

BARRS COURT NEWSLETTER



01454 867799

enquiries@barrscourtps.org.uk

week 1

The first full week of term has been a wonderful and positive start to the year. Our new Reception children have settled in beautifully, quickly becoming familiar with their classroom, teachers and the daily routines that help them feel secure and ready to learn. They have already begun to get into the swing of school life, exploring new activities, joining in with learning and showing great curiosity about the world around them.

Across the school, it has been a pleasure to see pupils forming new friendships while continuing to nurture the ones they already had. The sense of community has been clear in every classroom, with children supporting one another, showing kindness and demonstrating real pride in being part of our school.

This week has also been filled with exciting experiences. Red Area enjoyed a fantastic Mad Hatter's Tea Party, complete with a full range of colourful hats. Meanwhile, Green Area have made a brilliant start to their swimming sessions, showing confidence and enthusiasm in the pool.

Staff have been impressed by how confidently pupils have approached the new term. From Reception to Year 6, children have shown our school values in action and enthusiasm for learning. Their positive attitudes have set a fantastic tone for the weeks ahead.

Have good weekend.



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.

Dates for the diary

- **Wednesday 16th September** - SEND Parents' Evening (invitation via Arbor)
- **Monday 28th September – Wednesday 30 September** – Book Fair Tuesday 29 September
- **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



Thank you for your patience whilst we continue to have issues with the booking & payment system for school dinners via the Arbor Parent Portal. The office team have had numerous meetings with the Arbor Support Team over the last week who now fully understand the issues that both our parent community and the office team are experiencing. The issue appears to be more complex than originally thought and there is a team of engineers working on the issue as we speak. Arbor are regularly communicating with the office team and they are confident that the matter will be resolved by the end of next week. We very much hope that this will be the case.

In the meantime, parents/carers are asked to continue to email the office with lunch choices ONLY if you are unable to book them via the Arbor Parent Portal. We would prefer the menu choices in this way to reduce the queues at the office hatch each day and so that the office team can work on these over the course of the morning. If any child does not have a meal booked, we ensure that they are given a meal at lunchtime and then update the Arbor portal to reflect their choice.

As soon as we have an update from Arbor, we will communicate this to the parents/carers and thank you once again for your continued patience with this long-standing issue.

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!



EVERY MINUTE COUNTS!



SCHOOL STARTS AT **8:45AM**

BEING ON TIME HELPS CHILDREN:



Be ready to learn



Start the day calmly
and confidently



Know what is
happening that day



Develop good habits
for the future

PLEASE REMEMBER:



Arrive in school
before **8:45am**



Make sure children have
everything they need
for the day



Aim to arrive a few
minutes early to
avoid rushing

DID YOU KNOW?

Missing just **10 minutes** each day adds up to:



50

minutes
a week



Over
30

hours of
learning each year

*Thank you for your support in helping
every child achieve their best.*

**BE HERE, BE READY,
BE LEARNING BY 8:45AM!**

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



Music Opportunities



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



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?

Attendance	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



Because:

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

At Barrs Court Primary School we aim for:

At least 96% attendance for every pupil

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

♥ Together we can help every child succeed!

Barrs Court Primary School