

THE RED SQUIRREL

TERM 1 ISSUE 3 **16TH OCTOBER 2026**

www.westburyontrym.academy

Dear Parents/Carers

As we move through another busy and exciting couple of weeks at school, there has been plenty to celebrate! Our Year 6 pupils are currently away on their residential camp, enjoying new experiences, developing their independence and creating memories that will last a lifetime. We look forward to hearing all about their adventures when they return later today.

We were delighted to see our pupils proudly representing the school at the recent cross-country competition, showing determination, resilience and excellent sporting spirit throughout the event. We also welcomed bestselling Australian author Jessica Townsend, whose inspiring visit captivated Key Stage 2 pupils and sparked a renewed enthusiasm for reading and creativity through the magical world of *Nevermoor*. Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We hope you enjoy reading about these and many other wonderful experiences taking place across our school community.

Value for the Term

Our value this term is RESPECT & DIGNITY. Our focus Bible story is 'The Fall', where we learn about how Adam & Eve did not show respect to someone (God) who had created a beautiful garden & world for them. We will be thinking more about the current state of our world and how we can show respect to all creation; including people, places and animals.

Please consider these key questions with your children:

Can you think of someone that you really respect and admire?

Are you respected by others? Why do you think that is?

Are there particular qualities that you respect in others?

Dates for your diary

Term dates 2026-2027

Term 1: 3rd September - 23rd October

Mon 12th-Fri 16th Oct: Year 6 Residential

Fri 16th Oct: Show Racism the Red Card Day

Tue 20th Oct: Parent/Teacher evening

Wed 21st Oct: Parent/Teacher afternoon

Term 2: 2nd November - 18th December

Wed 4th Nov: Individual School photographs

Fri 13th Nov: Online Safety Session for parents/ carers 2pm

Mon 16th—Fri 20th Nov: National Anti-Bullying Week

Mon 16th—Fri 20th Nov: National Road Safety Week

Thurs 19th Nov: Bedtime stories (Reception—Y3)

Sat 28th Nov: School Christmas Fayre

Term 3: 4th January - 12th February

Term 4: 22nd February - 25th March

Term 5: 12th April - 28th May

Term 6: 7th June - 23rd July

INSET days & Academy days 26/27

23rd Oct '26, 4th Dec '26, 4th Jan '27, 12th Feb '27, 12th April '27, 28th Jun '27

An Inspiring Visit from Author Jessica Townsend

Our Key Stage 2 pupils were delighted to welcome acclaimed Australian author **Jessica Townsend** to Westbury. During her visit, Jessica shared her inspiring journey to becoming a writer and introduced children to the latest instalment in her bestselling *Nevermoor* series.

The session was engaging, entertaining and full of valuable advice, encouraging pupils to use their creativity, embrace their imaginations and have confidence in their own ideas. Jessica's passion for reading and writing was infectious, leaving a lasting impression on everyone who attended.

We hope this memorable visit has inspired many of our children to pick up a book, explore new worlds through reading and perhaps even become the next generation of authors at Westbury.



Show Racism The Red Card

Today, we were proud to take part in Show Racism the Red Card Day, joining schools across the country in promoting equality, celebrating diversity, and standing together against racism.

Throughout the week, children engaged in a range of age-appropriate activities and thoughtful discussions, helping them to understand the importance of respect, inclusion, and treating others with kindness. They explored how our differences make us unique and why everyone deserves to feel valued and accepted.

We were incredibly impressed by the maturity, empathy, and enthusiasm shown by our pupils. Opportunities such as these play an important role in fostering our school values and ensuring that every member of our community feels safe, respected, and proud to be themselves.



Sports News

The children have been incredibly busy over the past few weeks, taking part in a range of sporting events and representing the school with pride. We are delighted to share some fantastic match reports from our Year 5 and Year 6 Netball Team, along with highlights from our Key Stage 2 Cross Country Team (see below). We hope you enjoy reading about their achievements! Click HERE

Cross Country Success at St Bede's

Twenty-five Key Stage 2 pupils recently represented the school at a cross country competition held at St Bede's School. The children showed fantastic determination, perseverance and sportsmanship as they competed against pupils from other local schools.

All participants gave their very best effort, tackling the challenging course with enthusiasm and resilience. We are incredibly proud of their positive attitude and excellent behaviour throughout the event. Well done to everyone who took part and represented our school so brilliantly!

Prospective New Parent/Carer Tours for Reception Places September 2027

If you have a little one starting school next year, please book onto one of our tours. The dates can be found on our school website HERE .

Family Home Learning Club — Everyone Welcome!

Need a calm and supportive space to complete home learning? Join us at our Family Home Learning Club every Monday from 3:15 to 3:45 in 3EF with Mrs Barbour.

This is a great opportunity for pupils to work on their tasks with a teacher available for guidance. iPads will be provided for digital activities.

Please note: Pupils must attend with a parent or carer.

Drop in and make home learning a positive experience for the whole family!

If you have a concern, your first point of contact should always be your child's teacher. They are best placed to understand the context and work towards a solution. Should further support be needed, the teacher will involve the appropriate members of our leadership team.

Thank you for your cooperation and for helping us maintain a safe and respectful school community.

Bristol Rovers Football Fun!

Premier League Kicks is a free football programme funded by the Premier League Foundation, designed to give young Bristol Rovers fans the chance to get active, have fun, and enjoy the beautiful game in a safe environment.

We run inclusive drop-in sessions for boys and girls aged 8 to 18, held at the state-of-the-art Lockleaze Sports Centre, Bonnington Walk, BS7 9XF.

Led by our experienced community coaches, these sessions strike the perfect balance between structured activities and self-led play - giving young people the chance to enjoy organised games while also shaping the session themselves and deciding how they want to take part.

Please note: sessions run during term time only.

Click HERE to register and secure your Child's spot at our upcoming Premier League Kicks sessions.

Bristol Rovers Community Trust Halloween Party

Looking for a fun Halloween event this half term? Bristol Rovers Community Trust will be hosting its annual Children's Halloween Party on Friday 30 October, from 7.00pm to 8.30pm in the Wollen Suite at the Memorial Stadium.

Open to children aged 4–11, the evening will include a range of Halloween-themed activities, games, dancing and entertainment. Fancy dress is optional, but children are encouraged to come dressed in their favourite Halloween costumes.

Each child will receive a snack, a drink and a small gift to take home. Tickets cost £10 per child, and places are limited, so early booking is recommended. Click HERE



School Photo Day—4th November 2026

The school photographer will be visiting on Wednesday 4th November 2026 to take individual pupil photographs. Sibling group photographs will also be taken for children who have brothers or sisters attending the school. If you have a pre-school child and would like them to be included in a sibling photograph, we will be happy to accommodate this before the start of the school day. Please come to the school hall at 8:30am for these photographs.

We look forward to capturing some wonderful memories for our families.

Parent Coffee Morning – Friday 6th November, 9:15am

We warmly invite parents and carers to join us for our next Coffee Morning. This informal gathering is a wonderful opportunity to meet other families, enjoy a chat, and share experiences in a welcoming environment.

Our focus for this session will be Supporting Your Child with Big Emotions. Our SENDCo, Mrs Hunt, will explain our whole-school Zones of Regulation approach and how it helps children understand and manage their feelings. We are also pleased to welcome our school nurse, who will talk about the emotional wellbeing support available to children and families.

We hope you can join us. Please let us know if you are able to attend by emailing info@westburyontrym.academy

Vacancies

We currently have job vacancies available and are looking for enthusiastic and committed people to join our school team. These roles offer a great opportunity to work in a supportive, friendly environment where children are at the heart of everything we do.

Full details and application information can be found on **Eteach** and on the **Job Vacancies** section of our school website. Please feel free to share this with anyone who may be interested.

Save the Date: Christmas Fayre – Saturday 28th November

Please save the date for our much-anticipated Christmas Fayre on Saturday 28th November! This is always a wonderful opportunity for families, friends and members of our wider school community to come together and enjoy a festive afternoon of fun, games, refreshments and Christmas cheer.

Keep an eye out for posters around the school where you can sign up to offer your support. Whether you can spare a little time helping before, during or after the fayre, your contribution will make a real difference.

By working together, we can create a fantastic event for our children and families while continuing to cherish and strengthen our wonderful school community. We look forward to celebrating with you all!

And finally…

We are looking forward to welcoming parents and carers to our Parents' Evenings on Tuesday and Wednesday. These meetings provide a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the progress and achievements of our children, share their learning journey so far, and discuss the next steps that will help them continue to develop, flourish and thrive.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

EVERY MINUTE COUNTS

Minutes late to school	
5 minutes	3 days lost
10 minutes	6.5 days lost
15 minutes	10 days lost
20 minutes	13 days lost
30 minutes	19 days lost



Do I need to keep my child off school?

HSC Public Health Agency

Chicken Pox: Until all spots have crusted over	**Conjunctivitis**: No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	**Diarrhoea & Vomiting**: 48 hours from last episode	**Glandular Fever**: No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	**Hand, foot & mouth**: No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	**Impetigo**: Until lesions are crusted & healed or 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics
Measles or German Measles: 4 days from onset of rash	**Mumps**: 5 days from onset of swelling	**Scabies**: Until after first treatment	**Scarlet Fever**: 24 hours after commencing antibiotics	**Slapped Cheek**: No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	**Whooping Cough**: 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics
Flu: Until recovered	**Head Lice**: No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	**Threadworms**: No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	**Tonsillitis**: No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed		

You can follow our school on Facebook & Instagram or our school website www.westburyontrym.academy

If you wish to contact the school governors, please email governors@westburyontrym.academy

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

BIG SAVINGS ON SCHOOL LUNCHES!



Did you know you could save up to £500 having free school lunches?

For more information, visit:
www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals

What's New?

From September 2026, new government changes mean many more families will be eligible for free school meals. Previously, eligibility was limited to households earning under £7,400, but this income threshold has now been removed.
This means that all children in families receiving Universal Credit will qualify for free school meals, regardless of household income.

Who is eligible?

- **Reception – Year 2**
  Still FREE for all children
- **Year 3 and above (NEW)**
  Free meals if your family receives Universal Credit
- **Extra support available**
  Targeted help for lower-income households continues

Important Action

Bristol City Council are automatically checking all families who are currently eligible, so you don't have to re-apply.

For first-time applicants:

- Follow the link below to apply and await confirmation.
- Once approved, you're guaranteed for the full school year
- Click here to apply

Why Choose Our Lunches?

- ✓ **Healthy, balanced meals**
- ✓ **Great variety every day (meat, vegetarian/ vegan and halal)**
- ✓ **Saves time preparing lunches**
- ✓ **We cater to support pupils with allergies and special dietary needs.**

The Savings

"No more spending £12 a week on lunch!"

A typical packed lunch costs:

- Up to £2.50 per day
- Around £12 a week
- Up to £500 per school year

With FSM:

- Main, side + dessert = FREE

AiP FOOD SMART sodexo

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

A guide for **parents and carers** on applying for a **primary school** place for the school year **2027–2028**

If your child was born between 1 **September 2022** and 31 August **2023** you will need to apply for a school place by 15 January **2027**



TRADING WITH SCHOOLS BRISTOL LEARNING CITY

www.bristol.gov.uk/schooladmissions

What do I need to do to apply for a school place?

- Check the guidance on applying for schools – available at www.bristol.gov.uk/schooladmissions, or by contacting School Admissions. The guidance contains details on how & when to apply, information on each school along with their admissions policy and oversubscription criteria. With the mix of different types of school from Church schools, Foundation schools, Academies, Free Schools and Community schools the admissions policy could be different for each school you put as a preference so it's important to ensure you check this carefully.
- Some schools require supplementary forms to be completed as well as the common application form. Make sure you check if this applies to the school(s) you are interested in.
- Visit the schools. All schools hold open days. Contact the school directly for further details on open days.
- Look at the school's prospectus and its website which are useful sources of information.
- You can name up to three school preferences. We advise you to name more than one school.
- Make sure you apply on-time. The deadline is 15 January 2027.

School Admissions (CH)
Bristol City Council
PO Box 3399, Bristol, BS1 9NE
www.bristol.gov.uk/schooladmissions
e school.admissions@bristol.gov.uk
t 0117 903 7694



Why apply online?

- The system helps you by checking for errors.
- There is no risk that your application will be lost in the post.
- It is quick and easy to do.
- You will get an immediate email confirming that your application has been received.
- You will receive an email notification of the outcome of your application on the same day as the offer letters are posted.
- The system is available 24 hours a day until the final submission time of midnight on 15 January 2027.

Apply online www.bristol.gov.uk/schooladmissions

apply for a **secondary school** place for the school year **2027–2028**

If your child was born between **1 September 2015** and **31 August 2016** you will need to apply for a school place by **31 October 2026.**



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- Visit the schools. All schools hold open days. School websites provide details of open evenings and other events.
- Look at the school's prospectus and its website which are useful sources of information.
- You can name up to three school preferences. We advise you to name more than one school.
- Make sure you apply on-time. The deadline is 31 October 2026

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Bristol City Council
PO Box 3399, Bristol, BS1 9NE
www.bristol.gov.uk/schooladmissions
e school.admissions@bristol.gov.uk
t 0117 903 7694



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Church News

HOLY TRINITY
WESTBURY ON TRYM - BRISTOL

NEXT TEATIME CHURCH FAMILY SERVICE:

WHERE: HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
WHEN: SUNDAY 15TH NOVEMBER
THEME: NOAH'S ART/PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT
ACTIVITIES: JUNK MODELLING, LEAF RUBBING, RAINBOW TEXTILES, NATURE COLLAGES, PLANTING



TODDLERS TOGETHER:

WHERE: WESTBURY-ON-TRYM METHODIST CHURCH HALL
WHEN: EVERY THURSDAY 10 - 11:15AM DURING TERM TIME

OTHER EVENTS AND SERVICES:

MESSY CHURCH: 'GOD'S WEIRDEST ANIMALS'
THURSDAY 29TH OCTOBER FROM 10.30AM TO 12.30PM LED BY THE WESTBURY-ON-TRYM METHODIST CHURCH
EMAIL MESSY@WOTMETHODIST.ORG.UK



HTTPS://WWW.WESTBURY-PARISH-CHURCH.ORG.UK/CHILDREN-AND-YOUNG-PEOPLE/

Church News


Do you love to sing?
JOIN OUR
JUNIOR CHOIR
Develop singing and performance skills
Free musical training following the *Voice for Life* scheme of skills, including sight-singing, music theory, reading music and vocal tuition
Modern and traditional songs
Enjoy music and making friendships
Free to attend
No singing experience necessary
Led by professional musicians who are fully DBS-checked
To register, please contact Georgie at:
familyworker@westbury-parish-church.org.uk
For girls and boys aged 7+ (Y3 onwards)
Held at Holy Trinity Church, BS9 3EQ
Mondays at 4:45 to 5:30pm with a break for refreshments
Term time only
Welcome to people of all faiths or none
https://www.westbury-parish-church.org.uk/choirs/

Church News

Create and play at

GOLDFINCH

Creative classes for preschoolers, kids and teens, in the heart of the Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol

What's on this OCTOBER half term?

www.goldfinchcreateandplay.co.uk

Holiday Create and Play for 1.5 - 5 years

Preschool Art and Craft Sessions for 1.5 - 5 years

Join us this October half term for a craft session where you and your little ones can get creative together!

Session Date and Time: 9 30 - 10 30am
Friday 30th October
Cost: £11.50 per child and adult, sibling discounts available

Scan to find out more

Holiday Art Clubs for 4 - 6 years

We've developed this new session as we've found it offers the perfect balance of creativity, play and making for younger children, with plenty to enjoy without becoming too tiring.

Session Date and Time: 9 30 - 12pm
Tuesday 27th October: Spooky Forest Crafts
Cost: £30 per child, sibling discounts available

Holiday Art Clubs for 5 - 10 years

Unleash your child's inner artist this autumn with our 5 hour creative holiday art clubs. These workshops invite children to explore creatively under the guidance of Goldfinch artists!

Session Dates and Times: 10am - 3pm
Monday 26th October: Construction
Wednesday 28th October: Printmaking
Thursday 29th October: Sculpture
Cost: £50 per child, sibling discounts available

Scan to find out more

PTA News


JOIN US FOR OUR END OF TERM
MONSTER MASH
DISCO
SATURDAY | 24 | OCTOBER 2026
16:00-17:30
£3.50 PER CHILD

Do you often feel like you miss out on accessing support for your family?

Sign up to our newsletter today to find out about free local support and information from across Bristol

www.bristolparentcarers.org.uk/joinus/



Bristol Autism Team Family Support Phone Line

A dedicated phone line for parents/carers to access immediate support from Bristol Autism Team

- Advice, guidance and someone to listen
- Help identifying pathways and different routes to access support
- Signposting and information on local services, support groups and resources

The phone line will be open to call on Thursday mornings between 8:30 and 12.
Phone number: **07387242320**

Please be aware that the mailbox is not monitored so voicemails will not be returned

You can also access support from Bristol Autism Team using the QR code or by emailing Bristol.Autism.HotLine@bristol.gov.uk

Parent/Carer Request for Bristol Autism Team

OFFICIAL



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Westbury on Trym C of E Academy

Shine AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

YOUR CLUB PROGRAMME

SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER

BREAKFAST CLUB EVERY DAY: 07:35 - 08:55
AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS: SCHOOL END - 16.30

MONDAYS	MY TIME	RECEPTION - YEAR 6 CRICKET CLUB	YEAR 3 - YEAR 6 DODGEBALL CLUB	YEAR 1 & 2
TUESDAYS	MY TIME	RECEPTION - YEAR 6 OUTDOOR ADVENTURE CLUB	YEAR 1 - YEAR 6 FUN WITH FOOD	RECEPTION - YEAR 2
WEDNESDAYS	MY TIME	RECEPTION - YEAR 6 MINI FOOTBALL CLUB	YEAR 1 & YEAR 2 NETBALL CLUB	YEAR 5 & YEAR 6 FOOTBALL CLUB	YEAR 5 & YEAR 6 PERFORMING ARTS	YEAR 2 - YEAR 6
THURSDAYS	MY TIME	RECEPTION - YEAR 6 CREATIVE WORKSHOPS	RECEPTION - YEAR 2 DODGEBALL CLUB	YEAR 5 & YEAR 6 FOOTBALL CLUB	YEAR 3 & YEAR 4
FRIDAYS	MY TIME	RECEPTION - YEAR 6 GYMNASTICS CLUB	RECEPTION - YEAR 4

EVERY DAY **SNACK & CHILL** LATE STAY 16:30 - 17:55

Book online at: **MyShine.co.uk**


HAUNTED HOLIDAY CLUBS
SHINE SPORTS HALL
SHINE SPORTS GROUND
ELMLEA SCHOOL
15% OFF
With the code
Early Booker
Gymnastics
Creepy Creative
Football Fundays
Forbidden Forest
Cursed Cookery
Mini & Mega Monster Mash-Ups
Descendants Dance
Crazy Science Cauldrons
Make a Musical - SIX
Shine
HOLIDAY CLUBS
MyShine.co.uk
*Conditions apply. Expiry 11/10/26

OCTOBER SCHOOL BREAK



NORTH BRISTOL BASKETBALL CAMP

WHAT TO EXPECT

- QUALIFIED AND EXPERIENCED BASKETBALL COACHES
- OPPORTUNITY TO IMPROVE BASKETBALL SKILLS
- GAME-SENSE COACHING STYLE
- INCLUSIVE, WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT
- OPPORTUNITIES TO WIN PRIZES

COTHAM SCHOOL, BS6 6DT

9AM - 4PM - SCHOOL YEARS 3-11

£35 PER DAY

26TH , 27TH, 28TH , 29TH 30TH OCTOBER
BOYS & GIRLS OF ALL ABILITIES

@BRISTOLFLYERSCOMMUNITY

@FLYERSCOMMUNITY

COMMUNITY@BRISTOLFLYERS.CO.UK

BRISTOL Flyers COMMUNITY

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FRIENDS OF REDLAND LIBRARY

present

TUESDAY 20th OCTOBER 7pm

(Doors Open 6:45pm)

REDLAND LIBRARY, WHITELADIES ROAD, BRISTOL

AMBRIDGE LIVES: THE ARCHERS





With guest speakers

John Telfer

(Has appeared as the Reverend Alan Franks in over 300 episodes of "The Archers" since 2003. He is fondly remembered as Willy Pettit from the BBC crime drama "Bergerac".)

Caroline Harrington

(Has written 470 episodes of "The Archers" from 2008 to 2023.)





Admission £3 (Pay at the door – Cash only)

For further information please

email: FriendsOfRedlandLibrary@gmail.com **or visit:** https://FriendsOfRedlandLibrary.org.uk