



# Collaboration Newsletter October 24

As we near the end of the first half term of our more formal collaboration, I wanted to write to the families of both schools. Once a half term, we will be sending out a joint newsletter which as well as sharing the usual updates from both schools, will also be an opportunity to celebrate successes across the collaboration.

Work is underway in providing more opportunities for our children to work together across the two schools; a few classes have already met virtually and many have plans to meet up in the near future.

During the September INSET day, staff at both schools had the opportunity to come together to discuss the vision and shared ethos for the collaboration. This was also an invaluable opportunity for staff to get to know each other better and begin to make professional connections. Some members of staff have already met to discuss the subjects they lead and how to develop them further across the schools.

The wider leadership team have been meeting regularly to discuss and plan ways to move the collaboration forward over the coming months.

It has been a real privilege for me personally to begin to get to know the children and staff at the infants and better understand the day to day workings of the school!

Many thanks to all the families for their continued support at both schools.

Mr Willis

## What's been happening?

Reception have been celebrating differences through stories and looking at what makes them special. They have been singing lots of Autumn songs and painting portraits.

Year 1 had a great superhero day with the children carrying out lots of secret missions and showing many super learning skills including writing about Supertato!

Year 2 have written character descriptions for Fantastic Mr. Fox, looked at animal life cycles and had a fantastic visit to Stonehurst Farm to experience a real working farm.

Year 3 have had a very busy week creating Andy Warhol inspired prints of local landmarks as part of their topic 'Community Explorers'.

Year 4 have been getting really scientific this week; using accurate recordings to experiment with different states of matter.

Year 5 have enjoyed the next part to their gripping story 'Street Child' - based on a character from a Victorian work house - which has inspired some amazing creative writing. They've also been learning Sea Shanties - performing them with actions and cups!

Year 6 have been cooking up some WW2 pasties; making pastry from scratch and a filling using only ingredients they could have grown. They have also been dissecting hearts to consolidate their learning about the Circulatory System.

## Driving and Parking

Please can we ask that all parents take care when driving around our school sites. We ask that parents do not pull up on the pavement by the garages outside Cottages and do not park or wait on the zigzag lines at any site. Please do not drive onto Avon Gardens at drop off and pick up times. **This is for the safety of all our pupils and their families.**

## HSA/PTA

Thank you to the parents who organised and helped at our Infant School PTA PJ parties. Everyone had a great time!

Thank you as well to the parents who organised and helped at our first two HSA events at the Junior School. The tuck shop last week and Y3 and 4 PJ party last night were both really successful and well attended.

A reminder that at the Infant School, Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October will be our PTA 'Break the Rules Day'.

There will be a non-uniform day on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November at both schools. This is in preparation for the School Christmas Fairs. In return we ask that the children bring some chocolate in for the chocolate tombola.

Reminder that Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November is an INSET day so children will be back on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November.



## Infant School key dates for Autumn Term

Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> October 3:45 – 5:15pm	Parents' Evening (Online)
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> October 3:45pm - 6:15pm	Parents' Evening (Online)
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	PTA Break the Rules Day
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> Oct – Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov	October Half Term
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	INSET day
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	PTA Christmas Chocolate collection (non-uniform)
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	PTA Christmas Bottle collection (non-uniform)
Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup> November 12 – 2pm	School Christmas Fair
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December 3:45pm	Family Christmas Photographer (hall)
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December & Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Performance @ St Giles (am)
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Finish for Christmas
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	First day of Spring Term

## Junior School key dates for Autumn Term

Week beg 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 6 PGL residential visit
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Year 3 Parents Evenings
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> Oct – Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov	October Half Term
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	INSET day
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	Class 12 assembly
	HSA Christmas Chocolate collection (non-uniform)
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	Identity day
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> & Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 4, 5 and 6 Parents evenings
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in need
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	PGL info evening for Year 5 parents
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents Maths workshop
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Class 9 assembly
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	Class 6 assembly
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Class 3 assembly
Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	School Christmas Fair
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	Friends of WBSJ concert
Tues 10 <sup>th</sup> & Wed 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Y4/5 Christmas Production
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	STEM Day
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Community Sing (after school in Main School Hall)
Tues 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Carol Concert Y3 and 6
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Finish for Christmas
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	First day of Spring Term

