



Dear Parent/ Carer,

This week all the children heard important road safety messages in assembly when we had a Road Safety officer come in to school to talk to the children. Ask if they can show you how far a car travels in 1 second when travelling at 30 miles per hour. After half term we will be concentrating on Online Safety. Have a wonderful half term break

Mrs Stoddart



On Tuesday 3rd February, Class 5 and 6 spent a wonderful day at We The Curious in Bristol. Here are some of the pupils' favourite things:

"The moment that stayed with me most was visiting the large dome shaped planetarium. We were handed 3D glasses to put on as we entered and we sat in comfy seats. When the lights went off it was pitch black. At first, the huge screen showed stars and planets and it was mesmerising. But, within seconds, the dome started spinning and we all felt dizzy and this helped me understand that the solar system is not still!"

by Seren, Class 5

"We entered We The Curious and headed straight upstairs to the wonky house. The wonky house is a room attached to a confined, narrow hallway and made some of us feel a bit disorientated. Once you stepped inside the room, you immediately reached for the handrail as the house was sloping! The bookcase contained books, but also two optical illusions. Next to it was a fireplace that looked never ending and a mirror that showed you from a different point of view. When we went in to the hallway, there was a hole where the carpet was and if you looked down it felt like you were going to fall—it was an optical illusion! This experience made me think about people's perspectives and how different people can feel about different things."

by Phoebe, Class 5



When Class 6 arrived at the science museum 'We The Curious' in Bristol, we had a talk about what we could and couldn't do. After that, we went to the second floor and there were a lot of cool things, like a smoke tornado. This is where smoke swirls up to an extractor fan light which causes the tornado. There was another exhibit that had a button you pressed to make bubbles appear which pulled a toy boat. There were massive metal hoops and bubble mix in which you could fit your whole torso and head in before they popped. In the planetarium, our topic was moons which included us going into deep space with 3D glasses—which made it feel like we were floating through space! We visited Pluto's five moons, an asteroid called Ida (in the asteroid belt) which has a small moon called Dactyl. We also learnt that Jupiter has 95 moons and Saturn has 274 moons! On the first floor, there were many different experiments. My favourite one was the hamster wheel that made a waterfall gush rapidly. There was another one where a tennis ball and a parachute had a magnet connecting it to a rope, when it hit the roof the parachute spread out and you had to try and catch it. Thank you to Mrs Smith and Mr Coupe for organising such a fantastic science day out!

by Rory, Class 6

Diary Dates

Forest School Thursdays

Class 3 26th February
Class 2 5th March
Class 1 12th March
Class R 19th March

Half Term Break

Monday 16th to Friday
20th February

Year R & 6 Heights and Weights

Tuesday 24th February

World Book Day

Thursday 5th March
Children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character.

Parents' Evening 1 All Years

17:00—19:30
Thursday 5th March

Year 5 Sports Festival at Kingsmead

Friday 6th March

MSA Film Night

Friday 6th March after school

Parents' Evening 2 Year 1 to Year 6

15:30—18:00
Tuesday 10th March

Reception Class Parents' Evening 2

Thursday 26th March
Times to follow

Class 6 Residential to Charterhouse

Tuesday 17th to Friday
20th March

Class 5 & 6 Met Office Workshops

Tuesday 24th March

Easter Service at St Michael's Church (tbc)

Thursday 2nd April at 2pm

House Points	Weekly Total	Half Term
London Plane	433	1774
Cork Oak	424	1676
Blue Cedar	459	1330
Horse Chestnut	766	1977

OUTSTANDING LEARNERS OF THE WEEK



Preschool	Alfred D for demonstrating kindness and helpfulness to your younger friends.
Class R	Tatiana for your excellent effort at sounding out and blending in reading.
Class 1	Amy for always working hard and trying your best. Willow for being brave in PE and trying new challenges.
Class 2	Oliver for making super progress in all your learning and especially in Forest School.
Class 3	Henry and Leonard for tackling challenges positively in your learning. Toby and Keir for demonstrating excellent sportsmanship.
Class 4	Darwin for your fantastic focus and hard work in class this week.
Class 5	Phoebe for your breathtaking writing – the suspense in your story is quite incredible!
Class 6	Henry for your solid commitment to learning and the support you always gives during lessons – excellent!



Class 5 & 6 enjoyed a musical treat by visiting Exeter University's Great Hall to watch Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra perform 'Explore the Orchestra: Four Elements'. It was a wonderful opportunity for the children to hear a full orchestra and learn about the instruments. The musical themes were based on the natural elements—fire, water, earth and air. It was an interactive performance encouraging the pupils to get involved in songs, body percussion and with Makaton singing.

On Thursday 12th February, Class 6 had an extra session of PE where we did curling, archery and giant tennis (with a yoga ball!). In groups of eight and we tried each of the three activities and at the end we had ten minutes to do our favourite station and every one liked the giant tennis. In archery the target was hard to hit and only a few people hit it. The arrows were suction cups on one side to stick to the target nicely. On the curling station there were two colours of stones for two teams of four. We had to roll the stones to a target on the floor. It was quite hard to land on the target. The final station was the giant tennis where we used a bench as a net and had to hit the yoga ball with our hands.

by Anna and Orla, Class 6



On Thursday 5th February Class 4 had an enrichment PE session with Miss Storey. We did curling, archery and volleyball and it was a lot of fun. Each group had to go to one station at a time. At the end of the session we got to choose a station to play a bit more on.

by Freddie and Siena, Class 4

On Monday 9th February, Class 4 travelled to Blackbrook Sports Centre to take part in a net and wall sports festival with some other local schools. We were given stickers with different Disney characters to put us into groups. We played lots of games like table tennis, badminton, tennis and volleyball. The event was run by SASP coaches and students from Bridgwater College and Kingsmead school. It was great!

by Robyn and Macie, Class 4

Crossing the Road



The children learned about crossing the road safely.



Class 2 have been learning all about Mexico, and in DT we have been making maracas and decorating them using Mexican patterns to inspire us.

Mrs Hart



Classes 1 and 2 took part in an on-line workshop for National Storytelling Week: Building stories through sound with an author called Anemarie Anang. She read us her book 'I am Nefertiti' and we joined in making different sounds to convey different moods.

Ms Boullin

MSA Update – Help us build a new school adventure playground.

Thanks to your amazing support last year, we raised **£6,000 for the school**. That money has a huge impact, funding: new Forest School equipment, ukulele music lessons, two music concerts, coach trips for every class and a wide range of sports equipment. Every event you attended and every donation you made helped make this possible – thank you.

THIS YEAR'S CHALLENGE: A NEW ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

After **15+ years of daily use**, and countless repairs and refreshes, the school's adventure playground is reaching the end of its life. The reality is simple: **we need to replace it**. A new adventure playground will cost **£30,000**. That's a lot of cake sales. We know we can't rely on events alone to raise that kind of money. The MSA is already committing **£10,000** from last year's and this year's fundraising. That leaves a **£20,000 gap** — and we believe, with your help, this is absolutely within reach.

How you can make a difference:

Community grants - We're actively seeking a **Grants Officer** to join the MSA team. If you're good at research, and persuasive writing this role could unlock thousands of pounds in funding for the playground.

Business donations - Do you have influence within a business that supports local or community causes? Even a single corporate donation could significantly reduce the remaining gap.

Fundraising events -Have an idea for an event? Want to help run one? Big or small, we'd love to hear it. Fresh ideas make a big difference.

Get involved today if you can help in **any** of the ways above — or even if you're not sure yet but want to find out more — please get in touch. Speak to us at the school gate or email the MSA directly - msa-somerset@outlook.com. We're happy to have a chat and explore how you could help. With a shared effort and some new approaches, we're confident we can raise the remaining **£20,000** and give our children the playground they all deserve.

WE'RE LOOKING FOR A NEW SECRETARY Our secretary, Brent Gillespie, will be stepping down at the end of this school year. We're looking for someone to take on this vital role and help keep the MSA running smoothly. We're particularly keen to hear from parents with children in the younger classes. Interested? Please get in touch.

SAVE THE DATE - FILM NIGHT

The next MSA event will be a film night on Friday 6 March after school. More details to follow..

Thank you for being such a supportive school community.

James, Rob, Brent and Steve



Monday 9th March @ 19:00 - 21:00

Join us for this month's online Chill & Chat. A relaxed, welcoming space where you can drop in, share your thoughts, ask questions, or simply enjoy a chat with other parent carers.

This is an open session, come along for as much or as little time as you like.

If you have a child or young person aged 0-25 with additional needs and/or disabilities, you are warmly invited to join our online support group and connect with others who understand.



Online: via Microsoft Teams



GUITAR

LESSONS

Guitar lessons available for young beginners and continuing learners from year 2 to year 6.

Friendly relaxed lessons at your pace by visiting guitar tutor John Snowden. Please email

Johnguitarsnowden@gmail.com or text **mob-07591810453** for more details.

Somerset Parent Carer Forum offer monthly 'Chill and Chat' groups online during the evenings for parents and carers of children with additional needs to drop in and meet with other parents. We had to postpone our final PINS session for parents and carers last month, so would encourage you to join this session between 7-9pm on Monday 9th March if you would like the opportunity to connect with others.

Could you tell if your child was being exploited?



Join one of our free online sessions led by Child Exploitation Prevention Officer **Andri Nicolaou**

18 March 7:00 - 8:30pm

30 March 10:30am - 12:00pm

Learn about the different forms of child exploitation and how offenders groom/exploit children both online and offline. We'll highlight warning signs a child may be at risk and practical steps you can take to keep them safe and respond to any concerns.

Visit the **Avon and Somerset Police Eventbrite page** or scan the QR codes below

18 March



30 March

