

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

This week is packed with pictures and reports of things that pupils (and parents) have been up to. They don't happen without extra effort from adults and we would like to say thank you to everyone who helps us with trips, events in school and beyond school. These activities are what makes all the day to day learning relevant for children. If you haven't had the chance to get involved yet then please watch out for what's going on around school and just join in!

David Forrester

Strings go Public!

As part of the Wider Opportunities music activities for KS2 a group of Y5 children have a weekly lesson with Miss Rebecca Lambert of the music service. On Friday 19th March they had their first experience of performing in a 150 strong orchestra when they took part in a concert at the Colston Hall. Congratulations to Cameron, Laura, Cara, Carla and Henry. It was great to see and hear the enthusiasm with which they talked about the event.

"I have been practicing for weeks just doing my notes and not knowing there would be so many people playing at the Colston Hall with me and it has been an amazing experience and I really want to do it again."

Cameron Webb on double bass



"The children were nervous but very excited. They joined an orchestra of over 150 children on a huge stage, under bright lights and in front of hundreds of people. The music was wonderful and the atmosphere relaxed.

In just one year they've gone from an introduction to string to playing in an orchestra. They should be very proud of themselves, well done and thank you very much for an enjoyable evening."

Sue Webb (Cameron's mum).

The Bristol Slave Trail

On Tuesday the 23rd of March Yrs 5 and 6 went on a fabulous trip to Bristol to study the serious topic of slavery. However, it was still amazingly fun and got all the children looking closely at the statues and monuments such as Pero's Bridge and the Georgian house. After walking for a while and braving lots of traffic we found Queen's Square where a Milkman told us all about the cellar found underneath the American Consulate where they used to keep slaves. He also told us about the tunnel that led from the cellar to the docks, the hooks for chains and the scratches left on the walls by slaves. We would like to thank all the parents and teachers that made this trip (and really long walk) possible!

By Emily Taynton and Jack Broad

Values

Well done to Millie McCollom for showing brilliant Creativity in Science when describing the effect of forces. Thankyou and congratulations to Laura Westcott for the compassion she showed in caring for a classmate who was having a difficult time.

Class of the Week

Falcons are fighting back to become top birds again. Well done.



Can you see the sugar in this picture? This was a major crop produced by the Slave plantations in the Caribbean. This is in the Georgian House Museum in Bristol.



Kingfishers on the waterfront. Ships came in here with their cargoes of sugar, cotton, tobacco. It was unusual for slaves to be brought here unless they were here for domestic work. Behind us is Perot's Bridge He was brought from the Caribbean and worked in the Georgian House as a general servant.

School Dinners

If your child is staying for school dinners next week could we please emphasise that you must book and pay in advance on Monday morning due to both end of term and end of the financial year accounting.



Swallows and Wagtails Poetry

Morning

There was a great opportunity for the children and their parents to work together and share their experience of poetry on Tuesday morning this week. After performing poems they had learnt the children spent time sharing examples of poems they had written that were on display.



They also had time to work together to write their own poems and these were shared with everyone at the end. We have included a couple from the huge number of wonderful poems written on the day.

Spring Cleaning

*Spring has finally sprung
And flowers start to bloom
It makes mum want to clean the house
With dusters, mop and broom!*

*The sun shines through my window
And makes me feel alive
Mum says it's time to clear my room
But I just go and hide.*

*When spring is here we play outside
It gives me the best feeling
Kids like us have all the fun –
You mums get on with the cleaning!*

By Finn Donnelly and his mum.

In Spring Time

*When the snow drops spring
And the birds sing
The bunnies all appear
Bouncing around up and down
Spring time must be here.*

By Olivia Pine

It was a really successful morning and the type of parent/child activity we want to have much more of in school. These are a few of things that parents wrote about the event:

'What did you learn?'

- That I enjoy poetry!
- How much my child enjoys using her imagination. We can work together instead of me instructing her.
- That my son has more imagination than I realised.
- That working together is more fun than nagging!

'What did you like?'

- Interacting with my own child. He was very enthusiastic.
- See her coming alive with her learning – great!
- Nice to work with my child in the school environment.
- ...to see the children with such confidence.

Menu

We will be having an egg-citing Easter Roast on Thursday, 1st April. Someone may be in for a special surprise too! If you want your child to stay for school dinners next week please see menu below and ensure you book and pay for your meals on Monday.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Spaghetti Bolognese Oven baked sauté potatoes Broccoli & sweetcorn Or Cheese quiche	Roast Turkey with stuffing Roast potatoes Carrots, cabbage & gravy Or Vegetarian sausages	Chicken curry with rice Oven baked jacket wedges Garlic bread Or Cheese & tomato pizza	Spring lamb & mint sauce Roast potatoes Broccoli, carrots, peas & gravy Or Cheesy pasta bake
Sliced peaches and ice cream Or Low fat yoghurt Or Fruit cup	Choc pudding & choc sauce Or Low fat yoghurt Or Fruit cup	Fruit crumble & custard Or Low fat yoghurt Or Fruit cup	Easter choc nests Or Easter biscuit

Community News

Cider Festival

Pucklechurch Cider Festival, this Saturday 27th March 7pm 'til midnight in the Village Hall, live band, food, bar serving beer, lager, wine etc as well as cider.

Tickets £5 available at The Star, Mike Walker's shop, Social Club and the Post Office, all profits go to Revel. Over 18's only.

Found

A girls mountain bike in the bushes between Shortwood Road and Becket Court. It's an 11" frame and it's pink, it would probably suit age 7-11? The Police recorded it as found property about two weeks ago but it has not been claimed. If it's not claimed in the next 8 weeks then it will be donated to the charity 'Bikes for Africa'. Please contact the school office for further details.

St Thomas à Beckett Church

We welcome everyone to all services and activities. Children of all ages are always welcome as well as their parents and grandparents. Do feel free to come along or if you would like to find out more, ask Chris Moore (Rebecca's Mum in Yr 4) or Julie Gardner (Hannah's Mum in Yr 3) or ring Stuart Young (our vicar) on 0117 937 2260.

Palm Sunday 28th March when we remember Jesus arriving in Jerusalem on a donkey. 10.00 am Communion Service with procession of palms