

## Upcoming events & celebrations

### Term 6 starts: September 8

Monday September 8 is the first day of term for all pupils.

### First Aid Day: September 15

Our students will explore the importance of first aid in supporting and caring for their peers.

### International Day of Democracy: September 15

Students across the school will learn about democracy and the importance of it in allowing us to live freely. Student Council elections will also take place to give voices to Briarwood pupils!

### European Day of Languages: September 26

Languages open hearts & minds! Students and staff will have an exciting opportunity to explore different languages spoken within our school

### World's Biggest Coffee Morning: September 26

Families are welcome to join us for coffees, cakes & more in support of Macmillan Cancer Research.

### Black History Month: October 2025

With a theme of 'Standing Firm in Power & Pride', students across all sites will explore the contributions made by leaders, activists and pioneers who have shaped the past & are shaping the future.

### National Poetry Day: October 2

The theme this year is 'play' and students will be given the opportunity to explore, enjoy & create poetry!

### Harry Potter Day: October 9

This year's theme is 'Friends & Foes!' Students and staff will be able to delve into the wizarding world with fun activities celebrating an iconic series.

### Recycling Week: October 13-17

Recycling plays an important part in protecting our planet. Students will learn about what we can recycle and ways that everyone can do their bit.

### Diwali (Festival of Light): October 20

Students will explore the how Diwali is celebrated and the story behind the festival.

### Family Link Events

Dates will be shared during the term. Please look out for these via e-mail and SeeSaw.

### Term 5 ends: October 24

Friday October 24 is the final day of term for all students.

## Term Dates

### Term 1

Tuesday September 2 – Friday October 24, 2025

### Term 2

Monday November 3 – Friday December 19, 2025

### Term 3

Monday January 5 – Friday February 13, 2026

### Term 4

Monday February 23 – Thursday April 2, 2026

### Term 5

Monday April 20 – Friday May 22, 2026

### Term 6

Monday June 1 – Wednesday July 22, 2026

## Inset Days

### Term 1

Tuesday September 2, 2025  
Wednesday September 3, 2025  
Thursday September 4, 2025  
Friday September 5, 2025  
Wednesday October 15, 2025

### Term 2

Monday November 3, 2026

## Headteacher's Reflections

We have come to the end of another wonderful year! The whole school has been able to take advantage of the wonderful summer weather, with plenty of outdoor learning and water play. Celebration is a theme across all our sites in Term 6. Our Sixth Form students enjoyed their end of year Prom; it was lovely to see so many families and students coming together. Celebration of Achievement events took place across the school, acknowledging the progress and successes of all our students!

The annual Briarwood Music Festival was a huge success once again, with memorable performances from all our classes. A few students braved the stage to perform solo but were never on stage alone for long; it was amazing to see how supportive our community is of one another. Thank you to all our families for supporting the students this year. I wish you all a restful summer break and look forward to welcoming everyone back for the start of a new year in September.

*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.

[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 pupils 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

## Breakfast Club

Next year we will be continuing with our provision of a free Breakfast Club on Juniors and Infants. This is part of the Government's pilot scheme to provide a free, healthy breakfast and 30-minutes childcare to all primary aged students. If you would like your child to attend, please contact your Head of School to make arrangements. Please be mindful that the school cannot assist with transport, so if you would like your child to attend you must be able to provide your own.

## INSET Dates 2025/26

Briarwood have agreed their INSET dates for the 2025/26 academic year. A reminder that on these dates, school will be closed to all pupils.

- ❖ Tuesday September 2, 2025
- ❖ Wednesday September 3, 2025
- ❖ Thursday September 4, 2025
- ❖ Friday September 5, 2025
- ❖ Wednesday October 15, 2025
- ❖ Monday November 3, 2025

The first day of term 1 for all pupils will therefore be Monday September 8, 2025.

## News & achievements

### Infants

What a wonderful summer term we've had at Infants! Everyone has made the most of the glorious weather, with plenty of outdoor learning and water play taking place. The students have also really enjoyed our regular community walks.



Classes spent some time this term exploring ways to look after our environment. As a result, some of our children went litter picking!



The children also had the opportunity to plant our new community planter. The weather has ensured that it is thriving! As part of Children's Kitchen, classes have been cooking crispy kale with Claudia – yum! It's a great, full-circle learning opportunity for the students, to grow the food they then cook.

All the students have been so kind to those who are joining us in September and have come to play and meet us all. Everyone enjoyed the graduation assembly. It was a fantastic way to celebrate and say

goodbye to those moving up to Juniors in September. The students performed our Music Festival capoeira dance from Brazil wonderfully! They are ready for new adventures, and we can't wait to hear all about them.

To those returning in September, we look forward to welcoming you back for another exciting year at Infants. We wish all our families a wonderful summer break.

### Juniors

What a busy year it's been on Juniors – a big thank you to all pupils and staff for making it such a fantastic one! The students have been busy once again this term, starting with a department-wide trip to Wake the Tiger. It was a great success; everyone enjoyed exploring and interacting with the space. It tied in brilliantly with Arts Week, where our students would go on to work on their own art!



Back in the classroom, the students have been learning about plants in science; everyone enjoyed getting messy while planting their own seeds and watching them grow!

Sky Arts Week was an exciting, interactive week. All the classes enjoyed getting creative with prints, paints & technology resulting in some fantastic, expressive pieces. Everyone also spent some time this term reflecting on their year and thinking about our favourite things, as well as looking ahead to what we'd like to achieve next year.

To all the Juniors students moving up to Secondary, thank you for all your hard work this year – you will be missed! The Juniors team wishes all our families a happy, safe and restful summer. We look forward to welcoming those returning to the start of another exciting year in September.

## Secondary

It has been such a busy term on Secondary, it's hard to know where to start! The students (and staff) enjoyed a visit to the immersive Wake the Tiger exhibition. Everyone enjoyed being able to engage with the exhibition and its interactive installations. There were also some fantastic on-site events, including the Arts Festival. It was amazing to see the students exploring and creating some wonderful art. Thank you to all those who were able to



come in and appreciate their hard work.

The term concluded with the traditional Celebration of Achievement. Everyone has

made fantastic progress this term and it's wonderful to come together to recognise this.

We wish all our leavers who are moving up to Sixth Form well and look forward to welcoming those coming up to us from Juniors in September. Have a safe and happy holiday.

## Nexus

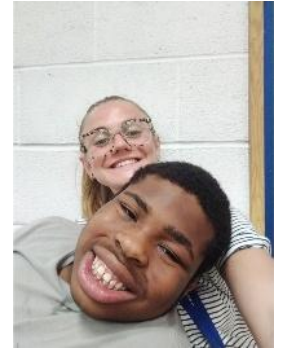
We have come to an end of another productive and rewarding term. The students have shown great effort, enthusiasm and resilience throughout and the whole team are incredibly proud of all they've achieved!

Each student will be bringing home a scrap book showcasing the work and moments they are most proud of. The team hope that our families enjoy



looking through them as much as the students have enjoyed putting them together!

The team in Nexus have been reflecting on some of the highlights from the past year this term. The Briarwood Music Festival was a huge highlight for everyone; students had the opportunity to soak up the music and atmosphere alongside the wider school community. There has also been plenty of water play to combat the recent heatwaves. This was a wonderful opportunity for the student's playful, cheeky side to shine through. It's incredibly heartening to see how the students value and trust the staff team around them.



Nexus ended the term with an Art exhibition, where students proudly displayed their work from recent 'My



Creativity' projects – an inspiring way to close the year. A big thank you to all the families and staff who were able to support the students.

We wish all our families a relaxing and enjoyable summer break and we look forward to welcoming everyone back in September.

## Sixth Form

It's been a busy final term of the year in Sixth Form! The whole department started with a fantastic trip to Wake the Tiger. It was great to see the pupils so engaged with the many sensory interactions and exciting aspects of the exhibition!

We celebrated our Leavers Prom this month, which was a fantastic event. It was wonderful to see so many staff, families and





students coming together to celebrate everyone's achievements. The students received their ASDAN qualifications which they have been working towards for the past three years. The whole team are extremely proud of

all the students for their achievements.

Our Forest cohort sat their Functional Maths exams this term – what a fantastic achievement! The group is waiting for the results, which will be shared with families during the holidays.

The Sixth Form also hosted the Preparing for Adulthood Fair this term, which gave students the opportunity to meet with and ask questions of FE colleges, employers and social care provisions.

We hope all our families have a restful and enjoyable summer break. To those returning in September, we look forward to welcoming you back for another busy year! To our leavers, we wish you all good luck on your journey into adulthood.