

Newsletter

2023 - 2024 : Term 5

It is with great pleasure that I share with you the fantastic achievements and events that have taken place at our school during this term.

Firstly, I would like to commend the exceptional efforts of our Year 6 students who participated in the SATs examinations. Their dedication and hard work truly paid off, and they have made us all incredibly proud.

Furthermore, our Year 5 and 6 students had the invaluable opportunity to attend a workshop that aimed to educate them about the dangers of knife crime. The workshop leaders were highly impressed with the maturity and responsiveness displayed by our students, which is a testament to the values instilled in them by our dedicated teaching staff.

It is with great pride that I highlight the remarkable accomplishments of our Year 3 students, who continue to impress us with their Global Citizenship projects. Their recent exhibition on plastic waste in the oceans and their trip to Morrison's to explore foods containing palm oil have demonstrated their commitment to environmental awareness and sustainability. Ms Gomes also leads a dedicated group of Year 6 Global Scholars who are planning their creative Community Action Project in communication with their peers from all around the world.

Mrs. Seddon's new lunchtime line dancing club is a joy to see. The students have embraced this opportunity with enthusiasm, learning the iconic dance moves to the disco classic "Saturday Night Fever." The positive feedback received for our Karate Club has been truly heartening. It is gratifying to see our students progressing through their awards and developing discipline and focus through the practise of karate. Year 2 students have been enjoying their weekly karate sessions immensely and have taken to it like ducks to water!

Our Everybody Read event was a resounding success, with an overwhelming attendance from our community. This event not only fostered a love for reading but also brought us together as a united front in support of literacy.

I must express my profound pride in our Year 6 students who represented our school with distinction in the television show about British Sign Language (BSL) on BBC. Their poise and professionalism were truly remarkable, and they have set an exemplary standard for their peers.

Finally, I would like to extend congratulations to Daniel from Year 3 and Joshua from Year 4, who led an assembly on the iconic band, The Beatles. Their enthusiasm and dedication to sharing their knowledge with their peers is truly commendable.

As we conclude this term, I am filled with a sense of accomplishment and gratitude for the collective efforts of our students, staff, and community. The sponsored Fishponds to Paris run was a testament to our resilience and commitment to achieving our goals and wanting to provide the best playtime equipment possible for all the children to enjoy. I can't thank you all - and especially the dedication of FOFA - enough!

Michelle Omoboni
Headteacher

Year 5 Enterprise Day

This week, year 5 have had enterprise week. They started with a session of market research to understand the features of board games. Following this, they designed and made their own unique board games (instructions and all) before using focus groups to get feedback on their products.

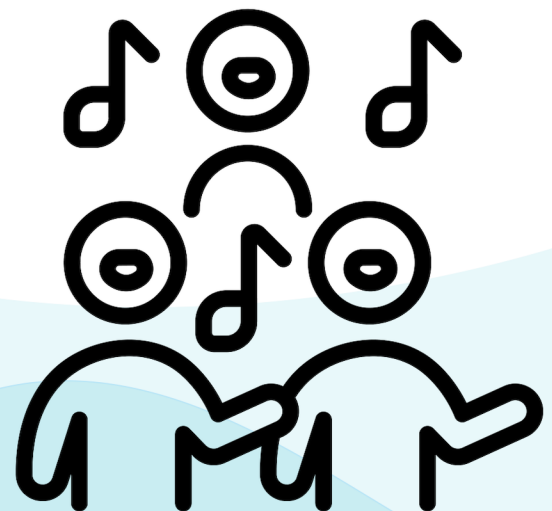
Our articulate year group then delivered their planned pitches to one of our school governors who was incredibly impressed with their confidence while speaking.

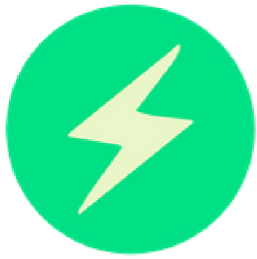


Year 3 and 4 Choir

This term the Year 3 and 4 choir has been working towards their upcoming performance as part of the Bristol Beacon's 'Big Summer Sing'. Lots of local Bristol schools are coming together to put on a spectacular performance of a variety of songs all inspired by the Olympics which will be taking place in Paris over the summer. This event is open to the public so it would be lovely to see as many of you there as possible. The tickets are yet to go on sale but a message will be put on Dojo as soon as the site is live. We look forward to seeing your friendly faces in the audience supporting our wonderful singers.

The Year 3 and 4 choir will also be performing at 'Party in the Ponds' on Saturday 22nd June 2024 at approximately 12:30. This is a great opportunity to show our brilliant singing to the community. Again, we look forward to seeing many of you at the event.





SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD

Smartphone Free Childhood is a grassroots movement aiming to change the norm around when parents buy smartphones for their children. In Britain today, 24% of 5-7 year olds now own a smartphone, by 12, 97% do. When parents first started giving smartphones to their children, we didn't know the impact they would have. Now, the evidence is clear and we need to act. Research has shown that the younger a child gets a smartphone, the worse their mental health will be.

We are calling for parents, schools, government and tech companies to come together and change the norm around when children receive smartphones. We believe smartphones with unrestricted internet access and social media are not suitable for children under 16 - a simple 'brick phone' does everything a child needs.

For further information, please have a look at the SmartPhone Free Childhood (SFC) [website](#).

At Fishponds CE Academy, we are interested in hearing your views on this. Please [complete our survey](#) to let us know what you think!



**Greet your child
with a smile
and
not a mobile!**

One thing we'd like to support immediately is the power of after school talk. Children whose adults discuss the learning of the day with their child become much greater at internalising their learning and often go on to show better learning behaviours. We understand that everyone is busy these days and a mobile makes us constantly available but we are asking that, when you pick your child up after school, you try not to be talking on a mobile phone so that you have the time to smile your greeting and talk to your child about their school day. Doing this shows your child that you are interested in their learning

Year 3

Year 3 really enjoyed researching, designing, sculpting and decorating their own ancient Greek clay pots this term. We learnt about the patterns and colours that the ancient Greeks used and applied these to our own clay pots.



Year 6

Congratulations to our incredible Year 6 pupils for completing their SATs! Their resilience and determination throughout this challenging period was noticed by lots of staff. We couldn't be more proud of their hard work and dedication. We know you will all be eagerly anticipating your children's results - these will be issued in the end-of-year school reports which are due out on Friday 12th July. .

We celebrated the end of the SATs milestone with a memorable trip to Vassalls Park. Many thanks to all the supportive parents who contributed to the success of this trip. Your support and positivity was integral to making the trip a resounding triumph.



Culture Week 2024!

Monday 17th June - Friday 21st June

**After the success of last year's culture week, it is coming back!
The organising and countdown begins!**

If you are available to volunteer to speak to children about your culture, please get in contact with the office or Miss Knowles.



I was very impressed with how engaged the children were when I came to talk.

-Parent



My favourite part was learning about the Irish culture.

-Pupil

You might...

- Create a PowerPoint
- Read the children a book
- Show them some objects
- Teach them some of your language
- Sing/teach us a song
- Tell us about a special festival
- Show us some art
- Tell us about your traditions



I liked learning about the culture in Pakistan. *-Pupil*

Food Festival 2024!

Thursday 20th June

The culture week was so fun. My favourite part was the food festival. -Pupil



Back by popular demand!

Since we had such an overwhelming, brilliant turn out for last year's Food Festival, we are organising another! It could not have taken place without all the amazing parent volunteers so please volunteer to cook up a dish and serve our amazing school community.

Can you provide a dish for our annual Food Festival?

Please complete the form by following the link or QR code.

<https://forms.office.com/e/bSWVCJCdef>

If you cannot do this, please contact the office or Miss Knowles



A message from FOFA:

For anyone willing to cook up a dish, please also later provide the recipe you have used. We will gather these together to make a Fishponds Academy Cookbook!

The Food Festival, which had delicious dishes from all over the world, was a fantastic event. It allowed children and adults to try a huge variety of authentic foods from different cultures. -Parent



Everybody Read!

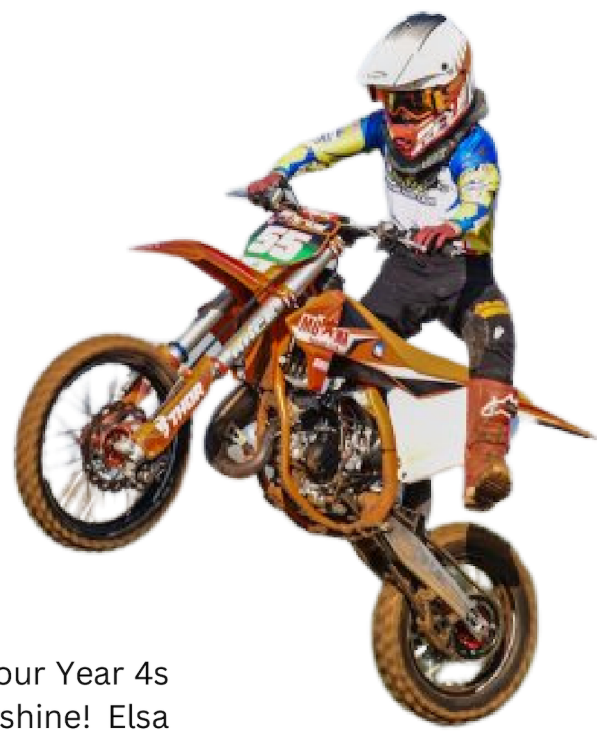
Thank you so much to all the families who attended our Everybody Read session in Week 5. The school was buzzing with excitement and amazing reading happening. The children were so delighted to welcome their parents into school to show off all the amazing progress they have made in reading and to share stories. For those who did not have a parent able to attend, our amazing staff gave up their time to come and show their support and lots of parents shared their time and attention with other children too which was really appreciated. The session has received lots of positive feedback so we will be looking to repeat the event in Term 6. Thanks again to all who came!



CONGRATULATIONS

We have so many things to be grateful for at Fishponds CE Academy and also a great deal of talent!

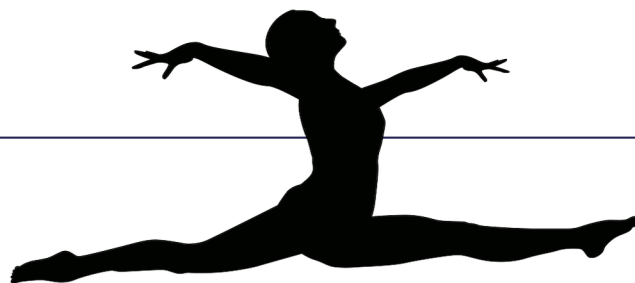
Year 6 are shining non-stop this Spring. As well as impressing us all with their approach to their SATs tests a couple of weeks ago, they continue to stun us with their amazing writing. The whole year group have not taken the brakes off at all as their Writing SATs continue into June. All staff have been deeply impressed with their writing and the Year 6 are so proud that they're keen to show us all. In addition to their scholarly authorship, they also managed to appear in May's Fishponds Voice and Bristol 247! The articles about the British Sign Language show on BBC that Year 6 took part in were so complimentary of the children.



Not to be outdone by Year 6, our Year 4s are also letting their talents shine! Elsa has been selected to dance with her Dance Troop to dance at Disneyland, Paris during the half term break and Michelle has been selected for Bristol's talented Youth Choir. On top of this, Blake continues to excel in his motor sport, achieving amazingly well - one of the top in the country for his age-range!



After School Clubs



Premier Sports

Term 6 Premier After School Clubs:

What to bring: Plenty of water, suitable clothing for the weather and activity & shin pads for football sessions.

Dates, Times, Activities & Year Group:

Monday 3rd June - 15th July 3:30pm - 4:30pm GIRLS FOOTBALL (Year 3-6)

Tuesday 4th June - 16th July 3:30pm - 4:30pm GYMNASTICS (Year 3-6)

Wednesday 5th June - 17th July 3:30pm - 4:30pm FOOTBALL (Year Reception - Year 2)

Thursday 6th June - 18th July 3:30pm - 4:30pm FOOTBALL (Year 3 & 4)

Thursday 6th June - 18th July 3:30pm - 4:30pm FENCING & ARCHERY (Year 1-6)

Friday 7th June - 19th July 3:30pm - 4:30pm FOOTBALL (Year 5 & 6)

Friday 7th June - 19th July 3:30pm - 4:30pm GYMNASTICS (Year Reception - Year 2)

Price: £34.65 Per club

How to book:

Bookings must be made online and in advance please do not turn up on the day without booking. We will require a minimum of 12 bookings per club. If children are not booked on via the website there will be an extra £5 charge.

Please make sure your child is collected promptly from your booking time we reserve the right to charge a fee of £5 per quarter of an hour in the event of pick up after these times given.

If you have any queries then please do not hesitate to contact Jon via jbroadbear@premier-education.com

Karate Club

Our popular Karate Club will continue to run every Wednesday during Term 6. Please let us know if your child is interested in joining!

Keep your eyes peeled for some exciting Karate Club news!



What's on Next Term

Week 1	Wednesday 5th June - RSE Drop-in Friday 7th June - Reception Height & Weight Screening Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check
Week 2	Year 1 - Phonics Screening Check
Week 3	Culture Week! Tuesday 18th June - Salmon Class visit Clifton Suspension Bridge
Week 4	Saturday 22nd June - Years 3 & 4 choir sing at 'Party on the Pond' Tuesday 25th June - Reception, Reef and Year 1 Sports Day Wednesday 26th June - Year 3 - 6 Sports Day Friday 28th June - Years 3 & 4 choir perform at Bristol Beacon
Week 5	Monday 1st July from 2.45 - end of day - Everybody Read! Wednesday 3rd July - 'Shuffle up Day' Friday 5th July - FoFA Summer BBQ
Week 6	Tuesday 9th July - Year 6 Play Wednesday 10th July - Reception End of Year Picnic Friday 12th July - End of Year Reports Issued
Week 7	Friday 19th July - Last day of term! Friday 19th July - Non-uniform Day & FoFA fundraiser



Our school lunch menu can be found on our [website](#). We will be starting term 6 on week 1.

2023 - 2024 Term Dates

Term 1	Friday 1st September 2023 - Friday 20th October 2023 Inset Days - Friday 1st September and Monday 4th September
Term 2	Monday 30th October 2023 - Friday 15th December 2023 Inset Day - Monday 30th October
Term 3	Tuesday 2nd January 2024 - Friday 9th February 2024 Inset Day - Tuesday 2nd January
Term 4	Monday 19th February 2024 - Thursday 28th March 2024
Term 5	Monday 15th April 2024 - Friday 24th May 2024
Term 6	Monday 3rd June 2024 - Tuesday 23rd July 2024 Inset Days - Monday 22nd July and Tuesday 23rd July



2024 – 2025 Term Dates

Term 1	Monday 2nd September - Friday 25th October 2024 Inset Days - Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd September 2024
Term 2	Monday 4th November 2024 - Friday 20th December 2024 Inset Day - Monday 4th November 2025
Term 3	Monday 6th January 2025 - Friday 14th February 2025 Inset Day - Monday 6th January 2025
Term 4	Monday 24th February 2025 - Friday 4th April 2025
Term 5	Tuesday 22nd April 2025 - Friday 23rd May 2025 Bank Holidays - Monday 21st April 2025 and Monday 5th May 2025
Term 6	Monday 2nd June 2025 - Friday 18th July 2025 Inset Days - Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd July 2025

Please note, pending our transfer to another Trust, Inset Days may be subject to change.