

Backwell Federation Newsletter Term 2 Federation Value - Challenge



Important Information:

Lighthouse Schools Partnership has released a new Privacy Policy for pupils and parents. This is attached to this newsletter and can also be accessed on the Federation website via the link below.

[Privacy Notices](#)

For copies of school letters sent out to parents - Please follow the link below to take you to the relevant area of the Federation website:

[West Leigh - Letters to Parents](#)

[BJS - Letters to Parents](#)



LIGHTHOUSE
SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP



Important Dates - Term 2

- 28 Dec - 02 Dec - Book Fair @ BJS
- Thursday 1 Dec - Year 5 Ancient Greek WOW Day
- Friday 2 Dec - BJS PTA Christmas Fair from 4pm
- Wednesday 7 Dec - WL Reception Christmas Performance (only 2 adults per family)
- Thursday 8 Dec - WL KS1 Christmas Performance (Year 2 Parents only - 2 adults per family)
- Friday 9 Dec - WL KS1 Christmas Performance (Year 1 Parents only - 2 adults per family)
- Friday 9 Dec - Last day of all sports clubs and music lessons @ both schools before Christmas
- Wednesday 14 Dec - Christmas Dinner @ West Leigh
- Wednesday 14 Dec - BJS Carol Service @ St Andrew's Church - 2pm and 6pm
- Thursday 15 Dec - Carol sing-a-long at WL - 2.30pm (1 adult per family)
- Friday 16 Dec - Christmas Jumper Day **Both Schools**
- Friday 16 Dec - Christmas Dinner @ BJS and Christmas party food @ West Leigh
- Friday 16 Dec - End of Term 2

2023 - Term 3

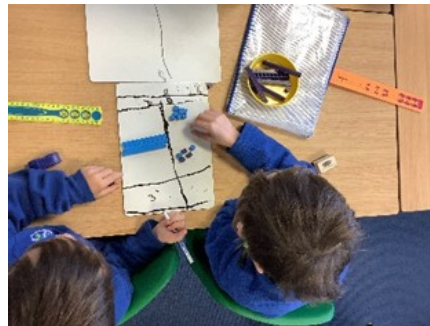
- Tuesday 03 Jan - Inset day 4. Both schools closed to pupils
- Wednesday 04 Jan - Start of term 3 for all pupils at WL & BJS



Fox Class News!



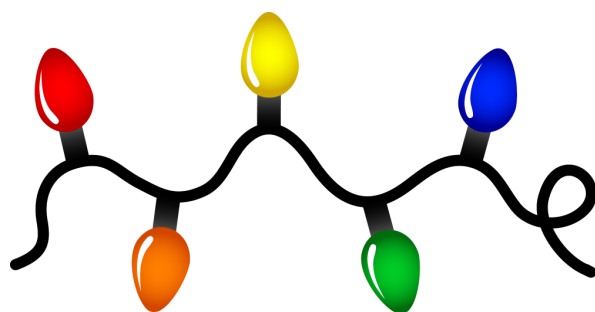
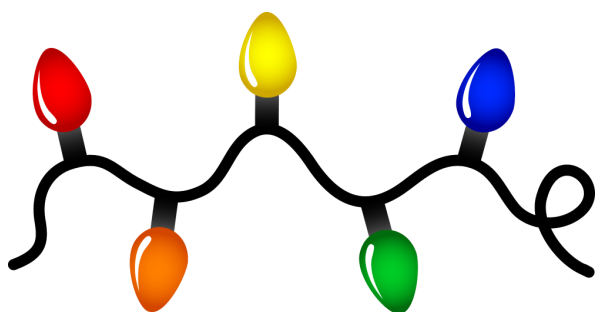
We have had a busy few weeks in Fox Class. We had our 'Around the World' WOW Day and have been doing some fantastic learning. In English, we have been learning all about Amelia Earhart and her adventures. We did some drama, and created tableaux, to represent how she would feel at different points in her life. In Maths, we have been busy learning all about addition and subtraction. It has been challenging but we have persevered and worked hard to get ourselves out of 'the learning pit'. In Computing, we have been learning how to be superstar photographers. We are great at lining up our photos and deciding whether they would look best in portrait or landscape.



Year 2 'Around the World' WOW Day

Year 2 had a fantastic day on Tuesday during our WOW Day. Everyone dressed up to represent different countries and we had a day of fun-filled activities. The stand-out event was the visit from the Explorer Dome. It allowed us to consolidate all of our geography and science knowledge. We learnt about different habitats and climates and even got to see dry ice. What an amazing experience!





Congratulations to our West Leigh Superstars:

Thursday 10th November

Reception - Connie, Lucas

Year 1 - Gracie J, Nyla H

Year 2 - Grace D, Freddie R

Thursday 17th November

Reception - Amara, Hugo

Year 1 - Rosie, Alex

Year 2 - Nell, Elsa

Thursday 24th November

Reception—Charlie, Ronnie

Year 1—Ali, Hallie

Year 2—Max, Grace H

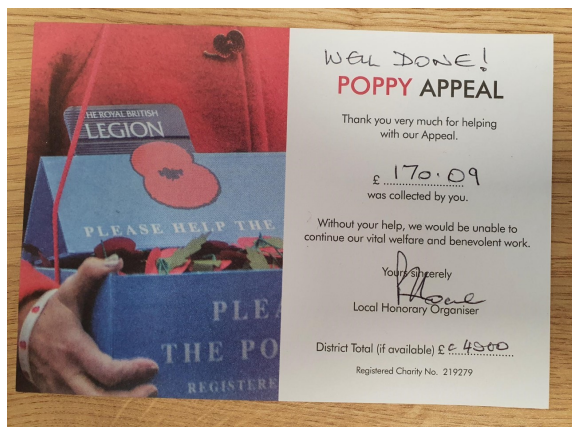


Thursday 15 December - Carol sing-a-long at West Leigh - if any parents planning to attend can play a musical instrument and would like to accompany us, please let Mrs Sinclair know through the school office. I will then be in touch about what we need. Many thanks, Mrs Sinclair (Rabbits class)



Thank You!

Thank you very much for all your kind donations over the last few months for Harvest, the Poppy Appeal and Children in Need.



Children In Need 2022

West Leigh parents raised a huge total of £317.41 - thank you very much for your support!



West Leigh New Hopscotch

This term the School Councillors have been researching what their classes like about their current playgrounds and how they would like to make them better. The School Councillors have written to Signet Signs to ask for a few ideas. One request made for the KS1 Playground was a hopscotch. After writing to Signet Signs, they emailed back saying they could paint a hopscotch for free! Thank you School Councillors for organising this wonderful addition to our KS1 playground and thank you to Signet Signs for painting the hopscotch for free. Miss Hiscocks will be meeting with the School Councillors next week to discuss the next phase of the playground developments. Watch this space!



Oliver - UK Karate Success!

On Sunday 20 November, at the Wildcats Arena in Nottingham, Oliver from 6B, achieved a Gold Medal in 8 –10 (yr old) Kumite fighting in Karate! This is an incredible achievement and means that Oliver is now the UK champion for this age group! We are all so proud of Oliver's success .

The event started at 1700 and Oliver's first fight was against a young competitor from Walsall. Oliver won this first match 4 - 0. Oliver's success continued. He told us...

"I couldn't believe I had reached the final with a convincing 0 - 3 win!"

The great skill followed Oliver throughout the final, right up to the last second. Oliver finished 2 - 0 up, which meant he was the National Winner in the 8 - 10 years category.

Oliver is now looking forward to another event in March 2023.

CONGRATULATIONS OLIVER!



BJS—Celebration Award Winners

Friday 11 November

Year 3 - Elise & Zenara
Year 4 - Olive, Oliver & Lauren
Year 5 - Jasper, Willow & Tom R
Year 6 - Reuben & Edward O'K

Friday 18 November

Year 3 - Albie, Phoebe & Ralph
Year 4 - Iris & Poppy B
Year 5 - Georgie C
Year 6 - Elliot & Marcus D

Friday 25 November

Year 3 - Ilma & Rosemary
Year 4 - Amalie & Georgie P
Year 5 - Christopher & Reuben P
Year 6 - Pixie

CONGRATULATIONS!

Our 'Backwell B' awards include:

Be your Best, Be Kind and Be Responsible



Christmas Fair



BJSA are delighted to invite you to our Christmas Fair, Friday 2nd December, 3:30pm – 5:30pm. This is our first Christmas Fair in two years so we are very excited for it and cannot wait to see you all there!

THANK YOU!

BJS are pleased to announce that a fabulous £471.62 was raised last Friday for Children in Need 2022.

Thank you to everyone for their support



Royal British Legion - Thank you!



WELL DONE! POPPY APPEAL

Thank you very much for helping with our Appeal.

£ 297.52
was collected by you.

Without your help, we would be unable to continue our vital welfare and benevolent work.

Yours sincerely

Local Honorary Organiser

District Total (if available) £

Registered Charity No. 219279



Year 4 - RNLI Visit



Lifeboats



When Geoff from the RNLI came in to visit, he told us why we should all keep safe at sea. He explained about the lovely people that work as volunteers for the RNLI.

Jeff explained, that if someone gets lost, or goes missing at sea, or near the seaside, you should always inform a lifeguard straight away. RNLI members carry a beeper that goes off when there is an emergency, to alert all members. Two of us were lucky to get to dress up in the RNLI uniform, so we would all know how to recognise help, if we were ever in danger. We also learnt a lot about the different types of lifeboats.

We are over the moon to confirm that Year 4 raised over £117.00 for the RNLI in Portishead.

A big Thank you to Geoff for coming in to visit us and collect the monies we had raised to help @Save Lives at Sea'



By Amalie - 4JC

Year 4 - Backwell Village Trip

This week we have visited our local village of Backwell!

We were given a clipboard in pairs. We were given photographic images of what Backwell looked like more than 50 years ago to compare with some very recent images. We saw the local shops, and we identified them as they were numbered on our maps. There are still lots of different shops in Backwell, but they have all changed since the older photograph. The types of shops in Backwell have changed a great deal! It was very interesting to learn about how our village used to be.

By Eva – 4JC

We have been very lucky in Year 4 this week, as we have also visited the playing fields/recreation ground with Fran from the Playing Fields charity. Fran told us all about the history of the playing fields in Backwell. Here are some fun facts:

- Theodore & Isabel Robinson gifted the playing fields to the village in 1929.
- Theodore and Isabel owned a paper bag producing company – as there were no plastic bags back in the olden days.
- It is very expensive to maintain and fix the playing fields. About £50,000.00!

There were so many more interesting facts we learnt about the recreation grounds. Why not ask us about them.

It was an amazing experience and we all really enjoyed it.

By Lauren - 4JC





Football Success - BJS Year 5/6 Boys

"We've done it again! For the second year running, the Backwell Junior School Boys Football Team have qualified for the regional tournament in January! If the boys get through that, we go up to the next level! Every single member of the team gave 100% on this week's competition, working as a team, supporting each other and not giving an inch to the opposing teams. They won every one of their games except one, conceding only one goal throughout the day, which is very impressive at this high level of local competition. Their collective mental attitude is unbelievably strong and their sportsmanship did the school proud.

Well done boys the whole school is behind you!

Keep training and let's go all the way!"



BJS Christmas dinner will be held on Friday 16 December. Orders can now be placed on the Aspens SELECT app. Please ensure you place your order as soon as possible. There will be no Roast dinner Wednesday on the last week of term, and Fish Finger Friday, has been moved to the Wednesday (14 Dec) for that week. Please ensure you check your bookings on the SELECT app, to ensure you have ordered up until the end of term.

Bookings can be made on the app until 9.00am on the morning of the required meal.

Many thanks!





BOOK CORNER



Welcome to our Book Corner where we share everything we love about Reading!

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

Calling all BJS pupils...what are you reading at the moment? Have you started a new 30 reads book maybe you are enjoying another title? We'd love to hear your recommendations!! TYPE UP your recommendation and ask an adult at home to EMAIL it in. It will then appear in next month's blog!!



30 READS

The 30 Reads challenge got off to a great start last term with a number of children gaining a Bronze badge in our end of term assembly.

More information about the 30 Reads Challenge can be found on our website here:

<https://www.backwell-federation.co.uk/page/?title=Reading+Resources&id=294>

LIBRARY

Term 2 has seen the re-start of the lunchtime Library Club! Year 3 and 4 monitors can attend during lunchtime at the start of the week with Mrs Jones, with it being open for Year 5 and 6 on a Thursday lunchtime with Mrs Barnard.

We will be working hard to give the library a good old tidy up and thinking of ways in which to make each class trip to the library the best experience it can be!



BOOK FAIR

The Book Fair is on its way! Listen out for further information over the next couple of weeks but it will be running in the school hall from Monday 28th November to Friday 2nd December!



MONTHLY MUST READS

Each month, we post a selection of 'hot off the press' recommended reads...

These are taken from 'The Reader Teacher' <https://www.thereaderteacher.com/> a fantastic source of reads, reviews and recommendations at KS1 and KS2.

These books are not currently on the 30 Reads list but could be added under the 'your choice' section on the 30 Reads log.

NOVEMBER

<p>Interest age: 8+ Independent reading age: 9+ Step into a London lit up by the Elemental spirits: the fiery Dragons, the airy Fumis, the watery Chads and the earthbound Magogs. But humans have been causing chaos for centuries, trampling through the landscape trailing noise, mess and pollution. What if the Elements could slow down this new world... or stop it all together?</p>	<p>Interest age: 8+ Independent reading age: 9+ Corpse never asked to be a kid ghost. She doesn't remember anything from her life - all she knows is her home on the rock-that-doesn't-exist, her friend Simon the spider, and the vile Witches whose magic she steals.</p>	<p>Interest age: 7+ Independent reading age: 8+ Bride works hard to feed her family, selling matches on the streets of Victorian London. After an incident leaves her with only three matches left, the magical strike of each one sees her tumble into visions of a brighter future. A defiant and empowering retelling of the classic you thought you knew.</p>
<p>Interest age: 9+ Independent reading age: 9+ There's a new craze at Dread Wood High. Finch is a game of fear. The more you scare your friends, the more points on the app you get. At first it's fun, but soon fun is replaced by fear. And Angelo and his friends notice that everyone is behaving more and more strangely every day - almost as if something is taking over their brains...</p>	<p>Interest age: 7+ Independent reading age: 7+ Inside is a treasure trove of writing celebrating courage and empowerment. Read the poems aloud or cut up with them in a quiet corner. Begin your journey into a lifelong love of poetry.</p>	<p>Interest age: 7+ Independent reading age: 7+ Imagine a trip to the park with butterflies and snakes and monkeys and a giant leopard - magical! Imagine missing it all because you're distracted... A beautiful story for children and adults about the importance of looking up, paying attention and sharing adventures.</p>

Travelling Book Fair at BJS : Monday 28 November - Friday 02 December

Just a reminder that the Travelling Books Book Fair will be running next week from Monday 28th November to Friday 2nd December in the school hall.

*There will be the usual brilliant selection of books and the ever-popular stationery items too!
Perfect for a spot of Christmas shopping!*

****Please note, both cash and card/ online payments will be accepted****

We appreciate that the books you can buy at the book fair can sometimes cost a little more than they do in other places. However, by purchasing a book at the fair, you are supporting our school. For every purchase, we receive reward points that we can spend on books for the class-rooms. Travelling books also donate £6.4 million worth of free books to schools nationwide each year, to support literacy and reading for pleasure.

*We look forward to seeing you there and thank you in advance for your kind support.
Many thanks,*

Mrs Barnard



News from St Andrew's Church

Family Christingle Service

3.30 PM
10 December 2022
St Andrew's Church

Come and make your own Christingle!
All welcome, register on Eventbrite!

ADVENT CAROLS *Informal Family Service*



11 DECEMBER
4 PM

WITH AN APPEARANCE BY
ST ANDREW'S CHILDREN CHOIR

ST ANDREW'S

Crib Service



COME DRESSED UP AS YOUR FAVOURITE
NATIVITY CHARACTER AND LEARN ABOUT THE
STORY OF THE FIRST CHRISTMAS!

FRIDAY
24TH
DEC

4:00PM

ST
ANDREW'S
CHURCH,
BACKWELL

BJS - Pupil Chaplains visit to Wells

Pupil Chaplains trip to Wells Cathedral A team of nine pupil chaplains from Backwell Junior Schools attended the diocese's first Pupil Chaplaincy Retreat. Together with students from St Johns Wellington, St Mary's Bridgwater and St Andrew's Taunton primary schools they explored the theme of pilgrimage and toured the cathedral dressed up as medieval pilgrims! They also viewed the Gaia exhibition and were amazed by the giant balloon of the earth hanging down from the ceiling, if a little disappointed because England could not be seen from the ground! The children also took part in an art project and created 7 mosaic artworks about the values of chaplaincy, which can be viewed at St Andrew's during the Advent period. The artworks will then travel the diocese to be displayed at all the participating schools.

As the term of the current team is coming to an end in December, Rev Katy and I have asked them a few questions about what it has been like to be a part of the chaplaincy team? They described their experience from the past year as: "I feel more confident, people view me as role model, and I have become a person they ask for help." "This group feels like a second home, a safe space where you can talk without judgement about difficult situations in family and school." "Learning about God has helped me see things through other people's eyes. These values have rubbed off on my brother, and we fight less and get along better." "I found out lots of new things about myself. I loved helping in the community and being involved with people in the village." "I never would have opened a Bible if it wasn't for the pupil chaplains, but I love the Action Bible and I'm over half way reading it!" "My favourite part was serving the meal at the community café, I got to talk to people I would never talk to normally."

The applications to join the Pupil Chaplaincy Program will be open to Year 5 students from December.

