



# The Red Squirrel



Term 6: Issue 4

20th July 2017

[www.westburyontrym.academy](http://www.westburyontrym.academy)

## Dear Parents and Carers

### Year 5 & 6 musical

It is hard to believe that since the last newsletter we have all enjoyed the wonderful, high quality performances of *Mystery at Magpie Manor*. The children were outstanding and to think that every one of them made a contribution of some kind to the overall success is fabulous. Huge thanks to all the hard work from Mrs O'Neill and the other adults who organised this. I know everyone appreciated the kind feedback and positive comments received from those who attended. Well done children, it was a great success!

### Holy Trinity Service

Many thanks to the Trym-Year 3 children who contributed readings, prayers, poems and pictures to the special end of year Thankfulness Service which took place in Church on Sunday 9th July. We are so grateful to parents and carers for supporting this lovely event, which we know is treasured by parishioners and the wider community each year. Many thanks also to Mrs Thomas and Mrs O'Neill for organising this and for Mr Sloper and Mrs Bourne for your help too on the day.

### Our own Service of Thanks

This annual event allows us all to pause and reflect on how lucky we are to have so many wonderful volunteers, and members of our community who commit their time,

energy and expertise to our school. They do so through a range of different roles from Governors, to parents and carers who come on trips, hear readers, teach recorders or organise the swimming gala team etc, each week. Without all of your enthusiasm and care, we know that we would not be able to provide such a diverse and enriched experience for the children in our school.

We were so glad to see many of you at our Service of Thanks last week, but in case you weren't able to come, please accept our sincere thanks for everything you do, sit back and enjoy the lovely video clips Mrs Warbis has uploaded on to our Academy website (on the home page).

### Goodbye and Good luck

As you know this week we are saying farewell to Mr Best, Mrs Rea, Miss Mount, Miss Matthews and Mr Sanchez. We would like to acknowledge the wonderful contribution made by all these members of staff during their time with us and wish them every happiness as they move to new posts, and even new countries and experiences. We have been so lucky to have them on our team across recent years.

We have also said goodbye this week to a few children from year groups across the Academy who are moving house, region or school. We wish you all a very safe and happy time in your new schools.

## Year 6 Leavers Service

**9 – 11.30 a.m on Friday 21st July**

We would like to take this opportunity to tell you how proud we are of all the children leaving us from Year 6 at the end of this week. Between the 58 pupils, they will be moving on to a total of 14 secondary schools. We wish them every success in whatever pathway they choose to follow and hope that we have laid the foundations of confidence, self-awareness, respect and understanding of diversity, along with a range of lifelong learning skills, which they can apply to the next stage of their education and beyond.

Our formal farewell will take place on Friday morning in school. This is really an 'adults only' occasion and we are happy to welcome and be joined by special grandparents and carers who have played a key role in their primary life and education. We can accommodate older siblings but not really little ones as it will be very long! Do come along ready to stay for the best part of the morning please.

### Pupil achievement

We have now published the first draft of our statutory results achieved by our children. Once the full picture is available and includes all national and Bristol data

we will update this. We are delighted by these results which you can find at:

<http://www.westburyontrym.academy/parents/academy-performance-and-data-information>.

## New Term in September

Please can we remind you that the school

will open for children on Tuesday 5th September, due to the 4th September being an INSET day for staff training.

We very much hope that you all have a wonderful summer and we look forward to seeing you all in a few weeks' time for the start of another exciting academic year together.

Thank you for your continued support on behalf of the staff, Governors and children of the Academy.



Yours sincerely

## Other News

### Safeguarding and summer Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) campaign

Every summer, there is a Bristol Safeguarding campaign to remind the whole community of Bristol that we all share a responsibility, indeed a legal duty, to identify, prevent and protect girls at risk of FGM. All schools are asked to remind everyone about the law and what to do if you are concerned about someone you know. Under the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 it is an offence in England, Wales and Northern Ireland for anyone (regardless of their nationality and residence status) to:

- Perform FGM in the UK
- Assist in the carrying out of FGM in the UK
- Assist someone to carry out FGM outside the UK

If you suspect an immediate risk call 999. If you are concerned about someone then call First Response on 0117 9036444

### Potential closure of WOT library and school crossing patrol

Once again, Westbury-on-Trym library is under threat of closure, together with the withdrawal of the crossing patrol on Passage Road. We urge parents, carers and members of our community to complete the consultation online. The deadline is **15th September**. As all three of the options for the library service recommend closure of Westbury library, it is advised that respondents do not tick any option, but make clear in the comments box that none of the options are acceptable and that keeping it open is an important community resource.

The option on crossing patrols recommends keeping the Passage Road patrol, but this may only happen with strong parental

support. Please can we ask as many parents and carers to complete the survey and respond to the crossing consultation and the library one by following this link:

<https://bristol.citizenspace.com/bristol-city-council/yourneighbourhood/consultation>

### Free school meals

There are a number of children in Year 2 currently eligible for Free School Meals. To ensure these children receive a free school meal in September 2017 when they enter Year 3, you must to apply for free school meals to Bristol City Council if you think your child is eligible. The preferred method of application is on-line which is quick, easy and secure to use: <https://efsm.bristol.gov.uk>.

**Parents/carers will be able to make online applications from 15<sup>th</sup> July 2017 for a child starting Year 3 in September.**

### To Year 2 parents

If your child wants to start learning the recorder in September please can you email Deborah Smith, so she can send information regarding the groups when it is confirmed at the start of next term. [mrsincredible@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mrsincredible@hotmail.co.uk)

### Competition

Our school needs you! Help us win £5,000 of National Book Tokens for the school library - and get £100 for yourself! Just enter the competition online, it only takes a minute: <http://po.st/schools17>

### Drama club next term

Please note that Drama will change from a Tuesday to a Thursday from September. A full list of all the clubs and how to book will be issued at the beginning of next term. After school enrichment clubs will start the week beginning 18th September.

### IT News

\* Thank you to all those parents in Years 2,3 and 5 who have logged in and commented on their children's Seesaw accounts. Don't forget that if you want to download and save any of your child's photos or videos then you need to go into your parent account to do so before the **beginning of August**. If you have any questions please visit the Seesaw FAQ's page. [here](#)

\* Would you like to win a goodie bag worth £100? Espresso are running a competition during the summer for all pupils. Simply log on to [www.discoveryeducation.co.uk/mywb](http://www.discoveryeducation.co.uk/mywb) and use the login username:student1480, password:westbury. This login will also allow you to access any videos and games on the discovery education website throughout the summer holidays and beyond. It is well worth having a look at.

\* Is your child playing a game called Roblox? We are aware of its increasing popularity across the school and would like to make you aware of some of the issues associated with the game. If your child is talking about Roblox at home then please read [this short article](#) from NSPCC outlining the risks and making suggestions for action you could take.

## Report of the Full Governing Body meeting, Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2017

Here are some issues from the final FGB of the school year.

- The Governors heard an impressive set of presentations by senior staff of the School's progress over the last year through our School Development Plan priorities towards its longer-term (3-5year) Strategic Plan aims, and where it sees the new priorities lying for 2017/18. These Strategic aims cover a wide agenda of topics such as pupil achievements, teaching quality, external partnerships, school management systems, and financial health – all of which are obviously critical to the successful running of our Academy.
- The Headteacher's report noted that, while levels of attendance averaged across the School remained high, this concealed some very real problems in some classes with a handful of children with worrying attendance records and needs which have been causing the staff concern this year, with significant impacts on our budget, staff time and staff well-being.
- The Headteacher was also able to update the Governors with the very latest end-of-year statutory results, which showed some significant improvements both from our outcomes the previous year and against national benchmarks where available, particularly in areas that had been causing previous concern, notably the KS2 results. Maths has seen a very real improvement over the past year, and Reading results were also much improved, as were those attaining expected outcomes in combined reading, writing and maths. Phonics results from Year 1 were also excellent, and well above those ever achieved at the Academy and certainly well above those of a year ago. We still have areas for development in 2017/18, of course, such as writing levels in KS2 for some pupils and the need to raise the proportions achieving better than expected at KS1. The 'boy-girl' gaps often need attention while children in vulnerable groups persistently perform less well than their peers.
- Our e-safety group (to be renamed the online safety group) has been particularly active, including in a joint venture with the Bristol Free School. It is expecting to have an external assessment of the Academy's all-round performance in relation to addressing online safety issues, in Term 1 next year.
- The Promotions and Marketing group, which has hitherto had some parental and PTA representation, is becoming a sub-committee of the Governors' Finance and Premises Committee next year. Here it will be working in harness with a 'revamped' Letting Policy to increase the external use of our now excellent facilities. This should both embed the School even more firmly into the local Westbury community and also help provide a supplementary income stream at a time when all schools nationally are under severe financial pressure.
- We agreed some clarification of our Admissions Code (but not any changes in underlying principle) to apply for entry in 2019/20 (these things have a long lead time!) and this will be publicised early next year, when the necessary consultation stages have been completed.
- The annual Academy Governor Safeguarding report highlighted, among other things, the ongoing concerns that schools have to address in educational visits over the use of parental cars and the need for vigilance over site security, as well as asking for a review of the Academy's pupil version of the anti-bullying policy, as a priority for next year. This report, and other Annual ones such as those on the use of Pupil Premium grant and our SEN provision will be published on the Academy website in due course.
- We shall remain members of the NW24 Alliance of local primary and secondary schools in our part of North Bristol for the next year. We hope to build on the successful collaborations we have had through it further still in a number of areas of the school's core educational business, finance and governance. This now includes 27 different schools.
- The FGB was delighted to approve the nominations of Alex Hurst and Joe Littlejohn as Parent Governors from September 2018, and thanked them for their preparedness to serve our School in this important way.
- We bade farewell to the FGB's Vice Chair, Leigh Mitchell, who has served the School in a great variety of capacities as Governor for the past 12 years. She and her husband have been the main drivers behind our successful Nepal school link, while more recently, among many other roles, she has assumed responsibility on behalf of the FGB in overseeing the support the Academy can offer to more vulnerable learners. She will remain a Member of the Academy Trust, which oversees the effectiveness of the Academy's governance through the work of its Governors.

Tony Hoare (Chair of Governors)

(A.G.Hoare@bristol.ac.uk)



I just wanted to say a huge THANK YOU to everyone who has helped in any way with the PTA this year. Between us, we have raised a fantastic £11,500 which may yet increase with matched giving from Lloyds bank. I'm sure this will go towards some fantastic projects and opportunities for the school.

If you are going to buy new embroidered school uniform from Tesco this summer, please consider signing up with Easyfundraising.org.uk and we can raise more money for the PTA. Tesco currently give 5% to the school but will give a further 2% to the PTA if you access their website through Easyfundraising.org.uk

Go to Easyfundraising.org.uk and sign up to support Westbury-on-Trym CE School PTA - Bristol, Search for Tesco F&F Clothing. click on "Go shopping and raise funds". This takes you to the Tesco website. Go to "Baby & Kids" - "School Uniform" - "Embroidered Uniforms" Search for Westbury on Trym CE Academy.

I hope you all have a lovely summer break, and I look forward to seeing you all in the new school year, for more cake sales, disco's, film nights and fairs!

*Thank you so much to Kath and her team. What an amazing amount of money to raise for the school this year. Thank you for all your hard work. It is always appreciated.*

## Dates for your diary

### Term dates 2017/18

**Term 1** Monday 4th September to Friday 20th October 17

**Term 2** Monday 30th October to Friday 15th December 17

**Term 3** Tuesday 2nd January 18 to Friday 9th February 18

**Term 4** Monday 19th February to Friday 23rd March 18

**Term 5** Monday 9th April to Friday 25th May 18

(Monday 7th May—Bank Holiday)

**Term 6** Monday 4th June to Tuesday 24th July 18

### INSET dates 2017/18

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> Sept 2017

Tues 2nd Jan 2018

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018

Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> July and Tues 24<sup>th</sup> July 2018

## Community News

### School's Out Henleaze Summer Holiday Playscheme – Mon 24<sup>th</sup> July – Tues 5<sup>th</sup> Sept 2017

As usual, there is an innovative programme of themed fun activities, craft, sport, cooking and trips. Do you fancy trying getting in touch with your inner Neanderthal with some cave painting or learning archery so you can hunt a woolly mammoth? Perhaps discovering Piñatas like a Cortez conquistador or showing your sporting skills in our tribute to the first modern Olympic Games in 1896 are more your thing? Whatever you are into; there will be something for you to enjoy because as the name suggests, time really flies when you're having fun."

For the full programme, more information and how to book in for the fun go to: [www.schoolsouthenleaze.co.uk](http://www.schoolsouthenleaze.co.uk).

here at Unique Voice we are offering various targeted holiday programmes across the city during the summer.

Alongside this we are also offering 8 'Pop-up Play' sessions for local families which will be

taking place on various days during the Summer in the grounds of Blaise Castle.

These sessions are set to be lots of fun where families are invited to stay and play and will include games, activities and crafts all in the beautiful outdoor setting of Blaise Castle Estate Grounds.

I have attached the poster and would be very grateful if you could publicise it to your families and share between colleagues. Please feel free to share on your website or social media platforms aswell. This is an excellent FREE opportunity for families to spend some quality time together engaging in an action packed creative session so we would love as many people to access it as possible

### Rockleaze Rangers Football.

Calling all boys in year 5 - moving into year 6 in September. Rockleaze Rangers (Stoke Bishop's premier boys football team) are recruiting for next season. Training on astro turf at Henbury Leisure Centre on Tuesdays (6.30-8) from September (FA Qualified Coaches) and games on a Sunday. Fun and inclusive club. If interested please email ross

polkinghorne on [ross.polkinghorne@burgess-salmon.com](mailto:ross.polkinghorne@burgess-salmon.com)

### Colston Hall Event

'Hoo-ha' is taking place 14-17 August. It's packed with loads of free fun as well as ticketed shows, with appearances from Dick and Dom, Andy Day, Moomins, Revolting Rhymes, and loads more.

There's lots more info here: <http://www.colstonhall.org/shows/hoo-ha-2017/>

### Art Display and Children's Trail at Holy Trinity Church

If you have half an hour spare in Westbury-on-Trym this summer why not pop into Holy Trinity church and have a look at the fantastic artwork done by the children at the Academy in celebration on the 1300 year anniversary of the church and village. There is also a children's trail around the church - just pick up a sheet on the book stall at the back of the church.