

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome to 2026. It is lovely to see you all back ...

Ladybirds are enjoying the new travel agents in their role play area. The children have been learning about the world and the different countries, including how to get there, who they might travel with and what they do there. The children have also loved learning about the seasons and what happens to the trees. They made 'snow dough' (very messy but very fun!) and experimented with ice when it was freezing overnight. They also made ice lollies which they used to paint the floor.

Robins started their 'Outdoor Adventure' topic with a trip to Westonbirt Arboretum (thank you again to all the parent volunteers), investigated ice and frost during their Mucky Monday session with Ladybirds (finding leaves in ice was exciting!) and have enjoyed learning how rainbows are made. They also created some fantastic 3D sculptures in art ...



Dragonfly class started the year by coming up with some new years resolutions for what they would like to achieve this year at school. They have also started their new topic for the term – Volcanoes, which the children are very excited to learn more about.

Next week, they are starting a new reading topic and will begin by sharing pictures of the children reading in unusual places. Thank you to those parents who have already sent Mrs Blanch their great pictures but some more by Monday would be brilliant 😊

Kingfisher have been learning about why the oceans are important to us and how the human footprint has an environmental impact on coral reefs. This week they also had their first violin lesson in music ...



Otters have been investigating angles in triangles as well as blood and the circulatory system. Enjoying time outside with Carrie in Forest School, using various tools to make bird houses. Revisiting joined handwriting which the children have thoroughly enjoyed.

Term Dates

Term three: Monday 5th January – Friday 13th February

Term four: Tuesday 24th February – Friday 27th March

Term five: Monday 13th April – Thursday 21st May

Term six: Monday 1st June – Friday 17th July

Inset Days

School will be closed to all pupils on the following days:

- Monday 23rd February
- Monday 4th May (Bank Holiday)
- Friday 22nd May

Event Reminders

- Robins - 'Mucky Mondays' every Monday (PE kit to be worn in case weather is bad)
 - Tuesdays – PE for the whole school
- January
- 21st – Football sessions with Mr. A (see over)
 - 22nd – Clean Air Night (see over)
- February
- 2nd – Reception / Year 6 height and weight checks
 - 6th – Dragonfly Class trip (details to follow)
 - 13th – Term 3 ends
 - 16th – 20th – Half Term
 - 23rd – Inset Day (School closed to pupils)
 - 24th – Term four starts (08:45)
 - 26th – Young Voices (rescheduled date)

Attendance

Whole school attendance for the last two weeks is 91.6%, which is below the National Average of 94.8%.

Individual class totals are:

Robins 91.7%

Dragonfly 85.4%

Kingfisher 89.6%

Otter 89.4%

Please, wherever possible, book appointments and holidays outside of school time and help us with punctuality in order to achieve our aim of ALL children being in school on time EVERY DAY.

Term 3

16th January 2026

Punctuality

This continues to be a concern. In the last two weeks, children were late on **80** occasions with some missing significant minutes from the first lesson. Please ensure your children are in school promptly at 08:45.

Unauthorised absence

In the last two weeks, there have been **23** unauthorised absences in school time.

Brimscombe Fire

Following the two recent devastating fires, the Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service have been inundated with requests for Home Fire Safety Visits. With this in mind, we are in discussions with them regarding a group fire-safety session for parents and carers. The session (which will be held in the school hall) will provide practical guidance on reducing risks in the home, along with child-friendly safety tips. They will use Safewise materials to help ensure the information is clear, supportive and easy to share with children. I will be in touch as soon as a date is confirmed.

Wednesday 21st January

Mr. A will be providing football sessions to Dragonfly, Kingfisher and Otter classes throughout the morning. Please ensure your children wear PE kit and have trainers suitable for the field. Please send them in with clean footwear for afterwards.

Thursday 22nd January

Is Clean Air Night, where there is a campaign to highlight the impact burning solid fuel has on the community and also in the household:

<https://www.actionforcleanair.org.uk/campaigns/clean-air-night>

The children will be made aware of this in class, however it would be great if you could also support.

Young Voices

The 8 January concert date at bp pulse LIVE in Birmingham has been rescheduled to Thursday 26 February. All tickets purchased through the Music Room will be automatically transferred to the new concert date, including pre-booked parking. If you purchased tickets through the arena box office, they will be automatically transferred in the next couple of days. You will receive further details from them directly. Parents who are unable to attend the new dates, will be entitled to a full refund. Young Voices will be in touch with all audience ticket holders separately.

Nativity

Thank you to all who watched last year's fantastic nativity. With the money raised, we were able to support five fantastic children's charities: Great Ormond Street Hospital, Barnardo's, Cash 4for Kids 'Mission Christmas' (Christmas presents for disadvantaged children and young people across the UK), Make-A-Wish and Action For Children.

Ladybirds Little Christmas Fair

Thank you to all who supported this fabulous event and purchased items created by our preschoolers. We raised just over £115 for the Preschool.

Pantomime

There are still a large number of parents yet to pay the pantomime contribution. Please can this be settled as soon as possible.

Finally, I leave you with a little snippet of Ladybirds and Robins day out at Westonbirt Arboretum ...



We hope you have a lovely weekend.