



The Red Squirrel



Term 1: Issue 2

21st September 2017

www.westburyontrym.academy

Dear Parents and Carers

Exciting Staffing news

The Governors have confirmed the appointment of the new Headteacher. She is called Amanda Pritchard and will be taking up her post on 1st January 2018. As always, our children were absolutely delightful last week in welcoming candidates for this post into school and participating in different ways in the selection process and activities.

Mrs Pritchard is currently working as a School Improvement Officer for Bristol City Council where she has been supporting and advising a variety of primary schools across this city. Prior to this, she was Headteacher of St Teresa's Catholic Primary in Monks Park, Bristol until August 2016. She has spent her whole career working in schools in Bristol. She says, 'I am very excited to be joining Westbury-on-Trym C of E Academy. I very much look forward to getting to know you and working in partnership with all to build on the school's many strengths.'

Flags

As you know, we like to value and celebrate the diversity of our school community. One way we do this is to fly the flag of the countries our families have connections with on their relevant National days.

So, if your family celebrates any specific national days then please contact the school office within the next couple of weeks to let us know.

Harvest Service and Appeal

Our Annual Harvest Service in Holy Trinity Church will be taking place this year on **Tuesday 10th October at 9.30am**. As always, we would be delighted to have some parents/carers help us walk the children down to the Church and stay for the Service. **Please contact your class teacher if you can help.** There is a minimal amount of room for parent/carers if you wish to attend. Please remember to send your child into school with a coat that day!

Every year, we ask for children and their families to make a donation which younger children need to bring in a plastic bag, (to carry it down to the Church easily). These are then placed along the altar during the Service and collected afterwards to be taken to a local Christian charity based in Ashley Road, called the Community of the Sisters of the Church. These precious donations will form part of their 'Loaves and Fishes Harvest Ministry' and be passed on to the most needy people who approach them for help, through nearly 6000 food parcels a year. The Sisters also provide valuable advice to people and families through a volunteer lawyer and a whole range of volunteers

who offer their services to the Sisters.

Please support this Harvest collection with donations of the following:

- **TINS** (all in date still please) – tuna, tinned meat, rice pudding, fruit, custard, baked beans, soup and vegetables
- **PACKETS** – cereals, pasta, rice, instant cuppa soup, biscuits, tea bags and jars of coffee
- **SUNDRIES** – toiletries, packets of nappies of all sizes
- **BOOKS FOR CHILDREN** – pre-school and toddler ones as well as primary aged books.
- **MONEY** - in a sealed envelope, labelled 'Harvest Donation'. The Sisters are currently spending over £1000 per week from resources. Most goes on basic goods to supplement the food donations. A small amount goes on topping up utility keys for those struggling to pay for gas and electricity, as well as small miscellaneous household items.

Links with Lakwatomer School in Uganda

Joseph from Lakwatomer Primary School has sent us an email updating us with news from Uganda. They are reaching the end of term two and the exams are coming to a close. As you can see from the photograph below, the development

of the church has reached the gables and by the end of the year the roof should be in place. What wonderful news.



Maths Parent workshop in Term 2 Wed 8th Nov from 6.30 -7.45 pm

You will shortly be receiving a letter providing advance notice of another maths evening we will be running to support parents with understanding the approaches used in school, especially for calculation and problem-solving. Could we please

encourage you to look out for this letter and respond to our request for notification about numbers so that we can plan appropriately, given that we will not be able to meet in the hall that night due to a Letting which is already in place. This will be a practical session for parents to come along, try things out and learn from your children's class teachers about how we are working with your children in class.

Parking

Once again, I must remind you to be safe and considerate when parking near the school. We have had some further complaints, just this week, from our neighbours about dangerous and inconsiderate parking, as well as members of our school community using abusive language to these neighbours when they asked people to move off yellow lines or from blocking their driveways. It is hard to imagine what else we can do now to stop those culprits who are bringing the reputation of our School community into

disrepute like this. These kinds of attitudes and behaviours are not in keeping with our Academy vision of "Striving for Excellence, enriching our Faith, Cherishing our Community". I have responded to the residents who have complained suggesting that from now on they contact the police directly, if such incidents occur again.

Yours Truly

Cathy Milton
Headteacher

Other News

Book Fair

We are delighted to be hosting the Travelling Books book fair next month. The event will run daily, 3.15pm - 3.45pm. Beginning on **Monday 9th October** and ending on Thursday 12th October. The fair provides an excellent opportunity to purchase Christmas presents early, and also helps the school as a percentage of the profit is given back to us. The fair will be based in the KS2 corridor. We hope to see you there. Look out for the promotional leaflets in book bags.

Can you help us at all?

We urgently need some new helpers to run our Pre-School sessions this year. We are so grateful to Rebecca Sewell and her team of helpers who ran this valuable experience for us last year. Any families who visit the Academy, as part of choosing a school for a reception child, is invited into these once a month pre-school group sessions. They usually run from January through to July, (total of 6 or 7 sessions), with each one lasting for about an hour in the afternoon. These sessions form a really critical part of our induction process. The early sessions form the beginning of our partnership work and enable adults and their toddlers to

begin to get to know our school community and each other, whilst waiting to see if they have secured a place for their child. From May onwards, Mrs Thomas and Mrs Davies then pop in to begin to get to know our new families and their children. If you would be able to help us at all in running these sessions, could you please speak to Mrs Thomas directly, or the school office, for further information and also so that we can note down your details.

Lost Bear

Sophie in 3BF lost a much loved wooden bear by the tyre trail on Wednesday. If anyone has found it, could they please return to Sophie or Miss Patel?

Secondary school destinations

For your information, our Year 6 children last year transferred to 14 different secondary schools. Please find below :

Gordano	1
Henbury School	4
Oasis Brightstowe	1
Redland Green	1
St Bede's	4
St Mary Redcliffe & Temple	3
Bristol Grammar	1
QEH	2
Red Maids	4
Bristol Cathedral School	1
Bristol Free School	31
Castle School	2
Colston Girl's School	2
Cotham School	1



We are looking forward to our first event of the year on Friday 29th September. The Macmillan coffee morning is a great opportunity to catch up with friends over a cuppa and a cake, and also to meet new faces! Please donate a cake for this event, whether shop bought or home made, all to raise money for Macmillan cancer charity.

Our AGM will be on Wednesday 4th October at 7:45 in the School. Do please come along to this meeting to find out more about how the PTA raises money for the school and what we have funded over the last year. We are always looking for more helpers, so whether you can help out regularly, could just help with the occasional job or just fancy a glass of wine, we'd love to meet you!

Dates for your diary

Term 1

2nd-6th October		Yr 6 camp
9th-12th October		Book fair
10th October	9.30am	Harvest service in church

Term 2

1st November		Photo day (individual & siblings)
9th November		Flu vaccines (Rec-Yr 4)
13th -17th November		Anti-Bullying Week (All different, all equal)
7th December	2pm	KS1 Carol service
10th December	5pm	Christingle service
12th December	time tbc	Trym Nativity
14th December	6.30pm	KS2 Carol service

Term dates 2017/18

- Term 1** Break up 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

- Tues 2nd Jan 2018
- Friday 25th May 2018
- Mon 23rd July and Tues 24th July 2018

Community News

Harvest at Holy Trinity Church

Join us for Harvest Festival at Holy Trinity, the Parish Church on Sunday 1st October for this family friendly service. Donations to the Sisters of the Church are welcomed, see in the section above for details of what you can bring.

You could also listen to the morning service on Radio 4, which will be broadcast live from the Parish Church at 8am on 1st October. This is part of our 1300 year celebrations.

Quest youth club

Quest is run by Youth workers from Holy Trinity church. Places are available for children 8- 11yrs old. It is held in the College, College Road, 7pm—8pm each Wednesday in term time. If your child is

interested you can bring them along any Wednesday evening, or contact the church office, 0117 950 8644.

Self-help course

Do you, or does someone you know, need support following a relationship breakdown?

Over the past 12 years Aquila Bristol has helped many people learn to cope and rebuild their lives following separation or divorce.

Our next 7-week self-help course starts on Monday 25th September in Cotham, Bristol.

The course is facilitated by a group of trained men and women who have all experienced broken relationships or divorce.

If you would like to know more please call Gill on 07807 058479, email bristol@hope-after-heartbreak.co.uk or visit www.hope-after-heartbreak.co.uk / www.facebook.com/hopeafterheartbreak

The Bristol Steiner Academy will be hosting *the* attachment parenting event of the year on September 30th. A day with the power to transform your parenting experience, APUK Live! will include talks on positive birth, consent-based education, active fathering, emotional resilience, childhood massage, the science & politics of sleep and positive discipline. Unique exhibitors will accompany poetry, improvised story-telling and Bristol's BYOB choir. An amazing day for parents, professionals and carers of children of all ages. Use PROMO code: **WESTBURY** for

special tickets: www.attachmentparenting.co.uk/conference/

reduced ['Infinity'](#)

Shine Sports Coaching

Shine is excited to announce the NEW sessions available at the Shine Community Sports Hall available to school age children, grown up's and Pre-Schoolers! We have extended our range of sports to make sure there is something for (almost) everyone

Saturday Dance Academy – Our 2 brand new Dance Troupe's start **this Saturday 23rd September**. For boys and girls who want a different Saturday morning activity, come this Saturday and try it...Our dance coaches will be coaching as individuals, and as part of a team. The participating boys and girls will learn dynamic routines in weekly sessions to build towards a series of live performances.

Street Dance Infinity - for ages 4-7 at 10:00-10:50 – Take me to [Street Dance](#)

Street Dance Limitless - for ages 8-11 at 11:00-11:50 – Take me to [Street Dance 'Limitless'](#)

Shine Junior Football Club, Under 6 Squad. If you have a Year 1 child interested in football, Shine JFC have spaces in the squad. We are an all inclusive club with boys and girls of all abilities. Our great facilities are based at Brentry Primary school in BS10, where we have lovely pitches and tea & coffee ☺ Don't sit on a waiting list, come and play!

ShineTots – Running everyday Monday-Saturday for energetic Pre-schoolers aged 3+. ShineTots Dance, Cricket, Football, Rugby and Multi-Sports. [Take me to ShineTots](#)

Adult Fitness Classes – Running Monday- Friday, our fitness coaches run Bums & Tums, Shine Circuits, HIIT and ShineCore to accommodate those starting their fitness journey to you guys who are hardcore. [I want to see more](#)

[info about Shine Fitness](#)

Westbury Forum meeting

A meeting will take place on 11th October 7.00pm at Venue 35, Stoke Lane. The future of Canford Park and Westbury-on-Trym library will both be on the agenda. As you know there has been a consultation on the future of a number of libraries. Bristol City Council has adopted a policy that Bristol parks should have a neutral cost, there will be a consultation exercise later this year, although the details are not clear. 'Friends of Canford Park' felt they need to be ready to save the park—if funding is not available, the play equipment will not be checked for safety and the trees not regularly monitored and pruned. All parents/carers are urged to attend the meeting as so many families use and enjoy the park.