Newsletter – 09

13th November 2026

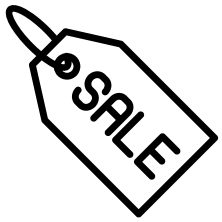
GEM Certificates



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.

There was no Celebration Assembly this week due to School Photographs being taken in the hall. We will celebrate more pupils next week.

Year 2 Art Sale



We would like to invite parents/carers in for our end of unit charity art sale, children will be raising money for Bristol Zoo Project. This will be held on
Thursday 17th December 14:45-15:00.
Discovery and Endeavour- in Stratos Hall
Apollo and Voyager – in Sombrero Hall

Odd Socks Day

On Monday 16th November we are encouraging as many children as possible to wear odd socks to show their support for Anti-Bullying week.

Children wil also have special assemblies on Monday on the topic.



Nativity time update



Please note that the Reception Nativity start time is **10am**, not 9:30 as previously stated on our Newsletter. Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

Contact

Air Balloon Hill Primary School
Hillside Road, St George, Bristol, BS5 7PB
0117 903 0077
airballoonhillp@bristol-schools.uk www.abhps.com

Our School

Everyone can achieve
Everyone can learn
Everyone belongs

School Nurse Drop-in

Join us after school on Tuesday 17th November in Earth Class for an informal drop-in session with the School Nursing Team. Please come along if you would like to talk to the School Nurse about toileting, sleep, diet or mental health.

Mrs Hennessy will also be there and there will be refreshments available. Please do come along if you have anything you would like to discuss with the School Nursing Team.

Pre loved School Uniform



We are running low on pre loved school uniform donations. Especially jumpers age 7-8 , 9-10, adult XS and adult S.
Cardigans age 11-12, adult XS and adult S.
Underwear age 4-5, 5-6 and 7-8.
Please bring any donations to the main school office.

Be careful of dog mess

We have received a number of reports about dog mess on the lanes and pavements around the routes to school. Please take care when walking into school, and if you spot any problem areas, please consider reporting them to Bristol City Council.

Class Fundraising Shop



The Class Fundraising shop opens for orders again from **20/11/2026 until 30/11/2026** if you didn't manage to place an order but would still like to.
https://classfundraising.co.uk

Flu Vaccine Catch up Clinic

Children's Flu vaccination catch-up clinics are available for Reception to Year 6 students who did not receive their vaccinations at school. Please book an appointment at https://imms.sirona-cic.org.uk/flu/2026/book?v=3



If you have any queries please contact the Immunisation Team directly on 0300 124 5515 or email sirona.sch-imms@nhs.net

Email Issues

Thank you for your patience today while we struggled to receive and respond to emails due to the global issues facing Microsoft. We are hopeful that these have now been resolved and normal service will resume on Monday!

Please remember that whenever you need to get an urgent message to us (e.g. to tell us that someone else is picking up your child at short notice), it is always better to phone us to make sure we get the message. You can contact the office on 0117 903 0077

Winter Disco



DISCO TICKETS - On Sale NOW - Via School Shop in Arbor.
Please see the poster towards the end of the Newsletter for times and more details.

If your child would like to request a specific song at any of the discos, please complete this form: https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/1H0ZeHUQw3

Lost and found

A much loved cuddly rabbit has been found on the school site. If the rabbit belongs to a younger sibling or a pupil, please see Miss Sobey or Mrs Androx.



Pre loved Winter coats available

If anyone wants a winter coat for their child, please let me know! I have many pre-loved coats in good condition that need a new home.

Family Support Worker, Sarah webb



Winter Holiday Activities and Events

Please find some links of things happening in the upcoming Winter Holidays!

Christmas Events in Bristol - VisitBristol.co.uk

35 Christmas Events in Bristol 2025 - a local's guide

The Ranch Adventure Playground & Youth Space - Southmead Community Trust

And as always the adventure playgrounds ran by Eastside Community Trust will also be open over the holidays. Most offer a cafe with free hot food for children of families in receipt of benefits and they often have a cafe where parents can buy a coffee to keep warm with! Please check out their websites for timings and to book your child's place.

Library News

During half term I was a volunteer at the Storytale Festival Bristol and assisted the Author Felicity Yeoh.

The Kingdom of Tigers weaves a poignant tale of survival and hope. As deforestation threatens their home, a tiger and her cub embark on a perilous journey to find safety. When they become separated, the cub must brave the wild with the friends he meets along the way, to return to his mother and find the sanctuary he dreams of.

This incredible new picture book, written by Felicity Yeoh and illustrated by Megan Snyders, carries an important message about Malaysia's endangered harimau tigers, as well as beautifully exploring themes of family, friendship and home.

We now have a signed copy of this lovely book in our library that has been signed by Felicity with her message "May you always follow your dreams!".



Library News

Felicity Yeoh

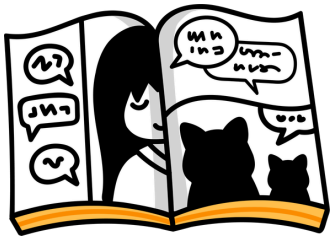
Storytale Festival Bristol

The festival brings together authors, illustrators, storytellers, performers and creative practitioners for two days of inspiring events for children, families and adults. The festival will be back in Bristol 2027

Message from Miss Hart

Our reading corner in Capella is looking a little short of comics, and we would love to add some new reading material for the children to enjoy. If you have any children's comics at home that are no longer being read and would be happy to donate, we would be very grateful.

Please send any donations into school with your child. Thank you for helping us keep our reading corner stocked with engaging books and comics!





Free School Meals

Is your child eligible to Free School Meals?
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.



Times Tables Rockstars

Following the recent internet issues affecting Bristol schools, access to Times Tables Rock Stars is now back up and running in school. However, during the disruption, children have missed out on a considerable amount of valuable times tables practice.

To help children catch up and continue developing their fluency and confidence, **Key Stage 2 children are expected to complete approximately 10 minutes of Times Tables Rock Stars practice at home each week.**

Teachers will continue to set specific sessions each week. These sessions will be introduced and started in school, with approximately 10 minutes of practice to be completed at home each week. Teachers will monitor completion weekly to help ensure children are keeping up with their practice.

Regular times tables practice is essential for building confidence and fluency in maths. Thank you for your continued support in helping our children keep rocking their times tables!

Free School Meals

For families receiving Free School Meals, Bristol City Council have informed us that Christmas will be the last time vouchers are issued to families to support over the school holiday periods.

The council currently provides free school meal (FSM) supermarket vouchers during school holiday periods to families in receipt of benefit related free school meals (FSM). This support is funded through the Crisis & Resilience Fund (CRF).

The Crisis & Resilience Fund is a UK Government grant and comes with specific conditions. The grant guidance discourages ongoing blanket voucher provision, and Bristol is being encouraged to move towards more needs based assistance, targeted at households experiencing financial difficulty.

If you are experiencing financial hardship, further information is available through;
Cost of Living
https://www.bristol.gov.uk/residents/people-and-communities/cost-of-living-support

Holiday Activity and Food Programme (HAF)
https://www.bristol.gov.uk/residents/people-and-communities/find-a-holiday-activity-in-your-area

If you need support or advice, you can also speak to Sarah Webb, our Family Support Worker.

Family Games Night

Look out for details next week and posters around the school with details of our Family Games Night on Friday 27th November.

We know it's going to be lots of fun for all the family to enjoy.

Holiday Club

Reminder that Space Cadets will not be open on the December Inset Day (Wednesday 2nd December) and will also be closed during the Christmas Holidays. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

Message from Mr Browse - Term 2 Activities

Please see below details of our Term 2 activities that parents and carers can get involved in. Please add these important events and dates to your calendars – including the Reception Nativities, Rocksteady Concerts and some important Maths and Phonics Classroom visits and parent information sessions. **Note - events in blue are dependent on us having sufficient parent/carer support to enable them to run.**

For many of our events to be successful, we do need your help and support. If you can help with any of our Term 2 events, please let us know by completing the short form below. We will then be in touch to discuss in more detail, how you can help. We are especially keen to hear from anyone who can help to organise our Family Games Night, support with our Winter Raffle and help at the School Discos.





https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/mV97H3Vrqs

We would like to create a Community WhatApp group of parents and Carers who would like to be more involved in helping us to arrange events at school. If you would be happy to be included, please let us know on the form.

Term 2 2 Nov – 18 Dec 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
16 Nov	**17 Nov**	**18 Nov**	**19 Nov**	**20 Nov**
	3:30pm-4:30pm School Nurse Drop-in (classroom tbc)	9:00am Phonics **Y1** parent classroom visits and follow-up talk in Stratos Hall		
Monday	**Tuesday**	**Wednesday**	**Thursday**	**Friday**
23 Nov	**24 Nov**	**25 Nov**	**26 Nov**	**27 Nov**
9:00am NumberSense **Y2** parent classroom visits and follow-up talk in Sombrero Hall		9:00am Phonics **REC** parent classroom visits and follow-up talk in Stratos Hall		6:00pm-7:30pm Family Games Night
Monday	**Tuesday**	**Wednesday**	**Thursday**	**Friday**
30 Nov	**01 Dec**	**02 Dec**	**03 Dec**	**04 Dec**
		INSET DAY	**Non-Uniform Day** Winter Discos 2:30pm-3:00 REC 3:30pm-4:15pm KS1 4:30pm-5:15pm LKS2 5:30pm-6:30pm UKS2	
Monday	**Tuesday**	**Wednesday**	**Thursday**	**Friday**
07 Dec	**08 Dec**	**09 Dec**	**10 Dec**	**11 Dec**
1.45pm - 3.15pm Rocksteady Concert for Parents			1.45pm - 3.15pm Rocksteady Concert for Parents	
Monday	**Tuesday**	**Wednesday**	**Thursday**	**Friday**
14 Dec	**15 Dec**	**16 Dec**	**17 Dec**	**18 Dec**
9:00am: **Y4** Singing Performance (Stratos Hall) 10:00am: **Rec (Star Class)** Nativity (Messier Hall) 2:45pm: **Y1** Singing Performance (Stratos Hall)	9:00am: **Y5** Singing Performance (Stratos Hall) 10:00am: **Rec (Moon Class)** Nativity (Messier Hall) 2:45pm: **Y2** Singing Performance (Stratos Hall) 6pm Stories around the Christmas Tree	9:00am: **Y6** Singing Performance (Stratos Hall) 10:00am: **Rec (Sun Class)** Nativity (Messier Hall) 2:45pm: **Y3** Singing Performance (Stratos Hall)	Christmas Jumper Day 9:30am: Xmas Raffle Draw	Christmas Jumper Day



Donations Wanted



Christmas Jumper Donations.

Has your child outgrown their Christmas jumper? Rather than letting it sit unused, why not donate it to our Christmas Jumper Sale? Pre-loved jumpers are a fantastic way to save money, reduce waste, and help another family enjoy the festive season. Donations can be handed in to the school office.



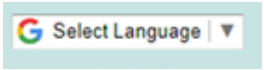
Winter Raffle Hamper Donations.

We are excited to be putting together a selection of festive Winter Hampers as prizes for our Winter Raffle. Raffle tickets will be available to purchase from Friday 27th November until Wednesday 16th December.
To help make our hampers extra special, we would greatly appreciate donations of new items suitable for festive or winter-themed hampers. Whether it's a small treat or a larger gift, every donation is welcome and will help us create some wonderful prizes for our school community. Some suggested donation ideas are listed below. Thank you for your support and generosity.



- Selection Boxes
- Biscuit Selections
- Festive Treats
- Luxury food items
- Festive chocolates and sweets
- Christmas Crackers
- Hot chocolate, and Marshmallows
- New card games
- Non-Christmas food items
- New Beauty, Pampering or Toiletries items

Accessing the 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.

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.

Mental health support.

A reminder for the two parent/carer workshops being run this term by the Mental Health Support Team. Please see the poster on last week's Newsletter for details on how to sign up.
Please note that we do not currently have a MHST Practitioner allocated to Air Balloon however, if you are concerned about your child's mental health, please speak to your child's teacher or contact Mrs Knight, the school's Mental Health Lead, via the school office.



WINTER DISCO

THURSDAY 3RD DECEMBER 2026





Reception - 2.30-3pm (in school time)
Years 1 and 2 - 3.30-4.15pm
Years 3 and 4 - 4.30-5.15pm
Years 5 and 6 - 5.30-6.30pm

Tickets on sale NOW via School Shop in Arbor



Deadline to order tickets is 3pm on Monday 30th November...book now to avoid disappointment

Children's Scrapstore

Super Saturday!

at Children's Scrapstore

FREE

Arts, Crafts, & Play in our Playroom

Join us for **FREE** and crafty fun aimed at primary school children and their families.

This drop-in session runs the first Saturday of every month from **10:00am - 12:00pm**

www.childrensscrapstore.co.uk/free-events

You may need to wait for a moment in our Children's Corner if the room is full.*

*This activity is drop-in on a **first-come, first-served** basis. There is no guarantee of a place when extremely busy.

No unaccompanied children.

BROOKES DYE WORKS

Join us on Saturday 5th December 2026!

Children's Scrapstore

Festive Family Crafting

AT CHILDREN'S SCRAPSTORE

Find out more and join in the festive fun by booking your place now through the QR code below.

SCRAP WREATHS
SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER, 10:15AM - 11:45AM

DECORATIONS
SATURDAY 5TH DECEMBER, 1:45PM - 3:15PM

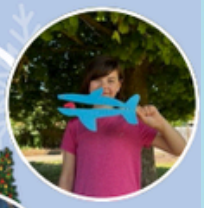
CARDS & WRAPPING PAPER
SATURDAY 12TH DECEMBER, 10:15AM - 11:45AM



Scrapstore House, 21 Sevier Street, St Werburghs, BS2 9LB
www.childrensscrapstore.co.uk/events 01179085644 Charity No: 1008788

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITY CAMPS

£20 A DAY!



CHRISTMAS CRAFTS AND BRACELET MAKING

Meadowvale Community Centre



FUN SPORTS LIKE FOOTBALL, DODGEBALL, AND MORE!

Date : 21st December & 24th December



DELICIOUS LUNCHES AND SNACKS

Age : 5 - 13 years old

Time:10am -2pm

procoaching

BOOK ONLINE:
HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/MBXS57W3
OR SCAN THE QR CODE

Your Holiday HUB Bristol

Department for Education

Munchkins Childcare

HAF FUNDED WINTER HOLIDAY

PLAY SESSIONS

Monday 21st December
Tuesday 22nd December
Wednesday 23rd December

9am - 1pm
St Anne's Infants School,
Bloomfield Road, BS4 3QJ



Open to children in receipt of benefits related free school meals (targeted FSM) who attend any primary school in Bristol.

FREE FOUR HOUR PLAY SESSION
FREE ACTIVITY (COOKING, CRAFTS, SPORTS)
FREE HOT LUNCH AND PUDDING

To book please visit: -
www.munchkinschildcare.co.uk
and click on the HAF scheme tab

Advance bookings only
Email: stannesholidayclub@munchkinschildcare.co.uk

Bristol Parent Carers
Shaping the Future Together

Upcoming free sessions!

LET'S TALK ABOUT SOCIAL CARE SUPPORT

Your voice matters!
Please share your views

We'll be exploring your experience of accessing Social Care support for your child, including Short Breaks, Community Access and Respite Support



Click here to book your space on 18th November at 12pm



In this session we will cover:

- Understanding how Direct Payments work
- Who may be eligible for Direct Payments
- Understanding how Direct Payments can be used
- How to apply

Click here to book your space on 12th November at 7pm



In these sessions we will cover:

- Understanding the different types of support available.
- How to access short breaks and respite.
- What Community Access opportunities there are.
- Where to get further advice

Click here to book your space on 20th November at 12:30pm



In this session we will cover:

- Supporting your young person with SEND as they prepare for adulthood
- Developing independence skills
- Understanding support services available

Click here to book your space on 27th November at 7pm

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Other free sessions coming up

Helping Autistic Children Cope with Christmas and Other Big Events

Online
10:30am
8th December

Special Guardianship and Kinship Care Support & Information

Online
7pm
16th December

Understanding Eating Challenges, including ARFID

Online
10:30am

Re-filling their cup: Responding to burnout in neurodivergent girls

Online
7pm