

## Upcoming events & celebrations

### Term 3 starts: January 3, 2024

Wednesday January 3 is the first day of term for all students. January 2 is an INSET day and school is closed.

### Energy Saving Week: 15 – 19 January

Students will come together to learn about how to save energy and improve our environment.

### National Storytelling Week: 29 January – 7 February

Throughout the school we will be celebrating the power of sharing stories.

### Time to Talk Day: 1 February

Classes will look at mental health and the importance of talking and listening.

### Children's Mental Health Week: 5 – 9 February

The theme of the week is 'My Voice Matters', with activities to empower and give voices to every child.

### Chinese New Year: 9 February

Classes will be exploring and celebrating the Year of the Dragon.

### Family Coffee Mornings

Come in for a coffee and a chat! Our Family Link Workers will be on hand to answer any questions you may have.

- Phonics Coffee Morning (all parents welcome): 10 January - 9:15am, Juniors site.

Please look out for additional dates that will be shared during the term.

### Term 3 ends: 9 February

Final day of term; school closes to all students.

## Term Dates

### Term 1

Friday September 1 – Friday October 20, 2023

### Term 2

Monday October 30 – Friday December 15, 2023

### Term 3

Tuesday January 2 – Friday February 9, 2024

### Term 4

Monday February 19 – Thursday March 28, 2024

### Term 5

Monday April 15 – Friday May 24, 2024

### Term 6

Monday June 3 – Tuesday July 23, 2023

## Inset Days

### Term 1

Friday September 1, 2023  
Monday September 4, 2023

### Term 2

Tuesday January 2, 2024

### Term 4

Thursday March 28, 2024

### Term 5

Friday May 3, 2024

### Term 6

Tuesday July 23, 2024

## Headteachers Reflections

We have had a very busy term full of new experiences and exciting opportunities for all our pupils. Highlights included the Wonderdome, Avon and Somerset Police, We The Curious and The Children’s Kitchen. The last fortnight has been filled with festive cheer and we hope you have a relaxing and restorative Christmas break.

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## Things to note

We now have a new uniform provider – Gooddies. Parents will need to set up an account to place an order.

<https://www.gooddies.co.uk/product-category/schools/briarwood-school/>

## Free School Meals & Pupil Premium funding

If your child is entitled to Free School Meals they will get a free, healthy lunch provided in school each day. You may also be eligible for support via the Bristol City Council voucher scheme during school holidays. If your child has a packed lunch or is fed via a tube or other means, it is still important that you apply as the school receives additional funding for these pupils. Pupil Premium funding is around £1,455 per primary school child and around £1,035 per secondary school child. This money makes a big difference to our school and the eligible pupils. We report on how we spend this money, which can be found on our website. To get an instant decision about eligibility, please visit: <http://www.bristol.gov.uk/residents/schools-learning-and-early-years/travel-and-free-school-meals/free-school-meals>

## Attendance snippets

100%	0 days Missed
95%	9 days of Absence. 1 week and 4 days of learning missed
90%	19 days of Absence. 3 weeks and 4 days of learning missed
85%	28 days of Absence. 5 weeks and 3 days of learning missed
80%	38 days of Absence. 7 weeks and 3 days of learning missed
75%	46 days of Absence. 9 weeks and 1 day of learning missed

We know that good attendance at school really does have an impact on pupil progress. If you are struggling to get your child or young person to school, please do contact your Head of School – we can help!

## News & achievements

### Infants

At Infants this term we have been learning about different ways of celebrating. We started the term with



Halloween and Bonfire Night, and have gone on to explore Diwali and the different ways we all celebrate our birthdays. It has been such a creative term, ending with our celebration of Christmas and the Nativity

performance of ‘Whoops-a-Daisy Angel’. We’d like to thank all the parents who came to support the children – they put on an incredible performance and it meant such a lot to all of us to have you there.

We have really enjoyed learning with The Children’s Kitchen this term. They come every Tuesday afternoon to help us explore new and interesting foods and do some simple cooking. We are really excited for this partnership to continue over the year and to expanding the recipes we can cook. We are even planning to

begin growing our own food! We hope you have a restful and enjoyable winter break and come back in the New Year ready for another busy term.

## Juniors

We have had a busy term on Juniors in the run up to Christmas. Earlier in the term, Image Musical Theatre



performed 'Wind in the Willows' for us, which was enjoyed by staff and students alike! Last Wednesday we joined together with students from the Sixth Form for our Christmas lunch, which was a lovely opportunity for our older and

younger pupils to come together. Yesterday, we welcomed Santa to our grotto; he gave out presents and certainly helped us all feel festive. We will be finishing off the term with the traditional Juniors Christmas Disco, enjoying lots of cheesy holiday music and dancing. We hope that you all have a safe and relaxing holiday. We look forward to welcoming the students back in the New Year.

## Secondary and Nexus

It has been another busy term for us here on

Secondary & Nexus, with everyone working so hard. We have had Science days and employee encounters with the



Police, who brought in uniforms for pupils to try on. Image Theatre also came and performed 'Wind in the Willows' for us, which was enjoyed by everyone. Our students travelled to Juniors to enjoy the Wonderdome

Experience and We The Curious also came to visit, rounding off a full term of wonderful opportunities for our pupils. We have finished with our traditional Winter Fayre, which everyone worked incredibly hard to make a big success. It is a fantastic opportunity for our students to experience elements of the retail industry. So, well done to everyone for another great term. Enjoy the winter break! We look forward to what Term 3 and the New Year brings for us all.



## Sixth Form

During Term 2 we have begun looking at different types of jobs and taking part in work experience and employer encounters. Our Acorn group organised the Christmas shoe box appeal this term. We managed to fill and donate twenty-two shoe boxes full of personal care, school supplies and toys – a fantastic effort! We had a visit from PC Davey from Avon & Somerset Police, who talked to us about what being a police



officer involved. He showed us the different protective equipment they use and explained how it all worked. Our Forest learners examined what skills and qualities are needed to be a door supervisor and there was some very enthusiastic role play from everyone! Some students took part in the Bristol Bears Target Games Festival at Warmley Park School, while others have enjoyed a term of swimming. We wish you all a restful break and look forward to welcoming you back in 2024!