

26 October 2018

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)/Governor(s)

What a lovely term! I can't believe it's already come to an end. Thank you for making me feel so welcome and supported and for arranging the best autumn weather in living memory – very kind! There is so much information to share with you this week that I'm deliberately keeping this bit short.

Well done to all the children who have managed the transition to their new year groups so smoothly. It has been a joy to hear, at the parents' evenings, how well many of the children have grown into the new challenges of the year and made such good progress in their academic work.

Congratulations to everyone who has received special awards this term too. I really like the fact that the certificates we award have to be worked hard for and they are not just given out like confetti. It makes them so much more valuable and worthy of proper celebration.

All the very best to our Year 6 children who go on their residential trip immediately after the half term holiday. It sounds so exciting; I'm sure they'll come back exhausted (and probably in need of a good bath!) after all their physical exertions. Have a great time and be kind to each other. This experience will give you all the stuff from which good memories are made. Please look after Lauren George and Sue for me – we need them back in one piece (well two I suppose)!

Just a quick and final reminder to any parents of Year 6 who have not yet put in an application for a Year 7 place in secondary school. This is now urgent and the absolute deadline is **Wednesday 31 October 2018**.

Have a wonderful half term everyone. I look forward to seeing you on Monday 5th November.
Warm thanks

Margaret Gwynne
Interim Head teacher

YR We have had a fantastic time in Reception spending some time with our new year 1 friends. We have been learning about measuring and seeing how tall and short things are. We are really excited about becoming one class with year 1 next term and our new name is Forest Class. Next term we will be learning the story of 'Where the Wild Things Are' so look out for the story map to help the children learn the story.

We will now be doing PE on a Wednesday morning **so all children will need a PE kit including trainers or daps.** .

Y1. What a creative end to Term 1! Over the past two weeks we have been planning and designing our own house for the old man in The Tin Forest for DT week. Our topic has been 'Everyday Materials', and so we have been testing the strength of different materials to find out how suitable they would be for building a house. The children have particularly impressed us with their use of scientific vocabulary - well done!

In Maths, we have continued to work on addition to 10 using the part-whole model and the children have enjoyed doing their work practically.

We would like to say well done to everyone for remembering to bring a PE kit every day to school - we have had a wonderful term learning some technical ball skills in PE.

Finally, a big thank you to those of you who read with your children **every day**, it really does make a huge impact on reading progress, and we have loved seeing the children's confidence in reading grow. Wishing you all a wonderful week off for half term.

Y2. We had a fantastic time designing and making our hedgehog puppets during DT week. The children all learned how to do a running stitch and after a lot of perseverance and hard work, put it into practice and sewed two parts of the puppet together. The results are brilliant and photos can be found on the website, so do have a look!

We have almost finished reading 'The Hodgeheg', which the class have thoroughly enjoyed. We have also been working on using adjectives to describe nouns when doing a setting description. Some of their work has been fantastic! It has been such a wonderful first term in Year 2 - well done to all the children for settling into Year 2 so well.

Y3. Year 3 have been working so hard in English over the last couple of weeks. We have written our newspaper report based upon the 'Iron Man'. There are some excellent journalists in Year 3! Our DT project of Iron Man models has been extremely exciting too!

We have also been looking into adverts, in which we designed a poster for 'We the Curious'. Our trip to 'We the Curious' was a huge success and we learnt so much about our topic of 'Forces and Magnets'.

In Maths, we have been learning column addition and subtraction and have begun to apply that into word problems which is really tricky, however, we have shown a superb attitude towards our learning.

It has been an amazing term in Year 3 and we cannot wait for the next!

Y4. These last couple of weeks we have been looking at monsters from myths and legends and working on our descriptive writing. This has culminated in making and painting our own monsters from junk.

In Maths, we have been expanding our column addition and subtraction to include thousands. Finally, we had a lovely trip to Aerospace Bristol which included the chance to go on board a Concorde.

Y5. We have enjoyed infusing our Science topic with DT this fortnight, building our own mechanical pulley systems for DT week, an intense immersion in designing and making. Based on our class book 'There Is A Boy In The Girls' Bathroom', we made a simple machine for pulling one of the book's characters out of quicksand. We used some exciting new tools; (a saw and a power drill), and developed our measuring and assembly skills. We created attractive designs to finish our models, and they look fantastic.

Y6. Year 6 have been really excited to write their own alternative endings to our book 'Floodland'. They have written a first draft and edited it themselves. In Maths, we have brought together all their learning from term 1 and are solving multi step problems in the correct order, working out the brackets first. In Science and DT, the class have made their own wire buzzer games, making their own electrical circuits, and have enjoyed playing them with their friends.

Attendance Update

Our whole school attendance goal is **97%**. Please help us reach our goal by ensuring your child is in school regularly and on time.

Data: Monday 22 – Friday 26 October 2018

Rocky the Attendance Dog		Punctuality Polar Bear	
Awarded to: Y3 who reached the school target and recorded 97.22% attendance for the week. Well done Y3 😊		Awarded to: Y1 who have recorded ZERO late marks for the week – Excellent Y1! 😊	
Class	% Attendance	Late marks recorded Before close of register (L)	Late marks recorded After close of register (U)
R	93.83%	1	0
1	94.18%	0	0
2	96.30%	2	1
3	97.22%	2	1
4	92.16%	2	3
5	94.18%	4	0
6	93.16%	0	2
<p>206 minutes late have been recorded this week. That's approx. 3.5 hours of missed learning due solely to lateness.</p> <p>By being continually late, you run the risk of being issued with a Penalty Notice. Please be on time. School starts promptly at 08:45am – no later.</p>			

'ParentPay' and Parents Evening System

This academic year, we have introduced two new computerised systems. We purposely staggered the introduction of them both for ease for you. Unfortunately, as some of you haven't registered and set up your new 'ParentPay' account, some confusion has now arisen with the most recent introduction of the Parent Evening System.

'ParentPay': everyone has been given a letter (some of you have now received two letters) detailing log in and a password (which you are invited to change when you first log on). **EVERYONE** requires this system, it is not only used to pay for items such as dinners, school trips, After School Club etc., you can also check outstanding balances and plan ahead.

'ParentPay' will also be used for future communication: emails and text messages. We currently use Teachers 2 Parents for texting and emailing. We will stop using 'Teachers 2 Parents' very shortly.

You do not have to pay for goods using 'ParentPay' although we strongly suggest you do, but you will need the commination system, so please sign up asap. Despite many reminders there are 59 accounts that still need activating! The link: <https://www.parentpay.com>

Parents Evening System: following positive feedback after last year's booking online for parent/teacher consultations we have decided to implement this system. **ALL** parent/teacher consultations will be bookable via this system.

Although it is called Parents Evening System, all Teacher Led Clubs (both after school and lunchtime clubs) are bookable using this system. For the two families in school with no online access at home, places can be booked in the school office, the morning after new information is added to the system. Currently, there are three clubs open to children in KS2 that will start in Term 2.

The link: <https://stmichaelsonthemount.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/>

Goodbye and Good Luck

Today we say a fond farewell to Beth. Beth has been teaching in our school since April 2018 and she has made the decision that computing and coding is her new focus. So we say goodbye and good luck with lots of good wishes to you today, Beth.

Y6

Most of the class will be leaving for their residential trip to Culmington Manor on Monday 5 November 2018. Children **cannot** board the coach without having returned their green medical information sheet by the end of **Friday 26 October 2018**. It is too late to process forms on the day of the day of the trip. Culmington Manor are expecting all information to them by Friday 26 October 2018. The children who are not going to Culmington Manor are expected into school for the week as normal.

Y6 Secondary Transfer

All children in our Y6 class are due to transfer to secondary school in September 2019. Please ensure completed applications are made directly to the School Admissions Department at Bristol City Council by the published deadline: **31 October 2018**. Earlier this week, there were still **11** outstanding applications, please do not be late applying. If you require any help, please come into the school office, we can help you.

School Dinners – Price Increase from Term 2

Please note that our caterers Chartwells, are increasing the price for a daily school meal by £0.05 to £2.10 from Monday 5 November 2018. The new cost per week will be £10.50. 'ParentPay' will be updated to reflect this increase.

Message for Parent(s) Carer(s) of Children in both Y2 and Y6

Length of data storage update: In the addendum to parent/carer information that we issued in June 2018 we stated that "Electronic data and paper documents including identifiable personal data will be securely archived and disposed of by YTU when the youngest participating young person is aged 25. This is in line with the Limitations Act 1980 and the Records Management Code of Practice for Health and Social Care 2016. Anonymised electronic data and paper documents will be kept indefinitely." We have since created a data sharing agreement that your child's school will be signing in the near future, we are happy for them to share this with you if they wish.

The length of time we will keep your child's data has now decreased, the relevant section in the data sharing agreement reads as follows: 8.4 Electronic data and paper documents including identifiable

personal data will be securely archived and disposed of by YTU at the end of March 2023, 3 years after the submission of the final report.

Thank you for your continued support, if you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact us at ytu-reflected@york.ac.uk

New Reading Books in KS1

We have had an exciting delivery of brand new reading books in Key Stage 1. All books are stamped with the school's logo and are levelled. Please make sure that these books are looked after and brought back into school so that all the children can enjoy them for years to come.

Breakfast Club

Sue de-G will be away on the Y6 residential camp from Monday afternoon, 5 November until Friday 9 November 2018.

Revised information: Breakfast Club will be open, as usual every day so working parents are able to drop children to school nice and early (08:00-08:30).

Food **will be** available on Monday 5 November. However, there will be **no food** available on: Tuesday 6, Wednesday 7, Thursday 8 and Friday 9 November 2018. We then have the INSET day on Monday 12 October when school is closed **to all** pupils. Normal service resumes on Tuesday 13 November 2018.

Class Names

As you have read our YR and Y1 class will be known as Forest Class after half term. The other classes are already named after trees and will also be known as their 'tree name'. For your information:

YR & Y1: Forest Class
Y2: Chestnut Class
Y3: Maple Class
Y4: Willow Class
Y5: Cedar Class
Y6: Birch Class

New Governing Body

The Federation of St Michael & St George came in to being on 1 October 2018. On a day to day level you will have not seen any change in the how the schools operate but now, instead of two governing bodies (one for each school) there is one. More information is available on the schools' websites, or please feel free to e mail the Co-Chairs (Mary Benton and Janet Bremner, using the old St George Chair of Governors email address) chair.stgeorgep@bistol-schools.uk if you would like to know more.

Parent Governor Election

One of the most important first tasks for the new governing body was to hold a parent governor election. The ballot closed on Tuesday 23 October 2018 and the result was as follows:

André Grüning	36
John Mossop	24
Jess Siggers	32

Therefore André Grüning and Jess Siggers have been elected to serve as parent governors on the governing body for a period of 4 years. We welcome them both to the new governing body and look forward to working with them.

Clerk to Governors Vacancy

This post is part time, working 200 hours in total across the school year, providing organisational support to the governing body. If you are interested, you will find full details, including an application form, on the schools' websites.

Once you have read the information, and if you would like further information, please contact the Co-Chairs via the email address above.

Closing date is **Monday 12 November 2018 at midday**

Dates for Your Diary

Mon 5 Nov	Start of Term 2 – normal time 08:45am – Please be on time!
Mon 5 Nov	Y6: OUT to Culmington Manor for the week Remaining Y6 pupils in school as normal for the week
Mon 5 Nov	Teacher Led After Sch Club: (Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6) Creative Writing Club Y6 classroom. 3:15pm-4:15pm Places are limited and bookable on line (see paragraph above)
Mon 5 Nov	No Guitars this week
Wed 7 Nov	Teacher Led Lunchtime Club: (Y4 Y5 & Y6) Chess Club Y5 classroom. 1:00pm-1:30pm Places are limited and bookable on line (see paragraph above)
Thu 8 Nov	Y5 and remaining Y6 OUT: to QEH – History afternoon
Thu 8 Nov	Teacher Led After Sch Club: Y3 & Y4 Football Club 3:15pm-4:15pm Places are limited and bookable online (see paragraph above)
Fri 9 Nov	Y6: Return from Culmington Manor
Mon 12 Nov	INSET Day 3 – School Closed to all pupils
Tue 13 Nov	Y5: OUT Cinema Trip to see 'Phantom Boy' Consent not required and back to school in time for dinner.
Wed 14 Nov	Y2: OUT Museum trip for the Dinosaur Workshop Consent not required – letter to follow with full details
Thu 15 Nov	Whole School: Individual and Sibling Photos Full school uniform must be worn or your child may not have their photo taken if we can't source uniform from lost property.
Thu 15 Nov	Christmas Steps Christmas Lights Switch on – starting promptly at the top of the steps at 5:30pm
Fri 16 Nov	Y6: OUT Cinema de Lux: Goosebumps 2: Haunted Halloween

