Holy Cross RC Primary School

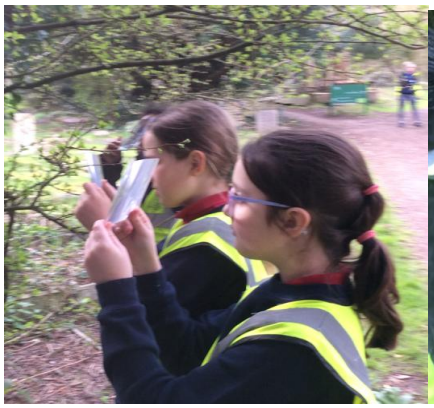
Newsletter – 27/03/2026

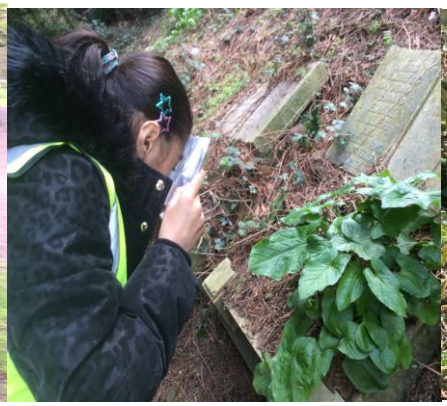
This week:

We have had a busy week this week. Please take a look below at our adventures.

Year 3 had a wonderful trip to Caerleon. We saw the amazing Roman baths and got to experience what it was like being a slave in the Roman times. We even got to try on Roman armour!

Y5 were lucky enough to spend a beautiful day exploring the grounds of Arnos Vale Cemetery. They all showed great enthusiasm and curiosity as they searched for signs of diversity within the different habitats. The children particularly enjoyed using binoculars to spot local birds as well as a range of tools to find insects and other living creatures.





Reception class did a fantastic job this week in their class assembly showcasing what they have learnt this Spring and in their topic, 'Let's go outside!' They joined in and sang the songs with confidence. It was a lovely way to bring in the new season!

Year 6 enjoyed a fantastic morning at Life Skills; learning about way to keep themselves safe in the wider world. We even dodged the rain walking there and back. Well done Year 6 some great lessons learnt today!

Staffing update:

You may have noticed Mrs Fraser's absence from the office; she is currently off following an operation on her foot. She is doing well and is hoping to return after the Easter Holidays. Please bear with us while we navigate the office in her absence. We wish her speedy recovery.

Admissions:

The deadline for submitting Reception class applications for next September is closed. Please speak to Miss Sims if you need support in submitting a late application.

Please spread the word about our school with your neighbours and friends! We have spaces in some classes if you know anyone who has moved into the area or looking for a new school. If you are able to put a flyer up in your window, please ask Miss Sims for one. Anyone is able to call the office and organise a visit.

Term dates for this academic year:

Term Dates: Inset days (no school):	Wednesday 22nd July
Term 5:	Monday 20th April – Friday 22nd May (Bank holiday on Monday 4th May)
Term 6:	Monday 1st June – Wednesday 22nd July

Attendance update:

Throughout this academic year, Mrs Kingston will be working with parents to improve attendance and support any families who need it. Please speak to Miss Sims if you would like to arrange a meeting to discuss any worries you may have.

if you need to request a leave form, please speak to Miss Sims and she will support with this. All parents need to do this in advance of the leave and need to give as much detail as possible so we can code the absence correctly. If you have 10 sessions (5 day) of unauthorised leave within a 10-week period, you will receive a penalty notice. Please see the following page on the new law for attendance.

We would like to remind parents that children are expected to attend school each day unless they are too unwell. Please use this link from the NHS: https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/. Also, there are times when children will be absent from school for an exceptional circumstance. Parents need to inform the school prior to the absence and complete a leave of absence form which is available at the school office and on the school website. Please remember to phone the school office if your child is going to be absent, do not use Class Dojo. If we do not hear from you, we will ring you and then may also make a home visit if we are unable to contact you.

Thank you to those who arrive on time. Remember, children can go straight to class from 8:45am or attend breakfast club from 8am if necessary. If we receive pupil premium funding for your child then breakfast club is free. If your child is constantly late to school this can affect their self-esteem and they could be missing out on valuable reading, phonics or Maths activities and interventions. When your child is absent from school, please ensure you have contacted the school office rather than teachers or Mrs Kingston. If your child is later than 9.30am this is classed as an absence and will be unauthorised. Please see the next page for some more information on unauthorised absences.

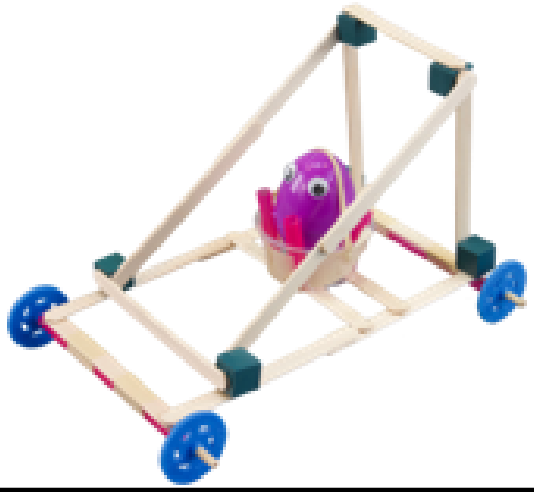
As Year 5 have got the highest attendance they will receive a non-uniform day on Thursday 2nd April, well done Year 5.

Arbor:

All parents have been sent an email to sign up for Arbor. It is essential that all parents have the app as this is how we will be sending out messages, booking clubs and paying for trips etc. If you do not have the app you will not receive the messages. If you need support with downloading it please speak to Mrs Fraser.

Egg Mobile Races

All children are invited to create an Egg Mobile at home to take part in our annual Egg Mobile Race. The Egg Mobile needs to safely carry an egg from the start to the finish line without breaking it and in the fastest time. The child who wins the race in each class will receive an Easter egg. There will also be another prize in each class of the most creative design. Please make sure that all Egg Mobiles are handed in to the class teacher by **Wednesday 1st April** with the child's name and year group clearly labelled. The race will take place on **Thursday 2nd April.** Here are some examples of Egg Mobiles:



PTFA

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

Thank you to those who attended the Spring Disco in February. It was a wonderful time and we raised £201. This money is going towards future events including buying some secondhand lights for future discos.

The PTFA has given £300 to the school to be spent on a list of much-needed books requested by the school council.

We have successfully raised the £150 needed to pay for hoodies for Year 6.

FUTURE EVENTS

1. Bingo*
   Friday, May 8th
   17:30-19:30

2. Bake Sale
   Friday 22nd May
   15:15

*Please donate any unwanted Christmas gifts for our bingo prizes.

Contact info

ptfa@holycross.bristol.sch.uk

NHS
Avon and Wiltshire
Mental Health Partnership
NHS Trust

Mental Health Support Team

Mental Health Support Teams (MHSTs) were established to support schools, helping them develop ways to look after the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people (CYP) as well as the wider school community including school staff and parents/carers.

The MHST are now delivering online sessions which are free to sign up to. Please scan the QR code below to register for our next webinar.

NEW

Online Parent/Carer Sessions

An Introduction to Anxiety

NEW

To sign up, please complete a registration form here:

MHST Online Session

What is it? This session covers:

- What anxiety is, when it is useful, when it becomes unhelpful, and what keeps anxiety going.
- Our body's response to anxiety focusing on our thoughts, feelings, physical sensations and behaviours.
- Providing strategies for managing and overcoming anxiety

Who is it for? Helpful for parents and carers whose children may be struggling with mild anxiety.

When are they? Sessions will be run at 12pm-1pm every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

New topics and dates will be released regularly.

The MHST is a partnership between Off the Record (OTR) and CAMHS. We are working with selected education settings across Bristol, North Somerset and South Glos. To find out where we work, check out our webpage:

www.otrbristol.org.uk/what-we-do/mhst/

MHST
Tools to thrive

Ashton Park Sports Centre

Holiday Activities Easter 2026

Ashton Park Sports Centre Holiday Activity Programme for children aged 4-14

Tuesday 7th - Friday 17th April

All bookings MUST be made online via; https://ashtonparksports.schoolactivity.co.uk/
Childcare Voucher Payments are accepted. Please enquire via email:
enquiries@ashtonparksports.com

Ashtonparksportscentre1 | Ashtonparksports | @ashtonparksport | ashtonparksports.schoolactivity.co.uk

Standard Day: 9:00am - 4:00pm ED*: 9:00am - 5:00pm (8am drop off available as an extra £4) Full Day - 8am-5pm

Ofsted Reg:2788667

Blackmoors Lane, Bower Ashton, Bristol, BS3 2JL
t: 0117 3773300 e: enquiries@ashtonparksports.com w: www.ashtonparksports.com

Friday Film Club!

Join us at our Southville Centre
Friday 6th March, 3-6pm

2 short films
Teatime cafe menu
Craft activity
Cosy corner

FREE ENTRY!

www.bs3community.org.uk
info@bs3community.org.uk
0117 9231039
Registered charity no. 1000544

BS3 Community

Bristol Parent Carer Forum
Shaping the Future Together

Free online & in person support sessions

Hordhac ku Saabsan Makatonka
Online
Talaado 3-da March
7:00PM 9:00PM

Sida Loo Noqdo U Doodaha Adag ee Ilmahaaga
Online
Khamiis 5ta-March
7:00PM 8:30PM

Fahamka Qaybta Caafimaadka ee EHCP-da
Online
Isniin 9ka-March
10:00AM 11:30AM

Taageero assaga
Online
Talaado 10-ka March
7:00PM 8:00PM

Si qad faahfaahin uga hesho kalfadhiyadan iyo kuwo kale Iskaan garee QR-code-ka ama booqo:

https://linkbristolparentcarers.org.uk/gethelp

Taageero asaaga
Greenway Centre,
Southmead, BS10
Khamiis 12-ka March
9:15AM 10:30AM

Taageero asaaga
Fishponds Old Library,
Fishponds, BS16
Khamiis 19-ka March
9:00AM 11:00AM

Taageero asaaga
Inns Court,
Knowle, BS4
Khamiis 19-ka March
10:30AM 12:30PM

Taageeridda Xiriirrada Caafimaadka Qaba
Online
Khamiis 26-ka March
7:00PM 8:30PM

Bristol Parent Carer Forum
Shaping the Future Together

SENDCo Newsletter

March 2026

www.bristolparentcarers.org.uk

Session Highlights

Are your families aware that we offer free support sessions with practical, accessible information? Please share the booking link so they can sign up.
Sessions include:
Understanding the Health Section of an EHCP: 9th March, 10am-11.30am
Supporting Healthy Relationships & Sex Education in SEND: 26th March, 7pm-8.30pm

Book here

Together for SEND

Our Annual SEND Event is just around the corner. Come and join us for a day of information, networking and a chance to get ahead in all things SEND and Education in Bristol: We The Curious, Monday 16th March.

More here

FES treatment funding from NHS

NHS funding is available locally for children under 16 who may benefit from Functional Electrical Stimulation (FES) for dropped foot, following NICE guidance. FES can improve walking and reduce falls for children with neurological conditions and a new Bristol clinic has now opened.
Contact: enquiries@odstockmedical.com or www.odstockmedical.com

New resource for children with complex needs

WellChild, the national charity for seriously ill children, has launched 'In Your Area', a free online platform helping parents and carers of children with complex medical needs quickly find local services and support. The first tool of its kind in the UK, you can search by postcode and use filters to identify resources tailored to your circumstances.

Click here

Because You're Worth It: A short film by the Centre of Studies for Inclusive Education (CSIE)

Across Bristol, CSIE workshops continue to support parent carer wellbeing and strengthen advocacy in education. This week CSIE launched 'Because You're Worth It', a short film created to honour parent carer voices and deepen understanding across our community. CSIE welcome discussions and feedback from parent carers.
Contact: admin@csie.org.uk

Watch here

Bristol Parent Carer Forum updates

EHCP Timescales

We've recently updated our website and added a new page outlining EHCP timescales. It provides a clear summary of statutory deadlines and key stages in the process, which may be useful to share with families or refer to when discussing timelines and expectations.

Click here

Coffee Mornings

Have you booked yours? These relaxed sessions give parents and carers a chance to meet, share experiences and talk with our facilitators to explore available support for their child. They offer a straightforward way for schools to build stronger relationships with families and often lead to clearer communication and more collaborative problem-solving. Families consistently tell us they leave feeling better informed and more connected, making these sessions a valuable part of the wider school offer.

Book here

info@bristolparentcarers.org.uk

TheHub*

Every Tuesday

REDCLIFFE Reading Club

3.30 -5pm

FREE Reading sessions. A range of children's books and adults to support reading after school

5 - 11 year-olds. All genders, all abilities.

Just turn up and read!

Redcliffe Community Centre
www.thehubredcliffe.org.uk
4 Waring House, Redcliffe, BS1 6TB

JOIN OUR MONTHLY LITTER PICK

HELP KEEP OUR PARK CLEAN, SAFE, AND BEAUTIFUL FOR EVERYONE TO ENJOY!

NEXT PICK: 11AM SATURDAY 14TH MARCH

MEET: COMMUNITY GARDEN, DAME EMILY PARK

WHAT'S PROVIDED: LITTER PICKERS, BAGS, GLOVES. BRING YOUR OWN GLOVES IF YOU HAVE THEM

WHO CAN JOIN?: EVERYONE! FAMILIES, FRIENDS, AND NEIGHBOURS WELCOME

NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED
JUST TURN UP!

THE GREAT BRITISH SPRING CLEAN

Bristol Family Hubs

BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL

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:

Nurture
Empathy
Play
Praise
Listening
Connection

For more information please call: **07721 311 497**
or email: **psso@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.

nbcc · Wellspring Settlement · Central Bristol Children's Centres · EBCC East Bristol Children's Centres · South Bristol Children's Centres

BS3 MULTICULTURAL FEAST

March 2026 · Bedminster · Date/ Venue TBC

JOIN US FOR A VIBRANT CELEBRATION!

Come and meet your neighbours, share food and celebrate the many cultures of our neighbourhood

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

We're looking for residents to help shape the day. You could:

Cook or bring a dish · Perform (music, poetry, storytelling – anything!) · Run an activity for children · Help organise or support on the day · Or bring your own ideas!

No experience needed – just enthusiasm! You'll be supported by Hugh and Jas. To find out more, contact:

Jas – jasmine.tippett@bs3community.org.uk
Hugh – hugh.o'boyle@bristol.gov.uk

Progressive Kids
Trusted childcare for your little one
Easter Half Term Holiday Club
Childcare sorted for working parents
Ages 4–13 | £26/day | Ofsted registered
Structured day + lots of choice
4 Zones each morning: Active / Creative / Discovery / Wellness
Enrichment afternoons: fun experiences children may not otherwise get to try
EASTER ACTIVITIES
10% OFF - Code
EARLYBIRD10
Ends SUN 15 MARCH
8:30am - 3:30pm | 4 activity zones | Nut-free setting - all food sent in must be nut-free
Book now → linktr.ee/progressivekids_sports.bristol
Questions? office@progressivekidsbristol.com | 07946656332

SPRING
INTO EASTER
HOLIDAY CLUBS
BOOK NOW FOR 20% OFF
Use Code: Early Booker
Offer ends 29/03/2026
*Conditions apply
Mini & Mega Mash-Ups
Creative Eggs-travaganza
Make a High School Musical
Gymnastics & Cheerleading
Cookery Workshop
Cricket Fundays
Disney Dance
SOUTHVILLE
Shine
HOLIDAY CLUBS
MyShine.co.uk

Supported by
Windmill Hill City Farm
SOUTH BRISTOL
TOY
LIBRARY
Save the dates!
OPEN FORTNIGHTLY
SATURDAYS 10AM – 12PM
2026 DATES
• 31st January
• 14th February
• 28th February
• 14th March
• 28th March
• 11th April
• 25th April
• 09th May
• 23rd May
• 06th June
• 20th June
• 04th July
• 18th July
• 01st August
• 15th August
• 29th August
• 12th September
• 26th September
• 10th October
• 24th October
• 07th November
• 21st November
• 05th December
• 19th December (Xmas Party)
Where is it?
St Michael's and All Angels Church
Vivian Street, BS3 4LW
How does it work?
Join as a member for just £15 (£7.50 concession) a year and get access to 1000s of toys for ages 0 to 12 with small hire fees (typically £0.20 – £2 per 2 weeks). Open to all postcodes.
Check out our toys on our website!
Contact Us
southbristoltoylibrary@gmail.com
@southbristol.toylibrary

BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL
"acta
CREATE A PLAY IN TWO DAYS IN BEDMINSTER
13th & 14th April: Ages 8-12
16th & 17th April: Ages 12-16
Run by experts in drama education at acta Community Theatre
Freshly cooked, nutritious lunch provided
Have fun, make friends, gain confidence!
£42.50 per day / free places for Young Carers funded by HAF
Book on Eequ, via Bristol's Holiday Hub

Kids Stuff Bristol

Open 2nd Saturday every month

Relax

Shop

Donate

10-2 Wed-Fri

Supporting local families, building community

www.kidsstuffbristol.org.uk

We believe that raising a family shouldn't cost the earth, so we have created kids stuff.
'Pre-loved children's items at great prices'

Quality pre-loved clothes from birth to 10yrs, school uniform & shoes, books & toys, fancy dress & coats, puzzles, games, loads of baby items & much more...

"Such a fab community spirit! lovely people, with a great range and prices. Thank you!"

See our socials for more info regarding Saturday openings

Kids Stuff Bristol, British Road, Bedminster, BS33BW

UNIQUE VOICE

Creative Arts Club

No cost!
Young people must be eligible for Free School Meals.Find out more on our booking page.

Learn creative skills and meet new people this Spring!

WHEN
Tuesday 7th - Friday 10th of April

WHERE
John Cabot Academy, BS15 8BD

FOOD
Free hot lunch, dessert and snacks

ACTIVITIES
- Performance
- Games
- Multi media arts
- Photography
- Drawing

TO BOOK
Scan the QR code or visit https://eequ.org/uniquevoice

Questions?
Call/Text: 0117 428 6240
or 07831 914685 Email:
kitty@uniquevoice.org

South Gloucestershire Council Delivering for you | Department for Education

Creative Holiday Club

Reception - Year 6

NO COST!*

Activities
- Arts and Crafts
- Drama
- Games
- Outdoor play

When?
10am - 2pm
Dates from 7th - 16th April 2026

Where?
Sites across Bristol & South Glos

*All club places are fully funded (no cost) and children must be in receipt of benefits-related Free School Meals to be eligible for a place

Any questions? Call/Text 0117 428 6240 or 07831 205 100 Email: kitty@uniquevoice.org

To find out more visit our booking page here

www.eequ.org/uniquevoice

Your Holiday Hub | South Gloucestershire Council Delivering for you

SEND Stay & Play

UNIQUE VOICE

We are delighted to be able to offer relaxed Stay & Play sessions in the school holidays during 2026 for children with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) and their families. Scan the QR code for registration details and locations!

SCAN ME

FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK

OR CLICK TO REGISTER

What to Expect:

- Arts & Crafts
- Drama & Storytelling
- Food Activities
- Support / Signposting

"My son really enjoyed attending the sessions today. He was able to take part in activities that would otherwise be difficult to attend. He was able to feel safe and express himself in an environment that was understanding of his needs."

Free* Entry

Dates in all school holidays throughout 2026!

Scan the QR code for more information

*Supported by:

COMMUNITY FUND

South Gloucestershire Council Delivering for you