

BARRS COURT NEWSLETTER



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enquiries@barrscourtps.org.uk



It was an absolute pleasure to welcome back ex-pupil and Commonwealth medal-winning gymnast, Shantae Amankwaah, to our assembly this week. Shantae popped in to talk to the children about her experiences as a gymnast and proudly showed us the medals she has won.

We are incredibly proud of Shantae and the determination, dedication and skill she has shown to achieve such amazing things at just 17 years old. It was fantastic for our children to hear about her journey and to see first-hand where ambition and perseverance can take you!

This week, pupils have been learning about democracy through class elections for our School Parliament and Eco Club. Our pupil leadership groups play an important part in school life, giving children opportunities to share their ideas, represent their peers and have a genuine voice in shaping our school.

Over the course of a school year, it is highly likely that you may have a small concern or worry that you would like to raise. I encourage you to raise these concerns early and, initially, in person. There is always a senior member of staff on the gate at the beginning and end of the school day. Often, they will be able to resolve the issue straight away or know who is best placed to help. Raising concerns early gives us the opportunity to address them quickly, before they become bigger issues.

Dates for the diary

- **Monday 28th September – Wednesday 30 September** – Book Fair
- **Tuesday 29th September** – Individual Class photos
- **Wednesday 30th September** – Sibling Class photos
- **Friday 2nd October** – Blue Area Shadow Workshop
- **Friday 9th October** – Road Safety Workshop – KS2
- **Friday 9th October** – Red Area End of Enquiry Event
- **Friday 9th October** – Disco (PFTA)
- **Monday 12 October - INSET Day (school closed)**
- **Wednesday 14 October** – Year 5/6 Life Skills
- **Friday 23rd October** - Last day of term 1
- **Monday 2nd November** - First Day of Term 2
- **Thursday 12th November** - Blue Area @ Kingswood Heritage Museum
- **Monday 9th and Wednesday 11th November** - Parent and carer evening
- **Friday 18th December** - Last Day of term 2

Parent and Carer Tours for September 2027

We are pleased to welcome prospective parents and carers to visit our school and see it in action. Each tour is limited to 10 families to give you the opportunity to ask questions in a small group setting.

Tours are led by the Headteacher and take place during a typical school day, so you can experience the school as it really is. For those unable to attend during the day, we also offer after-school sessions.

We have provided a variety of times and days, but if none are suitable, please contact the school office and we will do our best to accommodate you. The tours last up to an hour. While they are not specifically aimed at children, we are very happy for you to bring them along so they can experience the school too.

To book a slot please follow the links below.

 TUESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2027 9:30 AM	<u>Book a place</u>
 WEDNESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2027 2:00 PM	<u>Book a place</u>
 FRIDAY 2 OCTOBER 2027 9:30 AM	<u>Book a place</u>
 THURSDAY 22 OCTOBER 2027 2:00 PM	<u>Book a place</u>
 TUESDAY 6 OCTOBER 2027 9:30 AM	<u>Book a place</u>
 TUESDAY 13 OCTOBER 2027 9:30 AM	<u>Book a place</u>

We look forward to welcoming you!



A vibrant, colorful poster for a 'Back to School Halloween Disco'. The background is dark with a rainbow gradient and features a disco ball in the top left, a spiderweb in the top right, and silhouettes of children in various costumes (witch, skeleton, devil, superhero) dancing on a checkered floor. The title 'BACK TO SCHOOL HALLOWEEN DISCO' is prominently displayed in large, multi-colored, dripping letters. Below the title, the date 'FRIDAY 9TH OCTOBER' is written in white on a pink banner. A central QR code is provided for ticket booking, with the URL <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/GYHE> below it. Ticket prices are listed in a pink circle on the left: £3.50 per ticket. A pink circle on the right states that kids can wear fancy dress if they wish. The event schedule is listed in the center: 3:30 - 4:00 Reception Taster Session, 4:00 - 5:00 Years 1-2, and 5:00 - 6:00 Years 3-6. At the bottom, it notes that the reception ticket includes a drink and a packet of sweets or chocolate bar, and that years 1-6 can purchase refreshments at the disco. Further details will be shared closer to the event. The bottom of the poster is decorated with silhouettes of pumpkins.



BACK TO SCHOOL HALLOWEEN DISCO

FRIDAY 9TH OCTOBER

**£3.50
PER
TICKET**

3:30 – 4:00 **RECEPTION TASTER SESSION**
4:00 – 5:00 **YEARS 1–2**
5:00 – 6:00 **YEARS 3–6**

**KIDS CAN
WEAR FANCY
DRESS IF
THEY WISH!**



SCAN THE QR CODE
OR USE THE LINK BELOW TO BOOK YOUR TICKETS

<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/GYHE>

THE RECEPTION TICKET INCLUDES A DRINK AND
A PACKET OF SWEETS OR CHOCOLATE BAR
YEARS 1–6 CAN PURCHASE REFRESHMENTS AT THE DISCO

FURTHER DETAILS WILL BE SHARED CLOSER TO THE EVENT

Click Here

Could You Help Our PTFA?

Our PTFA events bring so much to our school community. They provide opportunities for families to come together, have fun and make wonderful memories, while also raising valuable funds that directly benefit our children and school.

However, these events simply cannot happen without the support of our wonderful parent and carer community. You don't need to commit to lots of time. Even giving just a little of your time to help set up, run an activity for a set time or tidy away would make a huge difference and would be very much appreciated.

We have set up a PTFA WhatsApp group for anyone who would like to register their support. There is no obligation to help at every event; the group will simply allow us to let you know when help is needed and give you the opportunity to volunteer when you are able.

Every helping hand makes a difference—thank you for supporting our school and our children!





PARKING REMINDER – PLEASE PARK RESPECTFULLY

As we settle into the new school year, we kindly ask all families to continue parking safely and respectfully around the local area.

Please avoid blocking driveways, stopping on the zig-zag lines, or parking in ways that make it difficult for children and neighbours to move safely.

A few extra moments to park considerately make a big difference to the safety and wellbeing of our whole community.

Thank you for your continued support.

TRIM-TRAIL BEFORE SCHOOL

Please can I remind all parents and carers that the trim trail must not be used before school by any children, including pre-school children.

This is for safety reasons, and we welcome your support in ensuring that no children use the equipment before school.

Parent /carer Courses

Online Workshops



Understanding and Supporting Sensory Differences

Wednesday 30th September
10:00am - 1:00pm



Understanding Emotional Development and Mental Health

Tuesday 13th October
7:00pm - 9:00pm



AuDHD (Autism and ADHD combined)

Thursday 19th November,
6:30pm - 8:30pm



Understanding and Supporting Communication

Wednesday 9th December
10:00am - 1:00pm



Understanding Masking

Thursday 14th January
7:00pm - 9:00pm



Understanding and Supporting Behaviour

Monday 8th February
10:00am - 1:00pm



We are happy to say that due to funding, we are able to provide our workshops free of charge.



Being a parent carer of a child or young person with SEND can bring extra situations which are challenging to know how to handle.

Our online workshops are here to empower you on your child's SEND journey.

- ✓ Confidence in understanding and meeting your child's needs.
- ✓ Ideas, effective strategies and signposting to other services.
- ✓ A chance to ask questions, as well as receive extra support if needed.

Your child does not need to have a diagnosis for you to access any of our support



E Safety links for families

Useful Websites

- [NSPCC](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)

www.nspcc.org.uk

- [Childnet](http://www.childnet.com)

www.childnet.com

- [Thinkuknow](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

www.thinkuknow.co.uk

- [UK Safer Internet Centre](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk)

www.saferinternet.org.uk

- [Common Sense Media](http://www.commonsensemedia.org)

www.commonsensemedia.org



sgpc.org.uk



**NO
APPOINTMENT
NEEDED**
JUST COME
ALONG!



**DROP IN
ANYTIME**
between
9am and
12:30pm



Need support for your family?

Drop in and chat with our friendly team

From pregnancy through to teenage years, Compass can give advice and signpost families to the right help and support available in South Glos.

Drop-in sessions available weekly at local One Stop Shops:

PATCHWAY
BS34 5PE
TUESDAYS

KINGSWOOD
BS15 9TR
WEDNESDAYS

YATE
BS37 4DQ
THURSDAYS

VISIT

 <https://life.southglos.gov.uk>
or scan the QR code for more information





West of England
MUSIC & ARTS

NEW AT WEMA MUSIC CENTRES

- **DJ skills**
- **Music Production**

Brand new sessions for young musicians.
Mix, produce and make your own tracks.

- **Saturdays** · Backwell · from 9.30am
- **Mondays** · Little Stoke · from 6.30pm
- **Wednesdays** · Bath · from 5.45pm

Bookings open now
wema.org.uk/music-centre-lessons
Discounts available for children eligible for Pupil Premium



Music Opportunities



West of England
MUSIC & ARTS

NEW AT WEMA MUSIC CENTRES

Instrument Lessons & Courses

Woodwind, Brass, Piano, Strings, Guitar

Music Production, DJ Skills

Learn after school at your local WEMA Music Centre -
then join an ensemble when you're ready!

Discounts available for children eligible for Pupil Premium

Bookings open now
wema.org.uk/music-centre-lessons



DJ & Music Production times

- **Saturdays** · Backwell · from 9.30am
- **Mondays** · Little Stoke · from 6.30pm
- **Wednesdays** · Bath · from 5.45pm



School Nursing Service

School Nurses work with children, young people, parents and carers to maximise health and well-being.

Use the QR code to view our web page and find out more, or call one of our locality teams using the numbers below:



Bristol East/Central:

0300 125 6980

North Somerset:

0300 125 6798

Bristol South: 0300 125 6277

South Gloucestershire:

0300 125 5151

Bristol North: 0300 124 5816

Secondary school aged children can also use our **confidential text messaging service ChatHealth**. Use the QR code to find out more.



Sirona
care & health



★ EVERY DAY COUNTS! ★

— Why Attendance Matters —

EXCELLENT ATTENDANCE

96% – 100%

- ✓ You are giving yourself the best chance to succeed
- ✓ You keep up with learning every day
- ✓ You build strong friendships and routines

Missing only **7 days** or fewer across the whole year

CAUSE FOR CONCERN

90% – 95%

- ⚠ You may start to fall behind in lessons
- ⚠ Important learning may be missed
- ⚠ Catching up becomes harder

Missing around **10–19** school days per year

How do YOU measure up?

Acosente	Days	Weeks	Lessons
96%+	7 Days	1,5 Weeks	35 Lessons
95%	9 Days	2 Weeks	50 Lessons
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks	100 Lessons
85%	29 Days	6 Weeks	150 Lessons
80%	39 Days	7,5 Weeks	200 Lessons
70%	57 Days	11,5 Weeks	250 Lessons
Below 70%	67 Days	13,5 Weeks	240 Lessons

Did You Know?

Missing just **2 days** a month means:

- ✗ **20** days missed in a year
- ✗ Nearly **4 weeks** of learning lost

At Barrs Court Primary School we aim for:

At least 96% attendance for every pupil

- ★ Every lesson matters
- ★ Every child matters
- ★ Every day counts



Because:

- ✓ Every lesson matters
- ✓ Every child matters
- ✓ Every day counts

♥ Together we can help every child succeed!

Barrs Court Primary School