
ST URSULA'S E-ACT ACADEMY
ACHIEVE, BELIEVE
CREATE

Dear parents/carers,

Another incredibly busy week has just ended. The week started with the choir performing for the second time on Monday afternoon at Westbury-on-Trym Methodist church. Once more they were a huge credit to themselves and the school.

Then we had two performances from our after-school panto club. The children who performed ranged from year 1 to year 5. They performed with great gusto and the dance moves displayed were a sight to behold! A huge well done to the children and a massive thank you to the parents/carers attending their two performances as well as a special thank you to Mrs. Semple and Miss Rachael Jones for all their hard work in organising these performances.

Reception and year one children performed their nativity on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon. They were absolutely brilliant and a reminder of why working in a primary school at Christmas time is a truly magical time and a huge privilege. Thank you to the reception and year one teaching staff as well as to parents/carers for supplying costumes and of course attending the performances.

The week ended with half the school going to the Hippodrome on Thursday and the other half on Friday. From the sounds of laughter and gasps coming from both children and adults, it was clear that everyone had a great

time. Thank you to all the volunteers that came along with us to make sure everything went according to plan; your help was much appreciated.

The last week of term will involve the whole school (on Tuesday in three different slots) walking to St. Peters Church to show off their singing to parents/carers. Wednesday is the school Christmas dinner day and children can come to school that day wearing Christmas Jumpers/non-school uniform.

Please see the piece in the Bristol Post recently – see link below - showing St. Ursula's in the top 10 for year 6 SATs results which, while it is a fantastic achievement, is not a surprise considering the hard work of the year 6 team and children last year. At the moment the year 6 team are meeting with parents/carers to talk about the actions being put in place currently and for term 3 onwards to ensure that the current year 6 children also achieve their potential. Mr. Milum and Ms Johnston have met with most parents and Miss Tingley is meeting parents on Monday (17th). Any year 6 parent/carer who hasn't yet managed to meet with a year 6 teacher please arrange an appointment for a time convenient to you.

The link below also mentions the most improved school in Bristol. This is an E-ACT Academy by the name of Perry Court. I taught in year 6 in Perry Court last year when I was there as Upper Key Stage 2 Phase Lead and Lead Practitioner alongside a lady by the name of Fliss Hawkins.

I look forward to seeing many of you at St. Peters Church and thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Nicky Reynolds,

Deputy Headteacher

Class News

Reception

Wow! What a week for Reception Children... We have been so so proud of the children this week. On Tuesday and Wednesday the children performed their Nativity story to parents and grandparents, the hall was packed on both days and the children rose to the occasion, projecting their voices well and performing their very best shows ever, well done! It certainly got us in the Christmas spirit.

Following these two exciting days we then had their first school trip, to the Hippodrome to watch the Panto, we were really impressed with how well the children listened and followed instructions which made sure that the trip ran as smoothly as possible. A huge thank you to all our parent helpers, who helped support the children too. The show was very funny and we enjoyed having a dance at the end too! We've used all these exciting experiences to inspire our writing this week and have been practising and revising our phonic sounds and focusing on segmenting words to spell.



Year One

We have had an exciting week performing our Christmas show with reception. We have all worked really hard learning our songs and had great fun dressing up and performing to our parents.

All the children behaved exceptionally well on our trip to the pantomime. We loved watching the show 'Cinderella' and eating ice cream during the interval! As well as all these exciting Christmas events we have been working hard learning our systematic number bonds to 10 in maths.

In English we particularly enjoyed writing about our trip to theatre. We tried to remember to order the events correctly and check and edit our work when we finished.

Year Two

We have had a fantastic week in Year 2. Last week, we were very lucky to have P.C. Manning from Avon and Somerset Police come and visit us with a marked police vehicle. She gave the children a brilliant talk about night time safety and answered the many questions that they had. Some of the children's highlights were shining a torch on her reflective jacket, trying to take the radio (walkie talkie) from her uniform and seeing Mr Philip in handcuffs!

We are so proud of the year group and their behaviour during our school trip to the Hippodrome on Thursday. Despite some classes being split between different coaches, the children were very responsible and their listening was superb. We'd also like to give a huge thanks to the volunteer helpers and all of those who offered their support. Those who came with us were amazing and really helped for things to run smoothly and for the children to enjoy their afternoon out.

In Maths we have been learning about 2D shapes. We have discussed the names of lots of 2D shapes including nonagons and decagons. We have focused on identifying sides and vertices and have also looked at lines of symmetry within shapes.

After familiarising with our instruction text 'How To Care For A Badger' and learning about the features of instructions, the children innovated the text and created their own sets of instructions. They did a great job at applying the features in their own writing and produced some very impressive pieces of writing.



Year Three

Year 3 have had a great week. We have been creating our very own plays in literacy which have been fantastic! The children have thoroughly enjoyed performing them. The Children's behaviour at the Panto was brilliant and everyone enjoyed the visit. Thank you to all the parents who accompanied us!

Year 4

Year 4 had a wonderful time at the pantomime last week! Thank you to our super parent helpers.

In English, we focussed on handwriting and editing skills while creating a persuasive text about European countries. It's great to have seen such amazing improvements in presentation this week - well done!

In maths, we have now finished our addition and subtraction unit and have started working on measure.

Year Five

Last week year 5 worked on time intervals in maths and in English innovated the story of the Hero twins.

In art we sketched portraits of Frida Kahlo and are now painting them on canvas and in topic lessons children enjoyed making and eating salsa and flat bread. They've had a great week.

Year Six

Last week year 6 focussed on the use of imperative verbs, prepositions, adverbials of time, colons and semi-colons within our instruction writing.

In maths we focused on all four operations involving mixed and improper fractions.

We finished off our week with an exciting trip to the Hippodrome.



Wednesday 12th December saw our year 5 and 6 girls travel to Charborough Road for a friendly netball fixture. The girls were full of confidence as they remain undefeated and sit at the top of the North Bristol Netball League. The game was played in a “High 5 Style” which allowed the girls to experience playing in a variety of positions. From the second the match started each of the girls showed their class. Within a couple of plays

they found themselves one goal ahead after some quick, accurate passes and fantastic movement into space. From that moment onwards, it was clear the girls meant business. Continuous work rate and energy in both attack and defence saw them take a very convincing lead. Our defensive display and continuous player marking restricted Charborough to only one score. The fixture was a fantastic display of the sporting talent within the school and shows that the future is very bright for St Ursula's sport. Well done to all involved!

P.E. coach Ollie Philip.

Messages

Should a parent/carer have an issue or concern about anything at all please let the office know. The email address is: ReceptionURS@E-ACT.org.uk The office will forward emails received to the appropriate member of staff.

Thanks from the PTFA

Thank you to all the parents for their raffle donations. Thank you also to the following local businesses:

Beauty by Emilia
WOT Archery
Bristol Bears
Three Little Peas
Bertoldi Tailoring
Wai Yee Hong
Little Jo Sews
Savage Creations
Whipped Treats & Sweets (Samantha award)
Narinder Singh
Bought With Thought
And MANY more!

Thank you! The PTFA

Kids Kung Fu Club – St Ursula's E-ACT Academy (Year 1 to 4)

Tuesdays (08:00 - 08:50) from 8th January 2019 until 2nd April 2019 (excluding 19th February 2019). The price for all sessions booked as a block is: £60.00 (12 sessions)

To book, please contact Sifu Kee via: citygongfu@gmail.com

Christmas Post Box

Children can use the school's Christmas post box to send cards to children in other classes. As well as putting the recipient's name on the envelope they'll need to remember to put the class name.

Children Who Arrive Late

Children who arrive late to school (currently 9:01am onwards) must be accompanied by an adult to the office where they will be signed in.

Medication

Medication (including calpol) shouldn't be kept in your child's school bag, it must be handed into the office.

E-Safety Week 3

Children growing up today are digital natives. They have a wide range of competences and skills that they have developed from an early age. Research shows that the preferred form of technology is a tablet. Children's play and creativity can be fostered by apps, but this very much depends on the design of the apps, in addition to the personality and interests

of individual children. However, some of the most popular apps provide limited opportunities for play and creativity and are not age appropriate.

On mobiles, smartphones and tablets children are able to:

- Use GPS
- Access the internet using 3G and 4G
- Sending and receiving photos and videos
- Using instant messaging (BBM, WhatsApp, iMessage)
- Sharing phone numbers
- Using apps and making purchases from them

Apps work in a different way to websites. Many apps cost money and some are free of charge. However 'free' apps can still make money from users very easily through in-app purchases. Apps will always have terms and conditions but it is surprising what we are giving some of these apps access to. It is worth checking what information apps would like to access. Some apps request access to contacts, access to your microphone or camera, location, etc.

Please have discussions with your children about downloaded apps and discuss what granting an app permission means.

History Club

'The history club will be starting back on 14th January. Please contact Mr Swan if you would like to book your child to history club. All bookings and money will have to go directly to him'

The Travelling History Company



Heritage for Enquiring Minds

The Travelling History Company is based in Stoke Bishop and provides amazing after school hands-on history designed to be fun, experiential, immersive, inspirational and to surreptitiously educate children. We are delighted to be continuing our History Club at St. Ursula's on a Monday afternoon from term 3.

We take an archaeological approach to our history, exploring the past through artefacts and primary source materials - real objects and people who were there at the time. From Lower Palaeolithic hand axes to Georgian coins, all our resources have a story to tell. One week we may be conducting some experimental archaeology, another exploring the life of a Bronze Age arrowhead. From Westbury on Trym to ancient China, our themes are broad and often determined by the students themselves



The cost is £5.00 per session, for further information or to book a place, please contact us on:

js@thetravellinghistorycompany.com or 07871128430

www.thetravellinghistorycompany.com





Did you know 1 in 3 Primary aged children will know someone living with Dementia?

That's why St Ursula's are working with Sally Townsend, a Community Education Development Co-ordinator from the Alzheimer's Society, to educate children about Dementia and the simple things they can do to support those living with Dementia.

Last year we were lucky enough to have Sally deliver assemblies and workshops to children in Early Years, Key Stage One and Year Six. In term 3 we are delighted to be able to offer the same opportunities for children in years four to six. Alongside this opportunity for children **we would like to invite Parents to come along to a Dementia Friends Workshop** run by Sally. These workshops will be held at St Ursula's on **Monday 21st January at 2.00pm** and **Friday 25th January at 9.00am** and will last for around 1 hour.

The aim of the workshops is to raise awareness and develop and understanding of Dementia along with finding out what your children have been learning. The spaces in the workshops will be limited but if the demand is high we can arrange additional dates. Please contact Sally directly on **Sally.Townsend@alzheimers.org.uk** to book your space.

Key Dates

Monday 17th December	
Tuesday 18th December	9.30: EYFS, Y1 and Y2 Carol concert at St. Peters 11.00: Y3 and Y4 Carol concert at St. Peters 2.00: Y5 and Y6 Carol concert at St. Peters
Wednesday 19th December	Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day (non-uniform)
Friday 21st December	Last day of Term
Monday 7th January	INSET
Tuesday 8h January	Start of term 3.
Thursday 17h January	3:45pm – Meet/chat with Mrs. Reynolds

Community choir aim for download chart success with song celebrating the NHS

A song celebrating the NHS in its 70th year has been released in the charts by a Bristol choir to raise money for their local hospital this Christmas.

'We Are The Same Inside' by 'Melody Makers Choir and Horfield Primary School Choir for the NHS' is available to download on all digital download sites as a pre-order from November 19 and fully available to download from November 30.

Money raised from downloads will be donated to Southmead Hospital Charity to support patients and fund medical research and new equipment at North Bristol NHS Trust.

The 80 strong-choir is made up of people from communities surrounding Southmead Hospital, including many former patients, NHS staff as well as children from Horfield C of E Primary School.

Lead vocalists are Sarah Villaraus, Rebekah Brown and 11-year-old Nathan Hughes, now a pupil at Colston's School.

Composed and written by Melody Makers Choir leader, Natalie Veal with lyric support from choir member Natalie Sital-Singh, 'We Are The Same Inside' captures the ethos of an inclusive and dedicated health service.

Natalie Veal, a choir leader from Henleaze, said she wanted to bring together her love of music with her gratitude for the NHS.

She said: "Every member of the choir - the musicians, the children of Horfield Primary School and myself - have put a lot of love into this song; it's our way of thanking the hospital staff and giving back to our community.

"In writing the song we really thought about what the NHS means to us and the work that NHS staff do.

“We are all hugely excited about the fundraising this will bring to the charity and I’m so proud of the choir’s achievement and their infectious enthusiasm throughout this project.

“We’ve loved singing with the children, who’ve added a sprinkle of magic to our song.”

Melody Makers have been regular and popular performers at Southmead Hospital Charity’s Great Brunel Buskathon events in the summer and at Christmas.

This Christmas the charity is asking everyone to download the song for just 99p on iTunes or across other download sites to support the hospital, its patients and help fund projects that improve the NHS for future generations.

Adrian Brown, corporate and community manager for Southmead Hospital Charity, said: “When Natalie approached us with the idea of releasing a song to raise money we were delighted – it is a unique, creative and inspired way to fundraise and we are so grateful for the time and efforts that everyone involved has dedicated to it.

“The message in the song is a powerful one that really conveys the strength of feeling that people have for the NHS and for its staff.

“We hope everyone in Bristol, and beyond, will download the song this Christmas to celebrate our NHS – it’s a small thing but it can make a big difference to healthcare now and in the future.”

Find out more about the song and watch the video at www.southmeadhospitalcharity.org.uk/song

Download on iTunes or listen on Spotify.

We Are The Same Inside was recorded at St George’s Bristol, BIMM (British and Irish Modern Music Institute) and Invada studios in Bristol. It was produced by Guy Britton, with Natalie Veal on piano, Toby Partridge on drums, guitars by Alex Rudhall and bass guitar by Ed Holland.



LEGO DONATIONS WANTED

Josie is looking for lego for her club, any donations are welcome.

Thank You

Josie is looking for any donations of the following items:

GAMES

TOYS

PUZZLES

BEAN BAGS

CUSHIONS

any donations will be greatly appreciated



Come and join us for some after school fun with friends!

Two sessions per afternoon
1st session 3.30-4.30pm
Two engaging, fun activities to get stuck into.
2nd session 4.30-6.00pm
Wind down and chill out session with healthy snacks provided.

Booking information
Book via: e-act.bookingllive.com
Any queries please email: josie's.club@e-act.org.uk



