



NEWSLETTER

Happy Friday!

Pupil Power!

Congratulations to Abigail in Year 5 who has seen an issue and committed herself to bringing about change. She has written to local councillors to try and get a playground installed on the land next to Gaywood House and they have replied to say they interested in hearing more about her ideas. Her letter was brilliant, with some very persuasive points about the proximity of the bus stop and the fact that there are not other public spaces near to the area.

Abigail has been asking the children for their ideas to pass on and, although the councillors have explained that these things take time to bring to fruition, we are all very hopeful that at some point in the future Abigail's vision will become a reality.

In the meantime though, well done to Abigail for having the imagination and courage to start this conversation.

Lateness

Please can you keep making an effort to ensure your child is in school on time? We have noticed that particularly at Merrywood, there has been an increase in persistent lateness, with up to 15 children every day arriving after the gates are closed.

Late marks are looked at as part of our monitoring of attendance and so it is really important that children are here in time to lead into school with their class at 8.45 (Merrywood) and 8.55 (Myrtle) at the latest.

Handfuls of Harmony

There will be no after school rehearsal on Monday 13th May due to the whole choir rehearsal taking place at Ashton Gate Primary school on Wednesday 15th May 4:00pm-5:15pm. Please drop your child off and pick up at the Ashton Gate school office and Miss Munnings will be there during the rehearsal.

The choir have another opportunity to perform with the adult choir at our the PTA Spring fair on Saturday 18th May. Ali and Julia will be leading the choir in a warm-up performance and invite any children of the choir to come along. Miss Munnings is unable to attend, so please stay with the children until the end of the performance. The choir will gather at 2:45pm, ready to perform at 3pm. This performance will be around 30 minutes long.

Performance details

The tickets are now available to purchase from the school office and are priced at £6 adults/£2 children. Please bring the exact money as the office will be unable to give change. Remember to wear any combination of red, orange, purple or black, plain without patterns. The performance begins at 4pm at Ashton Park secondary school, however the children will need to be dropped off at 2:45pm to practice beforehand.

For any questions, feel free to come by Honeybee class to speak with Miss Munnings, or email for her attention.

Shine Bookings - a Reminder

When booking your child into Shine's after school provision, please carefully check the time of the slot you are booking. On several occasions recently children have been booked in for the later session by mistake and Shine are not able to take children who are not pre-booked so they end up sitting in the foyer, with us having to find a member of staff to keep an eye on them. It's not ideal for anyone so please check the time when booking and also double check your confirmation email to ensure it is correct. Many thanks.

Pond Life Survey

A parent thoughtfully shared this link to a project asking for people to take samples of ponds life in cities such as Bristol.

[GenePools | Natural History Museum \(nhm.ac.uk\)](https://www.nhm.ac.uk/gene-pools)

Uniform Policy

Last Summer we published an updated uniform policy which contained a few changes. At the time, we were mindful that some parents and carers would have already bought items so we phased the policy in, with it coming into full effect from September 2024.

Thank you for the steps you have already taken to follow this policy in full. This is just a reminder that when you are buying uniform items for next year, the following applies:

Classroom Wear

- Red school sweatshirts, cardigans, hoodies or zipped long sleeved top (plain or with school badge)
- White or red polo shirts (plain or with school badge)
- Dark grey or black shorts, trousers, skirts, skorts or pinafore dresses
- Plain grey, black or red tights
- Plain white, grey or black socks
- Black flat shoes or plain black trainers (with no additional colours or markings)
- Closed toe sandals (with a fastening around the heel)

- Red gingham dresses, shorts or playsuits

Available from Monkhouse (Bedminster branch):

- Sweatshirts, hoodies, cardigans and polo shirts with school badge on front
- Book bags

Where hairbands are worn, they should be plain red, white or black and no wider than 5cms. Flowers, bows or other accessories are not permitted. Hairclips should be plain. Scarves or other head coverings are allowed for religious/cultural reasons only.

PE Kit

- Plain black daps, plimsolls or trainers (an age-appropriate fastening helps to ensure children are as independent as possible)
- Black shorts and white or red polo shirt or t-shirt*
- Black tracksuit/jogging trousers or leggings and a warm black, grey or red top for outdoor PE in the winter

Please note that coloured t-shirts other than red or white will no longer be allowed for PE.

PE Days

On days when a child has PE, they will still be allowed to wear their PE kit to school for the day rather than getting changed specifically for the lesson. This is to maximise curriculum time and reduce lost property.

One of the reasons we have introduced the option of plain black trainers as an alternative to school shoes is so that they can be worn five days a week and therefore reduce the expense associated with having one pair of shoes for PE days and another for other days.

This means that a child could wear the same top(s) and plain black trainers every day of the week, with the only difference on PE days being what they are wearing on their lower half.

You can read the full policy

here: <https://www.southville.bristol.sch.uk/media/1886/uniform-approved-18723.pdf>

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

Have a lovely weekend - has summer finally arrived..?! Andy Bowman