

## Upcoming events & celebrations

### Term 2 starts: November 4

Monday November 4 is the first day of term for all students.

### Children's Book Week: November 4 - 10

Classes will be using Book Week to celebrate stories and the connections they inspire.

### Guy Fawkes Night: November 5

Students will learn about the history and traditions behind Bonfire Night.

### Anti-bullying Week: November 11 - 15

This year's theme is around choosing respect. Students will be exploring what it takes to be a good friend.

### Remembrance Day: November 11

Staff and students together will have an opportunity to learn more about Remembrance Day and its significance.

### Children in Need: November 13 & 15

This will be a fantastic opportunity for everyone to get involved in some Children in Need activities. Pudsey Bear will even be visiting our Infants & Secondary students!

### Christmas Jumper Day: December 12

Everyone is encouraged to wear a Christmas Jumper to school in aid of Save The Children.

### Secondary Christmas Fayre: December 17

Families of our Secondary students are welcome to come and support the student's annual Christmas Fayre.

### Juniors Christmas production: December 17

Families are welcome to come and support our Juniors in their Christmas production.

### Family Link Events

- Add here

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

### Term 2 ends: December 20

This is the final day of term for all students.

## Term Dates

### Term 1

Monday September 2 – Friday October 25, 2024

### Term 2

Monday November 4 – Friday December 20, 2024

### Term 3

Monday January 6 – Friday February 14, 2025

### Term 4

Monday February 24 – Friday April 4, 2025

### Term 5

Tuesday April 22 – Friday May 23, 2025

### Term 6

Monday June 2 – Tuesday July 22, 2025

## Inset Days

### Term 1

Monday September 2, 2024  
Tuesday September 3, 2024  
Wednesday September 4, 2024  
Thursday October 3, 2024

### Term 3

Monday January 6, 2025

### Term 6

Tuesday July 22, 2025

## Headteacher's Reflections

We have had an incredibly busy start to Term 1! The pupils came back in September ready and raring to go and we haven't stopped since. From trips to Bristol Old Vic to Harvest Festival celebration and everything in between, the students have been enjoying a wealth of opportunities. We have had a great time with Bristol Bears this term and also welcomed the Image Theatre Company for a fantastic performance of 'The Selfish Giant'. Families will be aware that we welcomed Ofsted back for our graded inspection this term. Thank you to all those who took the time to speak with inspectors or fill out the questionnaire. We look forward to sharing the outcome with you as soon as the report has been through Ofsted's quality assurance process.

Next term we look forward to sharing some festive celebrations with you. Please do look out for information on the respective performances and fayres. I hope you all have a lovely half term!

Nicolle

## Things to note

We now have a new uniform provider – MyClothing.com. Parents will need to set up an account to place an order. They are currently offering a 10% discount with the code 'UNIFORM10'. This will apply to all uniform orders until the end of the year!

[www.myclothing.com/collections/briarwood-school-29362](http://www.myclothing.com/collections/briarwood-school-29362)

## 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

Thank you to all parents and students who have worked hard to improve their attendance in school. We know that good attendance supports pupils with their academic achievement, helps to foster positive emotional wellbeing and ensures access to additional therapies such as physiotherapy or speech and language support.

However, we have noticed an increase in pupils arriving late to school. Please can you ensure that your child or young person arrives at school by 9:00am each day. If you would like support or advice with this, or help with completing a home to school transport application, please reach out to our Family Link team: [familylink.briarwood@bristol-schools.uk](mailto:familylink.briarwood@bristol-schools.uk)

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

## Cashpot for Schools

Thank you to everyone who has already signed up to the ASDA Parent Kind Cashpot for Schools! Parentkind – a charity that supports school PTAs - have teamed up with Asda, who is making millions of pounds available to donate to primary schools across the UK through their 'Cashpot for Schools' initiative. To support our school, all you have to do is opt-in through the Asda Rewards app, shop and scan in store or shop online at Asda.com.

Until November 30, 2024, every time you shop with Asda using your Asda Rewards app, Asda will donate 0.5% of the value of your shop to your chosen Primary school. Also, every time somebody opts-in to support our Primary school, Asda will give an additional £1 to the school Cashpot. Plus, it doesn't stop there – Asda are also giving £50 to every school to get them started.

We have so far raised £121.83 so far, and there's still time to do more!

If you haven't yet signed up, please do. It is really easy; all you need to do is follow the instructions below

1. Download the Asda Rewards app, register and opt-in to Cashpot for Schools (make sure you have the latest version of the app installed)
2. Choose our Primary School – either searching by name or postcode
3. Shop instore across Asda and George, or online at Asda.com and start filling your Cashpot as you shop

Asda does the rest - all money raised will be donated to schools to spend on the things we need the most.

## News & achievements

### Infants

We have had a wonderful start to the year at Infants! Our topic has been 'Exploring' and the children have all been very brave while exploring and getting used to their new school. We have learnt the story of 'We're



Going on a Bear Hunt' this term. It inspired the children to produce some wonderful, multi-sensory art work and the department is now beautifully decorated!

We welcomed Children's Kitchen back to help us harvest our Autumn vegetables, including kale

and chard. We had a fantastic enrichment day where the students had an opportunity to explore seasonal vegetables in celebration of the Harvest Festival.



We also had an unexpected visit from the fire service this term, who were making checks in the local area. As we always do at Briarwood, we made the most of their visit; there was even a chance for our students to explore the fire engine! Everyone had a wonderful time and we were grateful to the fire service for supporting our students and encouraging their curiosity!

We hope you all have a restful half term break and come back ready for another eventful term!

### Juniors

We have had a busy start to the school year and while everyone is getting a little tired now as we approach the end of term, there is still plenty of energy in the classrooms on Juniors. There have been a lot of new children who started with us in September. Everyone has done fantastically well settling into their classes and getting to know the new students.

We've had plenty of fun this term, a highlight of which was our celebrations of Roald Dahl day. Some classes made dreamcatchers from 'The BFG', while others made chocolate things from 'Charlie & The Chocolate Factory'. This has also been book of the term for some of our learners.



We also celebrated Harvest Festival - exploring different vegetables, trying different types of bread and making harvest-related arts and crafts has provided some fantastic sensory and creative opportunities for the students. We will be finishing off the term with our Halloween celebrations and disco!

We wish you all a restful half term and look forward to welcoming everyone back, fully refreshed, for a busy Term 2.

## Secondary & Nexus

Somehow, we find ourselves at the end of Term 1 already! It's been a really busy start to the year on Secondary. Those students who moved up from Juniors have settled in very well! They've enjoyed exploring the site, getting to know the staff and learning about their classmates. Those returning have also settled brilliantly, with everyone keen to return to learning again after the summer break.



All our students have enjoyed the opportunity to get involved with cooking this term as part of 'My Creativity'. We have also started our Makaton choir again, with rehearsals going well! Please do look out for this term's performance which will be shared on

SeeSaw soon. We are extremely proud of all those taking part and thank the staff who are supporting this endeavour.



Bristol Bears have returned to support our P.E sessions again this term. We even celebrated Roald Dahl day across the site. Next term, we will be celebrating Children in Need and running our Winter Fayre which is always a highlight for students and families alike!

It really has been an amazing start to the year and I cannot wait to see the progress our young people will make as we move through the terms.

## Sixth Form

It's been a busy start to the term for everyone in the Sixth Form! Our returning students have settled well into their new tutor groups and everyone has been extremely welcoming to those who joined us from Secondary.

Owl class has been cooking in earnest, making burgers, cookies, flapjacks and more as part of 'My Creativity'. Acorn and Woodland organised another successful MacMillan Coffee Morning, helping to raise over £200 for a fantastic cause. The students have also started collecting for their Christmas Shoebox Appeal.

Some of our Forest students have been volunteering down at Infants this term. They have all enjoyed supporting our youngest pupils with a variety of different sporting activities! The students also attended a Bristol Bears rugby tournament and have been busy making candles as part of a new business enterprise!



Students across the Sixth Form have engaged really well with the Daily Mile. So far, as a department, the students

have managed to walk 115 miles in total! (This equates to 2,300 laps of the Juniors playground.) This is a fantastic effort, especially given the number of rainy days we've had this term. But even the weather hasn't been able to stop them! We are well on our way to reaching our department target of 500 miles by Christmas.

Well done to all our students for coming back ready to get stuck into a busy term. Enjoy the half term break; we look forward to welcoming everyone back in November!