



NEWSLETTER

Happy Friday!

Changes to the start and end of the Myrtle school day

When our school expanded to include the second site in Myrtle Street, the start and end times of the day were staggered to help with the movement between the sites. This means that the Myrtle day is slightly shorter than the Merrywood day.

From September, all schools are expected to offer a school day long enough to total 32.5 hours of school time per week and the Myrtle hours currently fall slightly short of this.

Currently the times are staggered to encourage a Merrywood drop-off first, however the changes we are proposing would mean that if it is more convenient for you to drop your key stage 2 child off at Myrtle first you are able to do so.

The changes we are proposing relate only to the Myrtle site. All Merrywood timings will remain the same.

From September, we are proposing that the times will be:

Morning times on both sites:

Gates open at 8.35

Children are taken to class at 8.45

The day officially starts at 8.50

The children will be supervised on the playground from 8.35, enabling you to drop them off and continue to the other site with a sibling if required. Nursery will continue to run from 9am to 3pm.

Afternoon at Myrtle:

Children will be released at 3.20

The side gate for Year 3 and Year 4 will open at 3.15 to allow a prompt pick-up.

Afternoon at Merrywood (no change):

Children released at 3.30.

We feel that this will not only mean we are in line with the new guidance, but it will also provide you with more flexibility in the morning to drop off in whichever order suits you. However, we would like to hear your feedback on this whether positive or negative and would be grateful if you could spend a minute completing this short survey:

<https://forms.gle/QZJ6GmyqW1ZWB7Ub7>

Ashton Park Sports Partnership Cricket Leagues

Over the past 4 weeks, our Year 5 and 6 Southville cricketers have been taking part in the APSP cricket leagues at Bedminster Cricket Ground. Our 3 teams, who have also been taking part in weekly lunchtime sessions to help perfect their craft, all performed to a really high standard as they showcased and developed their batting, bowling and fielding skills across the weeks.

At the conclusion of all of the leagues, it was our Southville 'Spirit' team that made it through to the semi-finals stages. The team absolutely blew the opposing St. Peters team away and ended up winning by 60 runs, which meant they would go onto face Headley Park in the grand final.

Our cricketers didn't let the grand stage phase them, with some superb bowling and batting on display meaning that Southville won the final by 40 runs. A massive congratulations to Southville 'Spirit' on their fantastic result!

Well done also to our Southville 'Sabres' and 'Sonics' who really impressed with how far their cricketing skills had developed during the event and hopefully this is another sport that they continue to pursue over the summer months.

Mr. Rogers

Amazon Wishlist - a message from our Chair of Governors

Thank you so much to all of the parents and carers that have already purchased items from the new Southville Amazon Wishlist (<https://amzn.eu/1XtPtSo>). The response to it has been amazing!

It seems that my email yesterday did, though, cause some confusion about how contributions to the Wishlist fit with the fundraising activities of the PTA. In short, they are completely separate with different objectives. For those of you that would like a bit more of an in depth explanation, please read on!

The school's governors are responsible for oversight of the school's budget; how the school uses the funds allocated by the government that are intended to cover all of the

costs of keeping the school operating on a day to day basis. This is what the Amazon Wishlist is intended to support - by minimising what the school spends on the school's stationery budget line, we can divert some of those funds to cover other essential costs, such as energy costs. You may be surprised to learn that out of our funding of over £3.5 million, we are only able to allocate £2,000 to purchasing new books this year (and frankly, we're lucky to be able to do that).

As governors we massively appreciate all of the fundraising efforts of the PTA over the school year. Many don't realise that the PTA is in fact a standalone charity that has as its sole purpose the provision of enrichment to all pupils at the school, over and above the day to day education that the school can otherwise provide. The PTA has the enviable role of providing funding for those amazing items (playground equipment and the Myrtle library being just two examples) and activities for the children (such as Christmas theatre tickets) that would be completely impossible to meet from the school's budget alone. The PTA's constitution does not allow it to support the day to day running costs of the school, and governors wouldn't want it to, otherwise the children would lose out.

We truly appreciate that parents and carers already donate significant sums to the PTA. Any additional contributions to the Wishlist are completely voluntary, but very gratefully received.

Thank you once again,

Jen Gibson

IEP Parent Survey

Last week I mentioned this short survey to gather your feedback on our IEP process. Thank you if you have responded already. If you are yet to respond and an IEP is in place for your child, I would be really grateful if you could spend 5 minutes giving your feedback. We have extended the survey until 20th June. Thank you in advance for your help with this.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1gE076CytDJ8ci7m0qZsPjQva7eO_EcGch5Nsn-l3z8l/edit

Year 3-6 author visit

Just a reminder that bestselling author Sam Sedgman will be coming to Southville Primary on 1st July to talk about his new book **The Clockwork Conspiracy**. Sam is the co-author of the hugely popular **Adventures on Trains** series (written with M.G Leonard), and his new book is full of intrigue and adventure. His school events are hugely fun and energetic, packed full of writing inspiration (and some nerdy clock/ time facts)! If you would like to pre-order a copy of Sam's book from Storysmith bookshop you can follow the link below, and Sam will be able to sign your copy on the day of the event.

Please place your order by Friday 21st June, and please make sure to include the pupil name and class when you check out. A copy of his book will also be donated to the school library.

storysmithbooks.com/sam-sedgman-southville

Sing Up with Pride

Just to give you advanced notice, this year we will again be holding our *Sing Up with Pride* event, to coincide with Bristol Pride on 13th July.

On Friday 12th July we will be walking Year 1 and 2 down the hill to Myrtle where they will join with years 3 to 6 for a singing festival before having a shared playtime.

The theme will be 'being proud of who I am, how I look and who I love' and we would like to invite the children to come to school wearing rainbow colours for the day.

Eid

With Eid due to begin on Sunday, Eid Mubarak to you if you are celebrating.

Have a lovely weekend, Andy Bowman