

Pucklechurch Newsletter

“Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in Heaven”
Matthew 5:16

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

Issue 8: 24th October 2025

Contact: admin@pucklechurchprimary.org.uk

Website: www.pucklechurchprimary.org.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

This term has certainly been action packed. We've welcomed our new Seacole class and their families into our Pucklechurch community and have been so proud at how well they've settled into school life. Also, just this week, we waved year 6 off when they set off on school camp to Mill on the Brue and are excited to hear all about it when they return.

We've learnt of Mrs Capel's resignation and, more recently, her absence due to sickness. We recognise that with this news comes a period of uncertainty and we thank you for your ongoing support and patience as we navigate the next steps with our governors and assure you that when a clear plan emerges, the governors will communicate this without delay.

Several parents have asked how they can pass on their best wishes and thanks to Mrs Capel which is testament to the impact she has had on our school community during her time as Headteacher. If there are any thoughts or best wishes that you would like to express to Mrs Capel, please pass these written messages onto myself or our admin inbox and will assure you they will reach her.

Thank you again for your ongoing support during this period of change for our school community. Have a wonderful half term and we look forward to welcoming you back to school on Tuesday 4th November.

Mrs Jones

Key Dates for Term 1

New dates will appear in red.

27th-31st October – HALF TERM

31st October 2025 – Secondary School application deadline

Key Dates for Term 2

3rd Nov – Inset day

4th Nov - **Start of term 2**

6th Nov – Individual and sibling photos

14th November – **Children in Need charity non-school uniform day**

18th Nov – Flu Immunisation

2nd Dec – EYFS/KS1 Nativity performance 2pm

3rd Dec - EYFS/KS1 Nativity performance 9am

5th Dec - Whole School Theatre Trip

8th Dec – EYFS/KS1 Christmas dinner

9th Dec - Y3 and Y4 Christmas dinner

10th Dec – Y5 and Y6 Christmas dinner

10th Dec - KS2 Christmas Service at the church 1:30pm

11th Dec – KS2 Christmas service at the church 1:30pm

19th Dec – Christmas Parties – EYFS/KS1 – AM
KS2 - PM

19th December – End of term

Inset Days for 2025/26

- 3rd November 2025
- 30th January 2026
- 22nd May 2026
- 19th June 2026





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Children in Need

On Friday 14th November, we will hold our usual non-school uniform day to raise money for the Children in Need Pudsey appeal. There is no dress code - children can wear Children in Need merchandise if they wish or whatever they are comfortable in. The theme this year is 'challenge yourself to 25' so we will be deciding together of a '25 challenge' where we will all take part in a challenge where each class has to complete 25 'somethings' This might be a 25 'keepy uppies', a 25 question quiz, a 25 step dance routine or whatever they decide as a class!

We do hope to take part in the Joe Wicks activate episode too.

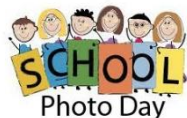
We will also adopt a Pudsey theme to our outdoor learning.

As usual, we will collecting money for this national appear and donations can be made either by children bringing cash into school on 14th November or, in a slight change to usual, you can also log onto your usual ParentPay account where there will be an option closer to the time to make a donation to Children in Need 2025 as we recognise that we carry cash less and less.



School Photos

Individual and sibling photos will be taking place on 6th



November 2025. If you would like to bring younger siblings in to have their photos taken all together, they will start from 8.15am. Please can you make your way round to the back of the hall. Please can children wear their full school uniform for the photos. If they have PE on this day, please can they bring trainers to change into.

Smartphone Free Community

One of our lovely parents has shared this link to a WhatsApp group to encourage children to have a smartphone free childhood.

Please follow the link below if this is something that interests you!

Smartphone Free WhatsApp Community. Here's the link:
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/FTQstK9WwDD45Mi7I4M1CG>

Arbor Details

In a bid to remain as paperless and efficient as possible, we will no longer be issuing a paper contact details check sheet or updating child contact details via our school office.

Instead, we invite all parents to access their online Arbor account to check and, where necessary, update the details we hold for your child/ren.

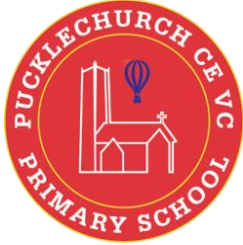
It is crucial that we hold up to date information for all children, particularly relating to medical information and next of kin. These are the details that we use to contact you in case of an emergency but also for e-mail correspondence such as newsletters etc.

Click on the link to see how to check and update your child's details on Arbor:

[Seeing and updating my child's information on the Parent Portal or Parent App – Arbor Help Centre](#)

Please be aware that, for security reasons, each parent can only access their own contact details so, even if shared details such as home address change, this may need to be changed for both parents by logging in separately.

Thank you for your co-operation in continuing to ensure the smooth and efficient running of our school office.



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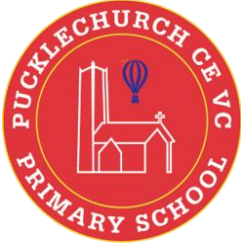
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<p>Values Certificates</p> <p>At the end of each term, we recognise one child in each class who has demonstrated the value of the term. This term is 'Friendship'. The children will receive a badge and will also be invited to afternoon tea in the staffroom. This term, because year 6 are on school camp this week, this award will be presented at the start of next term so that no-one misses out.</p> 	<p>Absence</p> <p>Please remember to report your child's absence before the start of the school day as the office staff then spend time phoning parents of absent children in the morning which takes a lot of time. We would be grateful if you could let us know before the school day starts. This can either be done via phone on 01179372579 option 1 or via our e-mail address absence@pucklechurchprimary.org.uk Please can you use our specific absence e-mail address rather than the admin address to report absence.</p>
<p>Seacole</p> <p>What a <i>brilliant</i> start to the school year we've had! The children have settled beautifully into school life, building routines, making new friends, and showing our core value of friendship in everything they do. ♥</p> <p>It's been a joyful, creative, and exciting term. We're so proud of how the children have settled into school life and can't wait to see all the adventures that next term will bring. Have a wonderful break, full of rest & play!</p> 	<p>Armstrong IE</p> <p>Year 1 have had a fantastic first term. They have been working hard in their writing and their maths. They have loved doing a mix of practical and written maths lessons. In the afternoons Year 1 have enjoyed their afternoon learning, they been planning and carrying out investigations in their science lessons. Year 1 have also worked on their creativity and artistic skill whilst doing some observational drawings.</p> <p>Well done for an amazing first term!</p>
<p>Armstrong BM</p> <p>Armstrong BM have had a fantastic term 1. We have explored our school value of Friendship in our value lessons and in our wider curriculum subject of The Great Fire of London. The children have also produced some amazing writing based on our class text of The Tin Forest. I RE we have explored the Jewish faith, including the story of Hannukah. Year 2 were also really lucky to take part in a mini first aid course to learn basic life saving skills.</p>	<p>Newton JB</p> <p>Well done to a great start in Key Stage 2 by Year 3. We have really enjoyed science this term and had a great time exploring rocks and hearing them fizz when mixed with vinegar. The history has been fascinating and we have enjoyed hearing the history of Britain in the Stone Age. The children have been writing some excellent and diverse stories based on Stone Age Boy as well as some great non-fiction pieces. I was really proud to hear the amazing prayers they wrote for Harvest during our harvest assembly to finish the term. The children are excited to learn about next term's topics and were particularly enthused by the prospect of Stop-motion animation. Have a great week everyone!</p>



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Well done year 2!



Newton SD

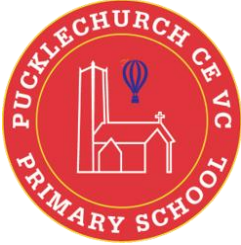
Newton have had a fantastic term and have enjoyed learning all about Brunel and how Clifton Suspension bridge changed lives. We have also enjoyed getting stuck into our text 'Stig of the dump' and 'Weslandia'. The children have produced some brilliant pieces of writing linked to our texts. We have also had the pleasure of our sports coaches who have come to teach us netball this term. It has been great to see how skills develop! Well done Year 4.



King Hub

Year 5 and Year 6 have had a jam packed first term, full of amazing learning and countless opportunities to show our school values! Both years have particularly enjoyed their history topics, learning about the Romans and WW2 respectively. They have also really loved their art topics and have produced some amazing display worthy final pieces! Overall, it has been a wonderful term where all the children have shown amazing growth mindsets. Keep up the good work King hub!





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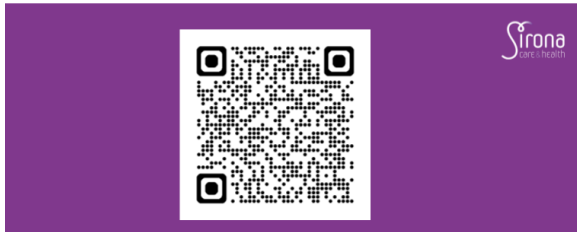
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Flu Immunisations

School Flu Consent Form 2025/26



Sirona will be coming to Pucklechurch on 18th November for flu immunisations (nasal) for all children from Reception to Year 6. The link to give consent is below or alternatively scan the QR code below:

<https://imms.sirona-cic.org.uk/flu/2025/consent?v=4>

Harvest

Today we celebrated our Harvest Festival with poetry, readings, art work and singing. We gave thanks for the privilege of knowing where our next meal is coming from and were grateful for Reverent Elaine for joining with us.

Thank you to everyone who made a donation to the North Bristol Foodbank and for embodying our school value of Generosity and showing such community spirit. Our collection was very gratefully received today.





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Y6 Secondary School Applications

The deadline for secondary school online applications is 31st October 2025. If you miss this deadline you will not be allocated a place until the second release of applications which is April 2026.

Should you have queries, you can contact the council's admissions department directly. Please bear in mind that phone lines are very busy at this time of year, so please do not leave your application too late. Each secondary is currently advertising their open days where you can visit the schools and see them in action.

For South Glos. Council Click Here Email: admissionsandtransport@southglos.gov.uk Telephone: 01454 868008

Parenting Courses

An increasing number of parents are requesting information about local parenting courses and workshops. Below are a selection of different offers from South Glos Parents and Carers that anyone is able to attend.

South Glos Parents and Carers are an organisation that are available in our community to give support to any parents and carers across South Glos who are navigating their child's SEND journey. Parents and carers can access their support in many different ways.



Drop ins

Parents can receive support and signposting from their peer support team every **Tuesday and Thursday 10am – 1.30pm (term time only)** at their Community Base in Kingswood.

[SGPC Community Base in Kingswood - Tuesdays and Thursdays](#)

Early Years Support

This is a dedicated session for parents of young children aged 0-5 years (including Reception year) to receive information and signposting from their peer support team and ask questions about your child's early development.

Children are welcome at the drop-in sessions, open every **Wednesday in the Patchway Children's Centre between 10am – 11.30am (term time only)**

[Early Years SEND support - Patchway Children's Centre](#)

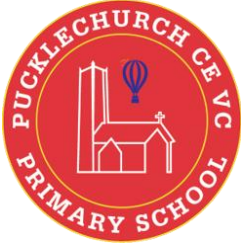
Workshops

South Glos Parents and Carers also run workshops on a range of different themes throughout the school year.

- An Introduction to Autism (14 Oct)
- Understanding and Supporting Sensory Differences (5 Nov)
- Neurodiversity and Sleep (20 Nov)
- Understanding and Supporting Anxiety (10 Dec)

Click below to book a place on any of the workshops. **Most are online but occasionally they are face-to-face so always check the location.**

[Online workshops to empower you on your child's SEND journey](#)



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We have also been made aware by Families Plus of a regular 6 week long program that parents can access with a referral. Parents are able to self-refer. Just scan the QR code for more details.

FREE Triple P and Stepping Stones Parenting Programmes



Parenting is one of the hardest jobs in the world - our free parenting courses are designed to support parents to be the best they can be

Our regular 6 week programmes will not tell you how to parent, but give you a toolbox of ideas to improve your confidence in:

The staff are amazing! Friendly, great communication and make you feel at ease."

- Boundaries
- Routines
- Behaviour management techniques
- Looking after yourself as a parent



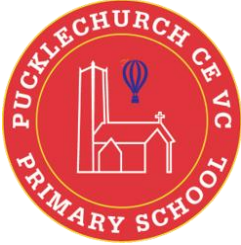
Our programmes are:

- Free to access
- For parents of children aged 0-12
- Run by professionals with SEN Experience
- Friendly and Non judgemental
- A chance to meet like minded people who understand your situation
- Flexible - run across the year, at different venues across South Gloucestershire, with day, evening and online options to attend

"We've seen a huge improvement in our confidence as parents. Since implementing strategies learned on the course, our family life is much calmer and happier."

For more information, get in touch via family.referrals@ccp.org.uk, or to book a place please scan the QR code





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Reverse Advent Calendar

It's almost November which means that it's time for the annual North Bristol Foodbank's Reverse Advent Calendar.

Throughout the month of November, we will be collecting a range of ambient food and Christmas items ready to donate to the North Bristol food bank on 1st December in time for Christmas.

We're always overwhelmed by the generosity shown by our Pucklechurch families during this event but recognise that some families are not in a position to donate so please do not feel the pressure to do so.

If you feel you are able, please see the list below for the items that they would love to receive.

If you are able to donate 'Bags for Life' to help with the collection and distribution on the items, we would be grateful.



- | | | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Pasta sauce | Tinned peaches | Tinned pineapples | Toilet roll | Tinned potatoes |
| Egg noodles | Toothpaste | Washing detergent | UHT cow's milk | Squash |
| Washing up liquid | Christmas treat! (non-alcoholic) | Tinned custard | Savoury snacks | Curry sauce |
| Tinned peaches | Deodorant | Instant mash | Rice pudding | Microwave rice |
| Tinned sweetcorn | Fruit juice | Tinned tuna | Christmas treat! (non-alcoholic) | Thank you! |