, Jeeva, Rory, Ingrid, Mabel, Chloe, Ophir and Sonny

Year 3 - Latifa, Isla, Amara, Oakley, Toby, Eliyah, Noah and Zobia



Year 4 - Louie G, Rayan, Liam, Luke, Caspian, Mia, Kamilah, Ernie and Seraphine

Year 5 - Kacper, Azayah, Nyiah, Roxanne, Elodie, Oakley, Charlotte and Khadija



Year 6 - Areej, Drew, Caitlin, Angelina, Phoebe, Milo, Lenny and Reuben

Welcome to the Year Groups



Thank you to everyone who came along to this week's presentations. Next week we have Reception and Year 6 open evenings on Tuesday.

For everyone attending, your child will be entered into a prize draw to win a £10 book token - just fill in an entry slip in the class and hand it to the teacher before you leave.

Tuesday 29th September: **Reception** 3.40pm - 4.30pm
Year 6 - 4.30 - 6 including a Secondary School Admissions Presentation
(Please Note change of date)

The Year 6 evening will include a presentation to outline the admissions process for secondary schools and answer any questions you may have on applying for secondary school places. If you have any questions, please speak to Mrs King in the school office.
Remember the deadline to apply for a secondary school place for September 2027 is **midnight on 31st October 2026**. Online applications are open via the Council's website: Apply for a new year 7 secondary school place (or if you are a South Glos resident: South Glos LIFE | Apply online for a school place) We have confirmed the key open event information for local school websites and have added this on to the Year 6 page of our school website: https://www.abhps.com/year-6/

Education **Committee**

At the recent Education Committee meeting, school leaders were delighted to share with governors some of the significant successes achieved by our pupils over the past year.

We are particularly proud of the results achieved by our Year 6 pupils in last term's SATs. In Reading, 78.1% of pupils achieved the expected standard, meaning that our results have remained above the national average for the fourth consecutive year.

In Reception, 71% of children achieved a Good Level of Development, bringing our results close to the national figure and representing a very positive improvement.

We are also delighted to see a significant improvement in the Multiplication Tables Check. The number of pupils achieving 100% has almost doubled compared with the previous year.

Across the school, every year group made strong progress from their individual starting points in reading, writing and mathematics. These achievements are a real testament to the hard work and determination of our pupils and the commitment of our staff, and we are very proud of everyone's efforts.

Many thanks, Isabel

Harvest



Our Harvest celebrations will be taking place on Thursday 8th October and we are again collecting donations for the local Foodbank. You can find out more about the work they do in this short video: https://youtu.be/w6zP-b7jq8s.

It would be lovely if your child was able to bring in their donation on Thursday 8th October to bring into assembly but we will be collecting all week and will have table in the foyer for donations during week commencing 5th October if you would prefer to bring in items earlier. We would really appreciate donations of any of the following items:

Long Life Fruit Juice	Pasta	Tinned Meat or Veggie Meals	Crisps
Tinned Potatoes	Tea bags	Shampoo	UHT Milk
Deodorant	Instant coffee	Washing Up Liquid	Tinned soups
Soap	Tinned beans	Biscuits	Instant noodles
Nappies	Tinned Veg	Rice	Tinned Pasta (e.g. hoops)

Before you gather your donations, please remember these important guidelines:

1. ****It has to be in date**** - Please check expiration dates and dispose of any items that are past their best.

2. ****It has to be unopened**** – Please only donate items that are sealed and unused.

3. ****It has to be long-life**** – The Foodbank can only accept items which don't require storing in a fridge.

If you can add one or two extra items to your shopping over the next couple of weeks to donate to our collection boxes, we would be very grateful.

Thank you for your support.

No scootering or riding bicycles in School



Please be reminded again that scootering and riding bikes is NOT permitted anywhere on the school grounds. Whilst we love that children use these methods of transport to get to and from school, we must ask that they get off their bikes and scooters at the gate and do not ride them in the playgrounds or buildings.

Please remember that all scooters and bikes should be named, and locked up when left in the bike sheds.

Key Dates for Term 1

Thursday 1st October: National Poetry Day

Thursday 8th October: Harvest Festival (Tins and food donations for East Bristol Foodbank)

Wednesday 14th October: Reception 2027 Open Event - 9:45am (to book a space, click here: Air Balloon Reception 2027)

Saturday 31st October: Deadline to apply for Secondary school places (Year 6 pupils)

Other Key Dates for your diary:

Inset Day - Wednesday 2nd December

Winter Disco planned for Thursday 3rd December

Free School Meals - Changes to entitlement



As you may have heard, eligibility to Free School Meals has changed. Now all children from households in receipt of Universal Credit will be entitled to receive free school meals.

There are now 2 categories of benefits-based free school meals:

Targeted FSM, which continues to be based on the existing income threshold, covering pupils who are in households in receipt of Universal Credit with annual household earnings of £7,400 or less.

Expanded FSM, a new category covering pupils who do not qualify for targeted FSM, but who are in households receiving Universal Credit

These changes mean that more pupils may be eligible to receive a free school meal and so **we are asking all families to complete the eligibility checker form** so that we can find out if your child is eligible.

You can complete the online form here: Free School Meals and Pupil Premium Checker Form 2026 – Fill in form and we will check your child's eligibility. Alternatively, you can complete a paper form which can be collected from the main foyer and returned to the school office.

You only need to complete the form once, and your child's eligibility will be re-checked every year.

If you have any questions about the Free School Meals Changes or the form, please speak to a member of staff in the school office.

If you have not already completed the Free School Meals Application Form, we would encourage you to do so as soon as possible so that if your child is eligible, we can provide them with a free meal.

Class Fundraising 2026 Christmas Project

This week children have brought home templates for our Festive Fundraiser. Once completed, you add their name and class to the boxes at the top of the sheet and hand it into the school office or their teacher. We will then collate them all and send them off to be scanned in with the printer. A few days later, you will receive a personalised order form which you can use to order your cards, wrapping paper, tea towels and many more items directly from the supplier. For every order placed, the school will receive a 25% commission which will be used to enhance some of our play equipment.

We have a limited number of stencils available if you would like one for your child to use as a template - Star, Tree, Stocking and Bauble - please ask for one at the school office. This may be useful for children in Reception and Year 1.

Top tips:

- Make sure the design is large on the template and in the centre (the template represents the whole of the front of the card)
- Make sure the design is bold - press firmly with crayons and pencils
- Try not to add writing or images too close to the edges (ideally keep a finger-space gap all around)
- If your child is sticking their design to the template sheet, that's fine but make sure it lines up with the edges of the sheet
- Do not photocopy your template - each sheet has a unique code at the top - if you need another template or a replacement, please ask at the school office.
- Don't use metallic or glossy paper, glitter, fluorescent colours, staples or cellotape
- If you are using pencil crayons, make sure to press firmly
- Try to keep the template flat to avoid creases!
- Designs need to be portrait (not landscape)

The deadline for art-work to be returned to the school office / Class teacher is 9am on Monday 5th October. We are unable to accept any designs handed in after this time due to the tight print schedule.

Design samples and order forms will be returned to you by Friday 9th October

Deadline to place an order is 12 noon on Wednesday 21st October

Orders will be delivered after half-term. If you have any questions about this fundraising opportunity or need an extra template or a stencil, please ask at the school office.

Term Dates 2026/27

To assist parents/carers to book holidays and arrange other events please find detailed below the term dates and inset days for this academic year:



Term 1: Thursday 3 September 2026 to Friday 23 October 2026
Term 2: Monday 2 November 2026 to Friday 18 December 2026
Term 3: Monday 4 January 2027 to Friday 12 February 2027
Term 4: Monday 22 February 2027 to Thursday 25 March 2027
Term 5: Monday 12 April 2027 to Friday 28 May 2027
Term 6: Monday 7 June 2027 to Friday 23 July 2027

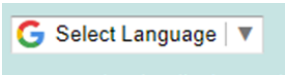
Inset Days:
Thursday 3rd September 2026
Friday 4th September 2026
Wednesday 2nd December 2026
Thursday 25th March 2027
Wednesday 7th July 2027
School will also be closed on Monday 3 May 2027 for the Early May Bank Holiday

For details on 2026/27 term dates: BCC-school-term-dates-2026-to-2027.pdf

If you want to be really organised, you can find the term dates for 2027/28 here: BCC School Term Dates 2027 2028

Accessing the school newsletter

Did you know that the school newsletter can be translated into 130 different languages on our website? To access the newsletter in a different language, visit https://www.abhps.com/newsletters/, scroll to the bottom of the page and click on this icon:



Choose the language you prefer and the whole page will be translated by Google.

Remember, you can view all pages on the website in a different language by clicking on this option at the bottom of every page.

In addition, if you would prefer to have any information on the website in audio-format, this is also now available (on desk-top or laptop computers only – not currently available on mobile devices). To hear any information, you currently need to access the website using **Google Chrome**. On the website, highlight any section of text then right-click on your mouse and select **Read Aloud Section** to hear the information.

If you are unable to access the email or website copies of the newsletter and need to receive a paper, please speak to the School office who will be able to arrange this for you.



Flu Vaccines

The annual flu vaccination programme is scheduled to be carried out in school for all children on the Monday 2nd November, for children who have consent for the vaccination. To sign up for your child to receive the vaccine please click: https://imms.sirona-cic.org.uk/flu/2026/consent?v=3 or scan the QR code:

Switch off Engines

Please can we ask that if you are parked near the school whilst waiting to drop off or pick up your child/ren, you do not leave your engine running. Under the UK Highway Code it is an offence to leave vehicle engines running unnecessarily while that vehicle is stationary on a public road (necessary reasons being diagnosing faults): https://highwaycode.org.uk/rule-123/



Could you tell if your child was being **exploited online?**

Join one of our free online sessions led by Child Exploitation Prevention Officer **Andri Nicolaou**

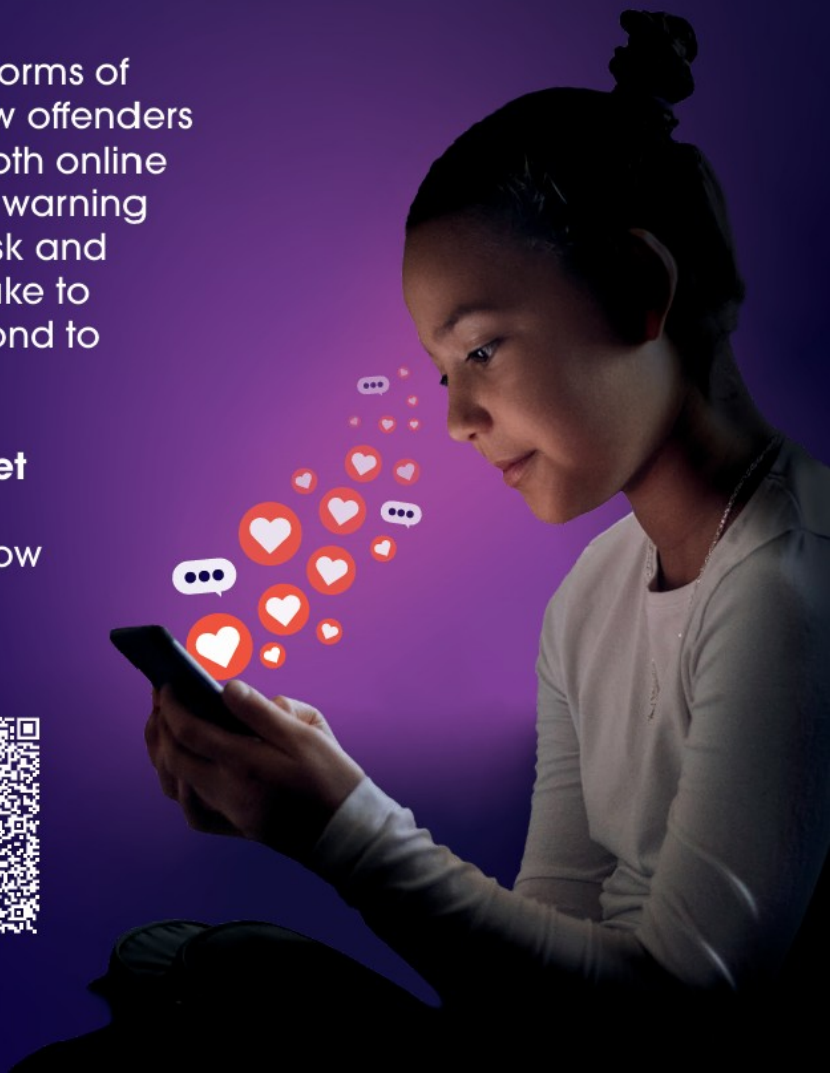
29 September 19:00 - 20:30pm **06 October** 13:00 - 14:30pm

Learn about the different forms of child exploitation and how offenders groom/exploit children both online and offline. We'll highlight warning signs a child may be at risk and practical steps you can take to keep them safe and respond to any concerns.

Visit the **Avon and Somerset Police Eventbrite page** or scan the QR codes below

29 Sept

06 Oct



COMMUNITY AUTUMN FAYRE

Kingsmeadow@ MADE-FOREVER Changing lives together

Free Entry!

SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER

12noon - 3pm

*** FUN ACTIVITIES* *CAFE * *MUSIC***

- Bouncy Castle
- Face painting
- Tattoos
- Arts & Crafts
- Raffle & Tombola
- Games
- Wall Climbing
- Bake Sale

COME AND GRAB A BARGAIN AT OUR CHARITY SHOP SALE

SALE

CLOTHES, BOOKS, DVDS
3 ITEMS FOR A POUND

BRIC A BRAC
TOYS & PUZZLES
KITCHEN ITEMS
ALL AT AMAZING PRICES













DO YOU HAVE ITEMS TO SELL? STALLHOLDERS WELCOME – CONTACT US TO BOOK A TABLE FOR £10

For more information: **call:** 0117 301 8734
Email: info@kingsmeadowmade4ever.org.uk

Venue: kingsmeadow @ MadeForever COMMUNITY HUB, CHARITY SHOP,GARDEN & CAFE
Fisher Road, Kingswood - Bristol BS15 4RQ
Facebook and Instagram: kingsmeadowmade4ever
Website: www.kingsmeadowmade4ever.org.uk
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