

Backwell Federation Newsletter Term 4 Federation Value – Responsibility



On our website - Links

[West Leigh - Letters to Parents](#)

[BJS - Letters to Parents](#)



**Our next INSET day
will be on:**

**Monday 2nd June
2025**

Important Dates – Terms 4

- Friday 14th March - WL “The Big Quiz” Night 7:30pm WL School Hall
- Monday 17th March – WL Owl Class Cake Sale
- Tuesday 18th March – BJS 5JR Class Assembly, School Hall 10.15am
- Tuesday 18th March – BJS Swimming Gala (Afternoon)
- Thursday 20th March – BJS 5B Class Assembly, School Hall 10.15am
- Friday 21st March – “Wear it Red ” non-school uniform day for Comic Relief
- Monday 24th March – Friday 28th March – BJS Book Fair
- Monday 24th March – Tuesday 25th March – BJS Y5 Church Day
- Friday 28th March – BJS 6C Cake Sale
- Monday 31st March – WL Talent Show PM (Children only)
- Wednesday 2nd April – BJS Easter Service, St Andrew’s Church 2.15pm
- Thursday 3rd April – WL Spring Sing 2:30pm
- Thursday 3rd April – WL Easter Disco (see Federation Calendar for times)
- Wednesday 2nd April – BJS Easter Service, St Andrew’s Church 2.15pm
- Friday 4th April – Last Day of Term 4, BJS Easter Festival (am)

Important Dates – Terms 5

- Tuesday 22nd April – Return to School for the start of Term 5
- Friday 2nd May – BJS 4PB Cake Sale
- Monday 12th May – Thursday 15th May – BJS Y6 SATs Week
- Wednesday 14th May – WL Class Photo Sessions
- Wednesday 14th May – BJS Pentecost Service at St Andrew’s Church 2.15pm
- Monday 19th May – BJS Y3 Church Day
- Monday 19th May – Friday 23rd May – BJS Health and Fitness Week
- Friday 23rd May – BJS Sports Day
- Friday 23rd May – Last Day of Term 5
- Monday 2nd June – INSET Day
- Tuesday 3rd June – Return to School for the start of Term 6





Congratulations to our West Leigh Superstars

Thursday 13th March

Badgers – Max

Hedgehogs - Cleo

Owls - Aya

Rabbits - Amara

Squirrels - Finlay



WEST LEIGH PTA PRESENTS

THE BIG QUIZ

FRIDAY 14TH MARCH
WEST LEIGH SCHOOL HALL
7.30pm

BAR • PRIZES • RAFFLE

£5 PER PERSON | TEAMS OF 4 - 6
OR FORM A TEAM ON THE NIGHT

BOOK TICKETS VIA PTA EVENTS
[WWW.PTA-EVENTS.CO.UK/BACKWELLFEDERATIONPA](https://www.pta-events.co.uk/backwellfederationpa/)

Quiz night Friday 14th March 7.30 at West Leigh

Turn up or book a place at the quiz. No need to have a team. Set to be a fun night with all the funds raised going into the school. Tickets still available! <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/backwellfederationpa/index.cfm>



Owls Class Cake sale 17th March

There will be cake sales in the summer terms for Badger and Squirrel classes. More info on that to follow in the summer term.)

Owls class parents/carers - it would be fantastic if you could bring, bake or buy for the cake sale. All money raised is given directly to be spent in Owls class.

Everyone else - please save the date and bring cash to buy a cake or three!

Easter Disco Thursday 3rd April Easter themed disco after school, run by the PTA. Now available on PTA events.

Parents' help is needed to run the disco. If you can spare some time during your child's time slot we can make this event happen. See the smiles and watch them boogie away! More information from your class rep soon. To book click here.

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/backwellfederationpa/index.cfm>

Party Kit Hire

Love parties, hate waste? Save money and the planet, and raise money for West Leigh PTA at the same time! Hire our party kit with everything you need for up to 30 children - plates, bowls, cups, jugs, trays and serving bowls. Collection and return is in Backwell. Hire is £5, plus £20 refundable deposit when returned clean and undamaged.

To check availability, book a slot or for any other questions contact Mariam at westleighpta@gmail.com



WEST LEIGH PTA

EASTER DISCO!

THURSDAY 3RD APRIL

RECEPTION: 3.15 - 4.00pm
YEAR 1: 4.15 - 5.00pm, YEAR 2: 5.15 - 6.00pm

WEST LEIGH SCHOOL HALL

Tickets £3.50 per child and includes a cake, drink, disco and lots of fun!

BOOK TICKETS: [WWW.PTA-EVENTS.CO.UK/BACKWELLFEDERATIONPA](https://www.pta-events.co.uk/backwellfederationpa/)

PUXTON PARK VISIT



On Thursday 27th February the Reception children were lucky enough to have a visit from Puxton Park. They spoke to us about different animals around the world and about how the animals are suited to different habitats.

They then brought in some animals for us to touch and learn more about.



We were particularly fascinated by the hissing cockroach. Thank you to the PTA for raising the money to pay for this fantastic and enriching experience for the children.

It was so funny to see a huge rabbit jumping around our classroom!



Class News – Owls

Owl Class had a busy time during World Book Day last week. The children enjoyed their visit from the author Maudie Smith and she spoke to us about where she finds inspiration from her stories.



She also shared her story about a mum who loves to recycle and reuse things and the children listened brilliantly!

After that we spent some time sharing the Very Hungry Caterpillar and then we created story wheels, wrote a shopping list using alliteration, completed puzzles and used tissue paper collage to create our own butterflies. Well done Owls on all of your fantastic outfits too!



Celebration Assembly - 'Backwell B' Awards

Our Backwell B awards include: **Be your Best**, **Be Kind** and **Be Responsible**

Celebration Assembly - 28th February 2025

Year 3 - Thomas E and Nyla

Year 4 - Ingrid M, Freddie R and Archie W

Year 5 - Sonny and Ilma

Year 6 - Emily and Judah

Celebration Assembly - 14th March 2025

Year 3 - Gus

Year 4 - Olivia, Thomas B and Sienna

Year 5 - Ruth and Noah M

Year 6 - Will and Hannah

CONGRATULATIONS!



World Book Day- Thursday 6th March

What a wonderful day we had for World Book Day!

It was fantastic to see the many different outfits and costumes linked to the children (and staff's) favourite book characters!! A special mention to our winners in each class:

3J - Elin

3W - Gruff

4W - Asa

4PB - Eddie

5B- Beau

5JR – Nefe

6C- Bea

6S- Ody



Author Visit- Friday 7th March

We all thoroughly enjoyed Alex Cotter's visit to the school too. The day started with a whole school assembly, where Alex told us about her inspiration behind writing her books. She took us through her writing process, from making notes in her diary to the incorporation of childhood memories. Alex also asked a few of the children to come and make up a story using four pictures- with some impressive results!!

Each year group was then treated to a workshop where Alex either focused on her book 'The Mermaid's Call' (Year 3/4) or 'The House on the Edge' (Yr 5/6), where there were lots of engaged/ excited faces thinking about how they could create their own characters for a similar story. Lots of books were bought and signed and it was so great to see a lot of these books making their way out to playtime (and even the dinner hall!)

This visit wouldn't have been possible without the generosity of the PTA so a huge thank you again to them for funding the cost of this visit.



School Council

As School Council members, we were informed of a trip to the local Recycling Centre to learn more about the environment that we are trying to take more care of. As a school we have been attempting to manage our recycling – we felt it was time to take action and learn more.

As we arrived, our tour guide, Alice showed us around the site.

Amongst the many recycling bins, ones that stood out for us were the garden waste bin and the metal recycling that could be transformed into other useful metals.

One of the most fascinating bins was the small electrical appliances – the precious metals (eg. gold and silver) would be taken and then turned into jewellery! (That same bin also caught on fire when a battery was thrown in).

Our top recycling tips for school would be:

- Using the correct bins at school (and home!)
- Litter Picking
- Making sure the correct materials go in the right bin
- Don't waste food

Thank you for reading

By: Rosie 3J and Amy 6C



MONTHLY MUST READS

Each month, we post a selection of 'hot off the press' recommended reads. This month, the recommendations are taken from a mix of World Book Day picks and a number of award winners/shortlisted titles from www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk

These books are not currently on the 30 Reads list but could be added under the 'your choice' section on the 30 Reads log. **These books can also be reserved and borrowed from Nailsea Library ☺**

FEBRUARY & MARCH



World Book Day book

Interest age: 7+

Independent reading age: 8+

Rocky Race loves football so much that she moved to the United States to train at a high school with an amazing soccer team. She's made new friends, even won a state championship! Now her best friends from her home in Melchester, England, have come to play a match against her new American team. Rocky is so excited! But when her friends arrive, not everyone gets along. Her American friends don't understand why the British call it 'football', and her British friends don't understand why the Americans call it 'soccer'. And with the match the next day, Rocky feels pressured to pick a side. But Rocky has a plan.



World Book Day book

Interest age: 10+

Independent reading age: 10+

Eira's always wanted to compete in the Wolf Trials. The winners become part of the Ryders, an elite group of warriors who ride gigantic sea wolves. There's only one problem: Eira can't take part, because her mother is the fearsome Wolf Queen. She won't let that stop her, though. Eira decides to disguise herself and compete... but will she succeed? Will she be recognised? And if she isn't, will she survive the Wolf Trials?



Fiction book of the month/ our visiting author!

Interest age: 9+

Independent reading age: 9+

A gripping story of myth and mystery about a legendary mermaid and her dark power. When the truth comes out, will it bring freedom or a terrible retribution? Vivien's never going to win the Mermaid Crown and she knows it. Does she care? Who wants to be rewarded just for being pretty anyway? So she joins Alice on her quest to find the mermaid of the lake instead. But as the legend starts to unravel, it reveals an ugly truth. And leads the girls into terrible, watery danger.



Interest age: 7+

Independent reading age: 7+

*Pete loves the pizza shop, where he lives with his dad, and is terrified of the outside world. But when a new restaurant steals their customers, Pete and his friend Anna have to come up with an **INGENIOUS** plan to sell more pizzas, otherwise he'll be forced to move. When they find a mysterious briefcase in the attic, they create the most extraordinary magical pizzas, and soon a queue of customers snakes down the road. But can they make enough money in four days to save Pete's home?*



Interest age: 7+

Independent reading age: 8+

When war threatens her beloved city, Rowan and her mother must flee to the Dark Forest, meeting Grandpa and his white wolf Arto for the first time. Though she misses her father, Rowan makes new friends - including a trio of powerful witches. When she rescues a baby dragon from poachers, she discovers the secret of her own identity: Rowan is a wildsmith! Fostering a whole clutch of dragons, the summer speeds by. But when danger threatens, Rowan and her grandpa must call on all their friends for help.

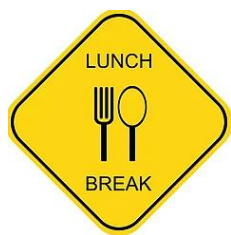


Interest age: 8+

Independent reading age: 8+

Tykotech City is home to the most incredible technology you've ever seen, but something is going horribly wrong with all of it and there's only one tiny inventor that stands between the city and total darkness... Building her own gadgets in her dad's repair shop, Juniper Mae is a certified kid wonder. She builds jet packs, socks that keep your feet warm and dry, floating fish bowls. But a slight malfunction with one of her latest inventions causes her to crash-land in the dangerous forests around her city, and there she discovers a whole world of mystery...

We'd love to hear from you if you read any of the above! Write or type a book review and hand in to either Mrs Barnard or the school office ☺



Aspens Select

Please remember to book your lunches for rest of the term so that the kitchen can plan ahead. Many thanks.

If your child is unwell and cannot attend school please can you ensure that you leave a message or email the office to let us know by 9.30am on the day of absence and each day thereafter. In your message please could you give a brief overview of the symptoms rather than just saying “unwell”. The reason for this is so that we can identify if there is a certain illness that is circulating and take any steps possible to minimise the spread.



Wrap Around Care – Important Information

Please ensure that Premier Education are contacted directly for any amendments to bookings or collection arrangements, all contact details are detailed here:

Backwell Junior School:

Site Phone: 07707878334 - Active between 7:15 & 8:30am for BSC / Active between 2:30pm & 6pm for ASC. Any queries for day-to-day club changes with collection, or information that may be relevant with regards to children attending or not attending.

Email - c.clarke@premier-education.com for information regarding updates for the day, or collection passwords if somebody different is collecting.

Email - info@premier-education.com for any queries around bookings, cancellations, changes to bookings.

West Leigh Infant School:

Site Phone: 07707800019 - Active between 2:30pm & 6pm for ASC. Any queries for day-to-day club changes with collection, or information that may be relevant with regards to children attending or not attending.

Email - info@premier-education.com for any queries around bookings, cancellations, changes to bookings.

Parking at BJS

The school office have received a large number of neighbourhood complaints regarding parking at school and in the surrounding roads. There has been an increase in the number of parents dropping their children off by car directly opposite Backwell Juniors. We'd like to remind everyone that it is not permitted to stop on the painted zig zag lines outside school, but it is also unsafe to park on the road due to the narrowness of the lanes etc.

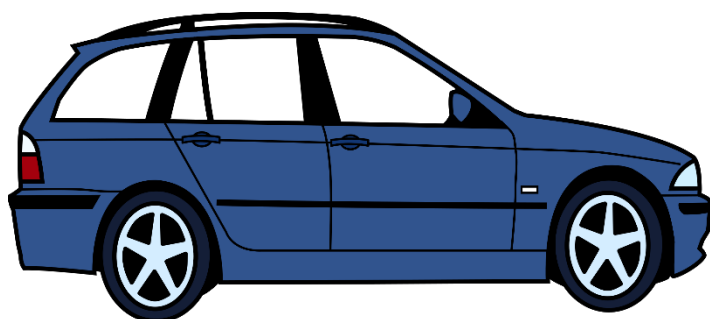
Several children have mentioned that they feel unsafe walking to and from school due to the speed and number of cars on this road and so we politely ask for you to refrain from dropping off in these areas and park on Dark Lane and walk the short distance to school to drop off/pick up. This additional 5 minutes is a small ask given these safety concerns.

Large vehicles have been unable to pass on Church Lane and the congestion level at school times is excessive.

As well as being very concerned about reports of people being rude to other road users and our neighbours we are very concerned that if larger vehicles are unable to pass then emergency vehicles will also be unable to reach a destination in an emergency situation which in turn could have devastating results to the community.

We ask you all to consider your parking – leave a little earlier for a space near school or park a little further away in a safe manner. Community Police have been informed and we have requested assistance in managing this going forward.

Thank you for your cooperation.





MINECRAFT CLUB

Inspiring the next generation of coders and makers



For more information and to register:
codingbug.co.uk/coding-in-minecraft/

Coding in Minecraft

This is fun monthly club where children learn how to make mini-games, automate builds, and change gameplay behaviour in Minecraft with code.

Suitable for children aged 8 – 12.

WHERE

Yatton Library
BS49 4HJ

WHEN

Saturday 22nd March 2025
From 9:45am – 12:45pm

codingbug.co.uk

Email: info@codingbug.co.uk or call 07909226520



facebook.com/codingbug/



EASTER HOLIDAYS

PREMIER HOLIDAY CAMPS

Premier Education | **INSPIRING ACTIVITY**

SCAN HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION
or visit premier-education.com/holiday-camps

Trustpilot
★★★★★
Based on over 20,000 reviews

YOUR NEAREST MULTI-ACTIVITY CAMP

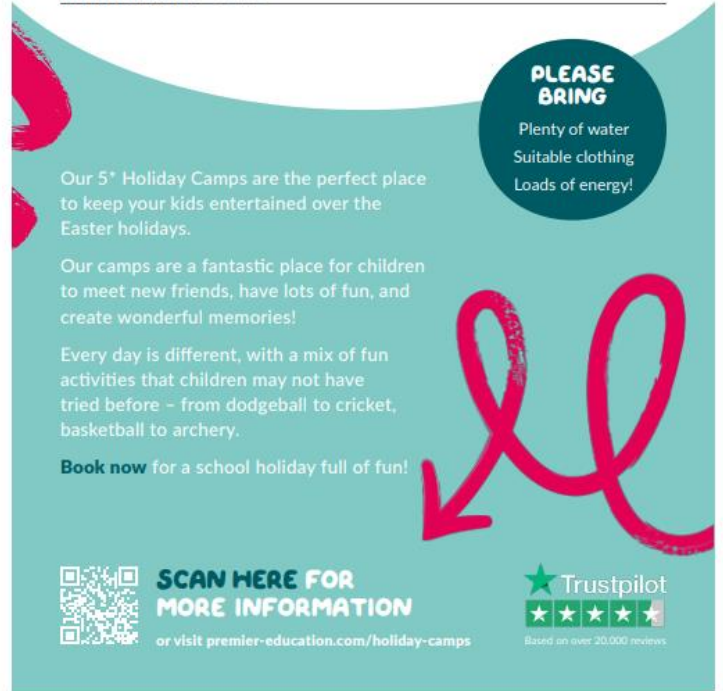
Venue: Hannah More & Grove School Nailsea

Dates: Monday 7th - Thursday 17th April

Times: 9-15:30 (8:15-9:00 & 15:30-17:00 Sessions available)

Ages: 5-11 (4 years olds can attend half sessions 9-13:00)

Additional info: £22.75



PLEASE BRING
Plenty of water
Suitable clothing
Loads of energy!

Our 5* Holiday Camps are the perfect place to keep your kids entertained over the Easter holidays.

Our camps are a fantastic place for children to meet new friends, have lots of fun, and create wonderful memories!

Every day is different, with a mix of fun activities that children may not have tried before - from dodgeball to cricket, basketball to archery.

Book now for a school holiday full of fun!

SCAN HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION
or visit premier-education.com/holiday-camps

Trustpilot
★★★★★
Based on over 20,000 reviews

Penny Brohn UK – Easter Egg Hunt



Easter Egg Hunt

Friday 11th April 2025

10am - 1pm

£8 per child, adults go free!

To book your place, scan the QR code below:



PORTISHEAD GYMNASTICS HALF TERM CAMPS

FOR SCHOOL YEAR 1 & ABOVE

PARISH WHARF LEISURE CENTRE

Harbour Road, Portishead, Bristol BS20 7DD



ONLY
£30
PER SESSION



Introducing GymClubs' Fun & Skill-Building Gymnastics Workshops!

Join us for exciting workshops designed to help your child grow their gymnastics skills in a supportive and encouraging environment.

Led by our amazing team of experienced coaches, these workshops are perfect for gymnasts of all levels—whether your child is just starting out or looking to refine their favourite moves.

With a focus on learning, fun, and confidence-building, we'll work on key skills like:

- ✦ Flicks (back handsprings)
- ✦ Front somersaults
- ✦ Aerials
- ✦ Walkovers
- ✦ Vault progressions for front handsprings and half-ons

Our workshops are all about making progress while having a great time, so your child can take their gymnastics journey to the next level—no matter where they're starting from!

LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE. BOOK NOW AT

www.gymclubs.co.uk/workshops

APRIL HALF TERM WORKSHOPS AVAILABLE TO BOOK

Half Term Dates

Mon 7th & 14th April

Wed 9th & 16th April

10am - 2pm

Thur 10th & 17th April

11am - 3pm

Any enquiries contact Head
Coach Bex on 07967 402061

All prices are inclusive of VAT. VAT Registration No. 404812621

St Andrew's
KIDS

THE ST ANDREW'S CHILDREN'S CHOIR



**A term time choir programme
where you'll sing everything from folk to pop!
All children from school years 1-7 welcome!
£4 per session, payable termly, bursaries and free
trial session available.**

**WEDNESDAYS 4-5PM
ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, BACKWELL**

MEET ALISON

Alison is an Oxford University graduate and an accomplished pianist, violinist and singer. She is the founder of 'du Pre Chamber Choir' which gave distinguished performances in Oxford. She was a member of the University Church Choir, Lincoln College Choir and a soloist at Christ church Choir. She has a PGCE from Cambridge University and since has rehearsed and conducted school shows. Fun fact- she taught the young Ed Sheeran!

Alison is a mum of two children, who both enjoy music and performing in various settings from choirs to Soul Bands! She is excited to meet our members, both old and new!



To sign up contact us at admin@saintandrewsbackwell.org.uk



EASTER HOLIDAY CAMPS

TWO WEEKS OF FOOTBALL FUN AT NAILSEA SCHOOL
MONDAY 7TH - THURSDAY 17TH APRIL

Year 1 - Year 8 (9:00am - 3:30pm)

Reception (9:00am - 1:00pm)

STRIKER DAY FRIDAY

FRIDAY 11TH APRIL

PUMA CAMP DAYS

TUES 8TH, FRI 11TH & TUES 15TH




£23 per day | Discounted multi-day tickets | Early drop-offs available

Book online: www.priorityfootball.co.uk/holidaycamps
Pete@priorityfootball.co.uk | 01275 261 004 | Nailsea School

NORTH SOMERSET ATHLETIC CLUB


ATHLETICS FUNDDAYS!

**PROFESSIONAL COACHING WITH ALL
ABILITIES WELCOME FROM AGES 8 - 12**



**England Athletics
Coach & Club of the Year!**

inspiring the next generation of athletes...



best in the west!

Formed in 2004, we provide expert specialist coaching for athletes aged 8+ across the full breadth of athletics events, from beginner to International.

Our award-winning club (South West Club of the Year 2018, UK Development Club of the Year 2012) competes regularly and successfully across a spectrum of athletic disciplines, winning local track & field and cross-country leagues.

Our National Governing Body (NGB) qualified expert coaches are fully insured, first aid trained, and with up-to-date DBS certificates. With ongoing input from our NGB, our session plans and development model are fully supported by up-to-date best practise, enabling us to maintain the highest standards.

Our days are available to anyone aged 8 - 12, no matter their ability

**Timings 10am – 4pm
(Register 9.40am – 9.55am)**

Our home venue is Clevedon School, Valley Road, Clevedon, BS21 6AH

Cost per day per child is £22

** If booking a whole week (Monday to Thursday), then we can offer discounted daily rates*

We have so much to cram in, why not book a whole week? You can see the full spectrum, learn plenty, save some money, and get a real feel for our sport. Individual days are available also, just ask!

We have maximum numbers for each day to ensure all children get plenty of support.

Our Fundays are run by **South West Coach of the Year 2018 Mr Chris Millard** (NGB Level 3, NSAC founder and Head Coach, plus GB and Welsh International) and supported by **NSAC-trained Ambassadors and Assistant Coaches**. We anticipate ratios of 1 coach per 6 children.

For more information, please visit www.nsac.org.uk/fun-days and to book email fundays@nsac.org for availability and booking form.



easter 2025 dates

**PROFESSIONAL COACHING WITH ALL
ABILITIES WELCOME FROM AGES 8 - 12**

£22 PER DAY – £80 FOR ALL FOUR DAYS

Monday April 7th to Thursday April 10th	Clevedon School BS21 6AH	10.00am – 4.00pm
Monday April 14th to Thursday April 17th	Clevedon School BS21 6AH	10.00am – 4.00pm
Tuesday 27th May to Thursday 29th May	Clevedon School BS21 6AH	10.00am – 4.00pm

DIFFERENT & UNIQUE

We know that older athletes are capable of more, generally, than younger ones. We give each athlete plenty of optional down-time, and breaks as necessary.

Our team are on hand to cover any need your child may have throughout the day (drinks, toilet breaks, rests etc). Similarly they will deal sensitively with any issues such as tiredness, illness or disagreements.

Our aim is for your child to want to come back and see us again, to be keen to join our enviable athletic club, and to tell all their friends!

IMPORTANT BOOKING INFORMATION

Places are not secured until payment and booking forms are received.

It is highly recommended that this is done within 7 days of contacting us as most days we will be fully booked.



what we offer

If you are seeking a fun introduction to Athletics then look no further.

We have been delivering courses for more than 15 years. We run them during all school holidays (except Christmas) and have created a scheme of work that enables us to cover all events when athletes visit us for a whole week.

Athletes of mixed ages work alongside one another as our Coaches support each athlete to work at their level. The balance of fun and coaching has been tweaked over the years to give the best experience of our amazing sport. This means the activities your child will enjoy the most are featured every day.

Our Fundays are held at Clevedon School where we take advantage not only of our own Athletics facility, but also sports hall and gym to ensure all events are covered. Events include;

HURDLES

Every day we have a different focus on hurdles, with races and relays. We have various sized hurdles to suit all.

SPRINTS

Most children love to race each other and aim to run as fast as they can. After some basic coaching points, they run through our state-of-the-art Timing Gates! A favourite of all our athletes, this features every day.

LONG JUMP

Who doesn't love jumping into the soft sand? We offer some basic coaching tips on run-ups, jumping for height and technique, then play loads of relevant games.

HIGH JUMP

We've lost count of the number of times we have heard "I can't high jump". After 30 minutes with us, those words have long since disappeared! Very popular, appearing at some point during every single Funday. Always finished up with a light-hearted competition, and quite often a limbo game as an extra!

POLE VAULT

Yes, we can give you some basic pole vault coaching! Who is brave enough to give it a go?

RELAYS

At least 30 minutes per day is given up to relays and is always fun. The day finishes with our mad obstacle relay, dubbed 'The Eliminator'!

GAMES

So many running games we struggle to fit them all in! The favourites such as 'Run the gauntlet', 'Stuck-in-the-mud' and 'Shark tag' are never far away.

THROWS

Every day we have a focus on one of our throwing events, whether it is hammer, discus, shot or javelin, children get the chance to have a go. With our throws cage, discus and hammer can be taught safely.

ENDURANCE

We prefer to call this 'strength running'. We give an option every day for this, but it is by no means a compulsory element of the day. 600m runs are our standard, with various options for intervals and even a look at steeplechase!

CERTIFICATES & MEDALS

If you want to test yourself, win a certificate, and see how far up our unique 16-level table you can get, then Mondays are the day for you. We test in Speed Bounce, Standing Long Jump, Vortex, 50m sprints and 600m. Points are scored and medals are awarded every day to our Athlete(s) of the day, and to our winning team on 'Team Challenge' day.

TEAM CHALLENGES

Every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon we split into teams and compete in a whole host of events against other teams. The winning team at the end of the day is rewarded with medals. An amazing afternoon that zips by!



BACKWELL
BAPTIST CHURCH



EASTER EGGSTRAVEGANZA

MESSY GAMES, CHOCOLATE,
CRAFTS, EGG HUNT, NERF
GUNS AND SO MUCH MORE...

WEDNESDAY 16TH APRIL

10:00AM-12:30PM

FOR CHILDREN IN YEARS 3-6

FOR MORE DETAILS AND TO SIGN UP
SCAN THE QR CODE OR JUST TURN UP
ON THE DAY!

