



Headteacher writes:

**“Science and everyday life cannot and should not be separated.”
Rosalind Franklin, chemist and X-ray crystallographer**

Welcome back and Happy New Year! The children have come back to school well and are one week in to their new topics...

This term, all classes are focusing in some way on the importance of Science. Our Chester Park Scientists (your children) will be focusing on a range of different aspects of science. In Reception, the children are exploring different aspects around Space. This will link to lots of different ideas around what the children learn from stories, to construction to art and play. This week, I understand they even made space food! In Key Stage 1, our Year 1 and Year 2 children are focused on the environment and in particular the importance of addressing issues with litter. Our Litter Detectives have learnt about the importance of reducing Waste, Reusing items and recycling. I am sure they will be influencing some of the little things that happen at home to support everyone in looking after our environment. In Key Stage 2, Year 3 and Year 4 are looking at habitats and how creatures adapt and are able to survive in the habitats they live in. This will have a biological and environmental focus. In Year 5, pupils are focused on History and Science they are looking at conductors and insulators and the impact, these will have had on the industrial revolution and how this links to the Victorian period of History. Year 6 pupils are exploring how light moves and how shadows are created. Having spoken to the children this week, I was impressed with the use of specific vocabulary and the questions they have asked around their topics.

As the days gradually become longer again and the weather hopefully begins to improve, we would encourage more active travel to school. That might mean parking a little farther away from school and walking a little extra. Or it might mean cycling and scooting to school. Being more active supports children and adults in many ways - supporting physical and mental health and making a difference to the safety in and around the school sites as there are fewer vehicles. We are one of the few school sites that still has an active lollipop person. Please use the support of Chris MacDonald if you need to cross Ridgeway Road to get to school. As a reminder, the bus stop outside the infant school on Lodge Causeway is active, the ziz-zag lines around the schools sites are enforceable with penalty notices and Abingdon Road is part of Bristol's School Streets programme. If you choose to drive and park, please do so with care for others and ensure you adhere to the highway code.

Yours in partnership,
Mike McNama, Headteacher

A message from School Streets at Bristol City Council

We've received concerns about children playing in the road before and after school, and we want to make sure everyone understands the rules to keep children safe. Our **School Streets** scheme helps reduce traffic outside the school, but please remember:

The road is not fully closed.

It remains open to **Blue Badge holders, emergency services, and residents**—many of whom have permits allowing access during the restricted times.

It is essential that children stay off the road at all times and know how to stay safe near traffic. Please review our **Road Safety Rules** and share them with your children at home.

Remind them that vehicles can still use the road at any time.

Thank you. Bristol School Streets.

STOP, LOOK, LISTEN, THINK!

- Look both ways before crossing
- Think about bikes and scooters as well as cars, including fast moving electric bikes and scooters.
- Do not stand in the road
- Do not scoot/walk on the road
- You can cycle on the road

Share our Learning Evenings

We will be holding our Share Our Learning evenings on **Tuesday 12th and Thursday 14th February 2026 from 3.30pm at the Infant school and 3.40pm at the Junior school.** This is a 10 minute appointment for you to speak with your child's class teacher and to look at the work they have completed so far this year.

Booking will open at 9am on 15th January, bookings will need to be made through the Arbor app.
Thank you

Snacks at Junior School

From Monday 12th January, we will no longer be providing school fruit for children to purchase at the junior school . If you would like your child to have a snack during the day, please send them in with a piece of fruit or a vegetable. Some good options include:

- Apples
- Bananas
- Pears
- Grapes
- Easy-peel oranges (e.g., satsumas or clementine's)
- Carrot sticks
- Cucumber slices



Please note that snacks should only be fruit or vegetables. We kindly ask that children do not bring crisps, chocolate, sweets, or processed snacks such as cheese strings. Thank you for your support in helping us promote healthy eating habits.



Friends of Chester Park Schools Meeting Friday 16th January 2026 9.15am held at the Infant School



The FOCPS will be holding a meeting to discuss upcoming events and planning for this school year. All parent/carers from the Infant and Junior schools are welcome to attend . We look forward to meeting new members and to sharing ideas for events. We hope you can join us!

School Menu Change

On **Thursday 15th January**, there will be a change of menu. We will be serving the Friday Menu on Thursday and the Thursday Menu on Friday. The main choices will be:

Thursday— Fish Fingers, BBQ Veggie Wrap & Maple Oat Cookie






Friday—Mild Beef Chili, Vegetable Ratatouille & Apple Flapjack

Pasta, Jacket Potatoes & salad bar at the juniors will also be available.



Dates for your Diary

- Friday 16th January - Friends of Chester Park Meeting—9.15am at Infant School
- Tuesday 10th February—Share our Learning Evening 3.30-6pm
- Thursday 12th February— Share our Learning Evening 3.30-6pm
- Friday 13th February—End of Term 3
- Monday 23rd February—Start of Term 4
- Wednesday 4th March—Friends of Chester Park Holi Colour Run—More information to follow
- Thursday 5th March—World Book Day— Children can dress as a book character for the day!
- Friday 13th March—Red Nose Day
- Thursday 19th March— Inset Day—School Closed to all pupils
- Friday 20th March—Inset Day—School Closed to all pupils
- Monday 23rd March—Eid Party & Coffee Morning—More information to follow.
- Week Beginning 30th March—Easter Cake Sale—More information to follow
- Thursday 2nd April—End of Term 4
- Monday 20th April—Start of Term 5
- Tuesday 19th May—Infant School Sports Day
- Wednesday 20th May—Junior School Sports Day
- Friday 22nd May—End of Term 5
- Monday 1st June—Start of Term 6
- 1st—5th June—Chester Park Belonging Week—More information to follow
- Friday 5th June—Belonging Picnic and Summer Fair from 2pm
- Tuesday 21st July—End of Term 6

	Dojo Hero 	Pot of Gold 		Dojo Hero 	Gold Card 
Class	Infant School		Class	Junior School	
Badger	Frankie		Pine	Rashid	Luna, Zaynah
Rabbit	Liam		Willow	Hareem	Benedict, Dave
Squirrel	Ellis		Cedar	Amyra	Ronnie, Angelo, Lottie
Bumblebee	Alex W		Hazel	Hester	Jevon, Riley
Hedgehog	Emily		Chestnut	Marley	Sophia, Tulah
Otter	Aleena	Oliver, Zubina	Hawthorn	Aliyah	Zac, Zayan
Owl	Teddy	Simi, Leander	Sycamore	Roka	Lola, Ivy
Fox	Ruby		Maple	Evan	Crawford, Milo
Ducklings		Isa	Ash	Marwah	Tahsin, Aleena
			Whitebeam	Theo	Zaynab, Safwaan
			Hornbeam	Isla	Mu'adh, Amschel
Congratulations to this weeks winners!			Oak	Jayden	Ollie, Logan

Class	Weekly Attendance	Class	Weekly Attendance
Badger	88.9%	Pine	96.3%
Rabbit	82.6%	Willow	95.3%
Squirrel	92.8%	Cedar	90.0%
Bumblebee	94.1%	Hazel	95.5%
Hedgehog	88.9%	Chestnut	95.8%
Otter	95.9%	Hawthorn	91.9%
Owl	98.8%	Sycamore	93.3%
Fox	91.6%	Maple	93.5%
		Ash	93.4%
		Whitebeam	94.9%
		Hornbeam	93.5%

strengthening families strengthening communities



Every Thursday from 15th January 2026 for 11 sessions, excluding school holidays. Last session on 2nd April.

9.15am to 12.15pm, Settlement Site, Ducie Road, BS5 0AX

A free, inclusive course to help parents and carers raise happy, confident children, from babies to teens

FREE CRECHE SPACES AVAILABLE, BOOK NOW!

"I have had a good experience on this programme, it is very good to help myself and my children"

Parents: self-refer by scanning the QR code:



For more information or to book, call Sally or Laura on 0117 3041400 extension 155

Professionals: find a referral form at <https://form.jotform.com/222903517095355>



www.wellspringsettlement.org.uk info@wsb.org.uk

Settlement Site, 43 Ducie Road, BS5 0AX - 0117 3041400

Wellspring Site, Beam Street, BS5 9QY - 0117 304 1400

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Bristol Parenting Groups

- Are you pregnant or a parent of a 0 - 8 year old?
- Would you like to add ideas and skills to your parenting toolbox?
- Would you like to develop more confidence in your parenting?
- Would you like to understand your child better?

Free
groups for
adults run
by Bristol
Children's
Centres

Scan here
to find out
more and
register your
interest!



Your parenting
toolbox:

Listening

Play

Nurture

Praise

Empathy

Connection

For more information please call: **07721 311 497**
or email: **pssso@bristol.gov.uk**

Once you have registered your interest via:
www.bit.ly/BristolParentingGroups we will be in touch to find
the best group option for you.



2026 – THE YEAR OF READING



This year, we're celebrating the joy of reading!

Throughout 2026, there will be exciting events at school and in the local community to inspire a love of books. Keep your eyes peeled for updates!

How Parents Can Support Children's Reading Engagement at Home:

- ✓ Set aside a regular time for reading together every day.
- ✓ Let your child choose books they find interesting.
- ✓ Ask questions and talk about the stories you read.
- ✓ Visit your local library – there are always fantastic books there as well as wonderful events!

