



Bisley Blue Coat C of E School

Weekly Newsletter

Term 1 Newsletter Week 8: 19th October 2026

Diary Dates

OCTOBER

19th - Individual and Sibling School Photographs

19th - Parents Evening, 3:30—6.30pm

20th - New Reception Worship with Parents, 2:40pm

21st - Parents Evening, 3:30—4.30pm

21st - Whole School Flu Immunisations

23rd - Start of Half Term

31st - Closing Date for Secondary School Places Applications for September 2026

NOVEMBER

2nd Return to school

5th Class 2 Stroud Book Festival

6th Class 1 Stroud Book Festival

13th Children In Need

A reminder that all diary dates for the school year can be found in the 3-fold calendar we provided you at the end of last academic year. It can also be found on the 'Term Dates' page of our website.



Our value this term is
GENEROSITY



Across the Federation...

As we reach Week 8 of what has certainly felt like a very long half term, it is hard to believe how quickly we have moved from the warmth of summer into the colours and cooler days of autumn. Across Heartwood Federation, the start of the academic year has been incredibly busy and productive, with so much already achieved by our pupils, staff and wider school communities.

It has been a pleasure to welcome new staff and new pupils to our federation schools. They have quickly become valued members of our communities and have embraced life at Upton St Leonards, Bisley Blue Coat and Nailsworth Primary Schools with enthusiasm and positivity. Alongside the daily learning taking place in our classrooms, we have held a number of important events this half term. Thank you to all families who attended our Reception information sessions, Reading workshops and Behaviour information evenings. We hope these opportunities have helped strengthen the partnership between home and school, ensuring that together we can provide the very best support for every child.

This term has also seen many SEND reviews, giving us valuable opportunities to celebrate progress, reflect on individual needs and plan next steps. More recently, our Harvest celebrations have brought our communities together to reflect on gratitude and kindness, and this week's Parents' Evenings will provide an important opportunity to discuss children's successes and development since September.

As always, I would like to thank our staff teams across the federation for their continued dedication and hard work, and to thank parents and carers for your ongoing support. The strength of our schools lies in the partnership between home and school, and we greatly value the role you play in your child's education.

I hope that everyone is able to enjoy a well-deserved and restful half term break. Whether you are spending time with family, getting outdoors, or simply taking the opportunity to slow down, I wish you a happy and refreshing week. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for the second half of the autumn term.

With love ♥

Mrs Broadbent

Executive Headteacher



Message from the Head of School



As we head into the final week before half term, we have another busy and exciting week ahead at Bisley Blue Coat. On Monday, we will be welcoming our school photographer for individual and sibling photographs, and we also look forward to seeing many families at Parents' Evening on Monday and Wednesday. If you have not yet booked an appointment, please do so via EPraise.

We are delighted to welcome our prospective Reception families to a special New Reception Worship at 2:40pm on Tuesday. This is a lovely opportunity where we formally welcome our new Reception cohort as part of our community.

On Wednesday, children will receive their Flu Immunisations, and Class 2 will continue their swimming lessons. On Friday, Class 1 will enjoy their final Forest School session of the term, bringing a wonderful half term of outdoor learning to a close.

Thank you for your continued support throughout this long and busy term. We look forward to seeing many of you at Parents' Evening and wish everyone a restful half term break when it arrives.

Amy Ward

Head of School

Love, Learn, Live as One



Swimming

Class 2 continue their swimming lessons **every Wednesday** for 10 weeks, this week will be week 4.



A reminder of PE days:

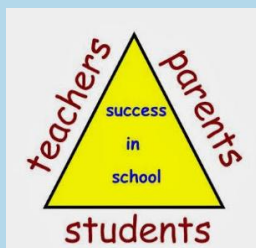
Class 1-

Tuesday and Friday

Class 2-Swimming and Forest School

Children can come into school in their PE kits on their PE day.

Communication Policy



The strongest outcomes for children come when pupils, parents/carers and school staff work together. This partnership is at the heart of everything we do and helps ensure that every child is happy, supported and successful in school.

We want to work closely with families and encourage parents and carers to contact us if they have any questions, concerns or information that may help us support their child. We can only help with issues that we know about, and early communication often means that concerns can be resolved quickly and positively.

As a reminder, our Communication Policy asks that any concerns are raised through the following steps:



School Photographs

All children's photography will be taken at school on Monday 19th October.

If you do not wish your child's photo to be taken, please let the office know in advance, thank you.

Parents Evening

Appointments will take place on:

Monday 19th October

3.30pm - 6.30pm

Wednesday 21st October

3.30pm - 4.30pm

Each appointment is 10 minutes long.

To book your appointment:

1. Log in to Epraise
2. Click on the three dots (...) on the home screen
3. Select Parents' Evening
4. Choose your preferred date and time

To ensure that all appointments run smoothly and fairly, please arrive promptly for your allocated time slot. Unfortunately, due to the tight schedule, late arrivals will be turned away and may need to arrange an alternative appointment at a later date.

We look forward to meeting with you and discussing your child's progress.



A Special Welcome for Our New Reception Children

On **Tuesday 20th October**, we will be holding a very special collective worship to formally welcome our new Reception children into our school community.

We hope this will be a lovely and memorable occasion, as we come together to celebrate the start of their school journey. Parents and Carers of Reception children are warmly invited to join us for this special event at 2:40pm on Tuesday 20th in school. We look forward to sharing this moment with you as we welcome the newest members of our school family.



Best Dressed Pumpkin Competition

We are running a 'Best Dressed Pumpkin' competition amongst the school and the community. You can carve, decorate or dress up your pumpkin and post your picture to our Bisley Blue Coat Primary School Facebook page with your first name, or email to admin@bisleybluecoat.gloucs.sch.uk. Pupils can also bring their entry into school to display before the closing date. We would love as many of you to take part as possible, there is no entry fee and there will be prizes for the winner and runners up!

Good luck!



1. Speak with your child's Class Teacher in the first instance.
2. If the matter remains unresolved, speak with the Head of School or Executive Deputy Headteacher.
3. If further discussion is needed, contact the Executive Headteacher.

By following these steps and maintaining open, respectful communication, we can continue to work together in the best interests of every child. Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership.



Lateness

If your child is late to school, please ensure that you sign them in via the School Office who will escort your child to class. Many thanks.



School Policies

The majority of our school policies can be found online. Some are school-based and some are Federation-based. A reminder that a copy of our most up to date policies can be found on the policy page of our school website or Federation website - https://www.bisleybluecoatcofepriary.co.uk/statutory_information/policies/policies.html or <https://heartwoodfederation.co.uk/Key-Information/Policies/>

Harvest Festival Service



We celebrated Harvest Festival with a lovely service at the church which was beautifully decorated by the church community.

Thank you for all your generous donations which will be donated to Stroud Foodbank. It was lovely to see so many parents and family members join us at the event.

Many thanks to Reverent Kim for delivering the service.

Reporting Absences from School

Please could we ask that parents/carers contact the school office directly at their earliest convenience (Reception / Mrs James) to inform us if their child is going to be absent from school for any reason, such as illness or a medical appointment.

If you are aware of an upcoming appointment, for example a dentist or hospital appointment, please let us know in advance wherever possible.

Thank you for your cooperation and support.

Bisley Blue Coat Community Cakes



To celebrate the end of Term One, the children will be decorating cupcakes to share with everyone.

We would like to invite parents, carers and grandparents to join us at the end of the school day on **Friday 23rd October at 2:45pm** to come along and enjoy this with us.

Forest School

Friday 23rd October will be the last Forest School session for Class One.

We do have planned a special one off session, details of this will be shared with parents shortly.

We hope the children have enjoyed the sessions as much as we have.





Mobile Phone Disclaimer

A reminder that generally, we do not encourage children to bring mobile phones into school. We do however, understand that some older children do, as they use them to communicate with parents/carers when travelling to and from school. Should your child bring a mobile phone into school, these **MUST** be handed into the School Office.

The mobile phone remains your responsibility and we will not take responsibility for any loss or damage to devices.



Safeguarding

Please help us to keep our children safe. When you leave the school and you know we have children on site, please ensure the school gates are closed behind you. Many thanks for your support.

FLU VACCINATION FOR ALL SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN (Reception to Year 11)

21st November

This year it has been confirmed that the National Flu Vaccination Programme for 2026 is being offered to all school aged children from Reception to Year 11. Your child's annual flu vaccination is now due. It is important that you consent or decline the flu vaccination as soon as possible. If you do not respond, we will contact you again to make sure that you have received the offer of vaccination.

Giving consent Please complete the consent form online (one for each child, please) using the following link. You will receive an email confirming receipt. Bisley Blue Coat C of E Primary School <https://www.ghcimmunisations.co.uk//Forms/Flu?schoolcode=GC115612> This link will close at midday on the working day before the team is due to visit so please complete this as soon as possible as the team will be unable to take any consents after this point. If you are unable to access the online consent form for any reason, please contact Gloucestershire Immunisation Team on 0300 421 8140.

Why vaccinate This vaccination will help protect your child against flu. Flu can be an unpleasant illness and sometimes causes complications. Vaccinating your child will also help protect more vulnerable family and friends by preventing the spread of flu. The vaccination is a quick and simple spray up the nose. Even if your child had it last year, it is recommended to have the flu vaccine again this year. Since the programme was introduced, most children offered the vaccine in schools have had the immunisation. A leaflet explaining the programme is enclosed. Getting the vaccine sooner If your school's scheduled date is late within the autumn term and you wish to vaccinate your child earlier, please contact the team and book your child into one of our community clinics.

Is there Porcine Gelatine in the nasal spray? The nasal spray contains very small amounts of porcine gelatine, which is used as a stabiliser in the vaccine. Some people may not accept the use of porcine gelatine in medical products. For these children, there is an alternative injectable vaccine available this year and parents/carers should contact the team on the number below to book a clinic appointment as the injectable vaccination will not be delivered at school-based sessions.

Changed your mind? If you have changed your mind and no longer want your child to be vaccinated, please contact our team on 0300 421 8140 at least one full school day before the session. A confirmation email will be sent to confirm the team has received your request to withdraw consent within one working day. Please check your junk box if not in your, if not received please call the team. If withdrawing consent on the day of the vaccination session, please provide a written letter to your child's school reception for the urgent attention of the immunisation team.

You will need to provide your child's name, date of birth and year group. If your child is too young to hand in the letter themselves, please ensure you give it to school reception at the start of the school day.

Need more information? If you have any queries or would like any further information please contact the immunisation team on 0300 421 8140.