



**Newsletter 23 – 16 March 2018**

*'We take responsibility for ourselves and do the right thing,  
 even when it's difficult.'*

**Diary Dates**

<p>Reception WOW Event  <b>Year 4 WOW Event – Vegetable Curry</b>          Year 3 WOW Event – Work Celebration  <b>Y5&amp;6 watch Oliver production at Kings Oak</b>          Parents'/Carers' Evening 1 (R, Y2, Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6)  <b>EYFS Coffee and Information Morning (more details to follow)</b>          Parents'/Carers' Evening 2 (R, Y2, Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6)  <b>Choir perform Jonah Man Jazz to parents/carers and school</b>          FOCP Meeting (new date)  <b>KS2 SATs Week</b>          Sports Day</p>	<p>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2.45pm  <b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March 1:00-2:00pm</b>          Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2.55pm  <b>Mon 19<sup>th</sup> March (back approx. 3.30pm)</b>          Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March  <b>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 9:00-10:00am</b>          Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March  <b>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2:20pm</b>          Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 3.15pm  <b>w/beg 14<sup>th</sup> May</b>          Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June</p>
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**Holidays:** Mon 26 March – Fri 6<sup>th</sup> April; Mon 28<sup>th</sup> May – Fri 1<sup>st</sup> June; Fri 20<sup>th</sup> July – Fri 31<sup>st</sup> Aug

**Headteacher's News**

One of the values we encourage our children to develop is one of giving back. This week our school choir has been doing just that. A group of over 30 of the children, who have given up their dinnertimes to rehearse, went to Abraham Fry House to entertain the residents. The addition of their new black Courtney choir T-shirts made them look as well as sound the part. Thank you to our talented Mrs Castle who has made that happen.

The governors have just ratified a new version of our Attendance Policy. Our school target is over 96.1% and we are challenged by the local authority if any individuals have poor attendance, including broken weeks. It really makes a difference to your child's learning if they miss any days from school. Every lesson counts. Children's attendance is sometimes really difficult to keep high just because of the normal range of illnesses and sickness that go round at school. At Courtney we do not authorise any holidays unless there are **exceptional** circumstances. This includes long weekends. (Holidays over 5 days are liable for a local authority fine). Please help your child get the best start they can by supporting us in getting them in to school as often as you can.

Have a lovely weekend. I am looking forward to seeing some of you at the school disco tonight.

**Deborah Wood**

**This week's Crown Values Certificates awarded to:**

- Year R Cherry: Ellie
- Year 1 Oak: Rhys
- Year 2 Ash: William
- Year 3 Lime: Theo
- Year 4 Maple: Ethan
- Year 5 Sycamore: Harvey
- Year 6 Cedar: Hollie-Rose



**Attendance Total 96.5%**

- YR Cherry 96.7%
- Y1 Oak 95.1%
- Y2 Ash 98.2%
- Y3 Lime 97.4%
- Y4 Maple 94.8%
- Y5 Sycamore 96.7%
- Y6 Cedar 97.3%



**Reading Certificates**

**These children have reached their next Reading 25s Certificate:**

Sarah, Harry, Alex, Caiden, Millie, Peter, George, Ruby, Dylan, Megan, Corey, Madison, Lily-Mai, Poppy, Lilly, Ruby, Ava, Beatrice, Mia, Jessica, George, Oliver, Megan, Lily, Tyler, Imogen, Evie, Jacob, Hannah, Rhys



## Multiplication Masters

Caiden, Louise, James, William, Lacey, Madison, Liam, George, Connor, Evie



## Dogs

We have received some complaints of dogs blocking the gates on Gages Road and children stepping in dog mess on the pavement. Please can you ensure that all dogs who are part of our Courtney Community do not cause these problems and that any dog mess is picked up. Thank you!

## Request on behalf of Reception Class

We will be making eggs for Easter in the last week of term and would like newspapers and onion skins (the dry outer layer), thank you.

## School Uniform

We have had a query this week about whether or not leggings are allowed as part of the school uniform. Just to clarify, we would prefer trousers and skirts to be worn but, as long as the leggings (not jeggings) are black, this is perfectly acceptable.

Due to this query, we will update our guidance on uniform.

A reminder of other uniform-related rules:

1. **Hair clips** should be no bigger than the width of a palm and be school colours. So no jojo bows and no non-uniform colours.
2. **Footwear** should be plain black (with no white parts), ideally shoes but plain black trainers are allowed.

Please, please could you put your child's name in all their clothing as they invariably get muddled up.

## Easter Competition

Knitting club are having an Easter competition to win a chocolate egg with a knitted cover. Tickets are 20p each and can be bought from Cole or Bethany in Year 4 every lunchtime next week.

## Payments to School

As a school, we are constantly looking at ways we can simplify our processes and save time and money. One new way we can do this is to stop taking cheques. This will significantly reduce the number of visits that we make to the bank and save the office valuable time. Consequently, from now, please can we ask that all payments to school are by cash or, ideally, via our online payment system **School Money**. If you cannot access School Money you can still pay by card by ringing the office or coming to the office with your card. Thank you so much for your support of this initiative!

## OoSc News

Next week Out of school club will be doing the following activities:

Monday – decorate an Easter bunny plant pot

Tuesday – Film Night, the film will be 'Hop'

Thursday – making Easter next cakes

Friday – junk modelling

Book in now to ensure your child has a place!



## Year 6 WOW Event

Year 6 had a 'fizzy' science afternoon on 14<sup>th</sup> March. We divided into groups and we tested how much fizz (gas) was produced by mixing different liquids (acids) with bicarbonate of soda. We had to plan a fair test and record our results.

"I liked it when it first started to fizz up – so did my mum!" Freya W

"Mixing the vinegar and lemon juice was fun" Adam S

"I liked it when it got messy" Evie G

"When the fizz came over the top of the container it was funny" Tyler C



### Courtney Choir visit to Abraham Fry House

Thursday afternoon was exciting. Courtney Choir, dressed in their smart new T shirts visited Abraham Fry House (sheltered housing on Courtney Road) to sing Jonah-Man-Jazz to the residents. The children were full of enthusiasm and sang and spoke extremely well. The residents were smiling and clapping along as the children sang. Everyone



enjoyed the experience. The children were all complimented on their manners and politeness. It was a pleasure to take them out of school. Well done Courtney Choir.

**We know how brilliant our children are but it is always lovely to hear someone else thinks the same...**



1, Petherton Close,  
Kingswood,  
BS15 9QY.

15 March 2018

Dear Mrs Wood,  
We at Abraham Fry were thrilled with the lovely singing by The Courtney School Choir when they visited us today with Mrs Castle.

It was obvious that a lot of hard work had been put in by Mrs Castle and the Choir members and the children were very enthusiastic with their performance.

I would also like to say how impressed we were with the children's behaviour and politeness and also how smart they looked in their "Choir Uniforms".

We hope their visit will be the beginning of a worthwhile connection between the two age groups, although we realise there is a lot of hard work involved in creating a link between us.

We would be pleased to receive any similar visits from your students in the future.

Please say a very big thank you to the children and adults involved.

Many thanks also to yourself for allowing the children to visit us during school time.

Yours Sincerely

Frank Shea

On Behalf of The Residents of Abraham Fry House

## Community News

### Courtney Ladybirds Preschool - Vacancy

We are looking for bank staff to join our team. If you, or you know of anyone that may be interested, please let us know or pass our details onto them. Thank you.

Courtney Ladybirds Pre-School  
Kingswood  
Bristol

Contact: Claire Walker 0117 9353022 or  
email: [courtneyladybirds@yahoo.com](mailto:courtneyladybirds@yahoo.com)

#### Vacancy:

Bank early years practitioner required to join our friendly team. You will need level 3 in early years childcare (or equivalent) and be motivated and enthusiastic in providing outstanding childcare with EYFS experience.

Hours: Flexible as and when is required (term time only)  
Rate of Pay: £Neg. depending on experience and qualifications  
Closing Date: Friday 13th April 2018  
Interview Date: to be confirmed

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## Autism South West Parent & Carer Network

The meeting is open to any parent or carer.

### Transitions – big and small...



**12:00noon – 2:00pm on Friday 23 March 2018**

Barley Close Primary School, Barley Close,  
Mangotsfield, BS16 9DL



**Meet** other parents who have a child with autism

**Ask** questions about autism.

**Find** support and advice from autism specialists.

**Learn** about different transitions and how to support your child.

**Receive** a free resource to take away.

**Enjoy** light refreshments.

For further information and to book a place, please email [Yvonne.Luff@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:Yvonne.Luff@southglos.gov.uk) or telephone 01454 868348.

**£10 per parent or £15 per family** (cheques or cash on the day)

Follow [@autismsouthwest](https://twitter.com/autismsouthwest) for autism advice and information.