

7th November 2025

Welcome back to Term 2

I hope all families had a great half term break. The new term is in full swing and we have a great deal to look forward to as we seek to enable all children and adults at our school to 'let their lights shine'. Staff continue to be present on the playground at the beginning and end of the school day – please do speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance if you have any questions, comments or feedback.

We have received a thank you from the Thornbury Foodbank for the generous donations made as part of our harvest service. Along with the church, a fantastic 14.26kg of food and toiletries were donated.

Poppies have been on sale this week. Thank you to everyone who has supported the Royal British Legion ahead of Remembrance Sunday.

At the end of last term, we said goodbye and good luck to Sophia in Year 4. She has moved to a school closer to her home.

We look forward to working with you again this term.

Mike Riches

Headteacher

Dates and events for November

Anti-bullying week – week commencing 10th November

Next week we will spend time thinking about bullying – what it is, what it is not and how we can do something about it if it ever occurs. On Monday, the children are invited to wear odd socks to school as part of the national campaign – the purpose of this is to celebrate self-expression and diversity whilst raising awareness of bullying. Kingfishers will get involved in an online workshop led by CBBC and there will be a range of other activities available throughout the week for all children to be a part of.

We invite families to a celebration service on **Friday 21st November** during which time the children will share what they learnt during anti-bullying week.

Inter-faith day – Wednesday 12th November

Children from both classes will join together with other schools across South Gloucestershire for a day of learning about a range of different faiths and perspectives from around the world. This is an important part of our Religious Education curriculum which seeks to help children to understand and celebrate the diverse world in which they live.

Children in Need – Friday 14th November

Children are invited to wear non-school uniform for the day. Donations can be made online at the following website: <https://donate.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/> or in cash at school on the day.

Attendance matters

Thank you all for your support in ensuring your child is in school and on time every day. This is the best way to help them to succeed in school. Please be reminded that, for this reason, term time absence requests will only ever be agreed in exceptional circumstances. If you would like to request a term time absence please speak to the Headteacher in the first instance.

We ended last term with significantly improved attendance statistics.

Our whole school target for this year is 95%.

At the end of Term 1, our whole school attendance stood at 95.5%. Whilst this is well above comparisons to last academic year, it puts us at 66th place out of 93 schools in South Gloucestershire meaning there is still work to be done to improve. We are grateful to all families for supporting us with this important aspect of the school's work.

Please be reminded that the NHS has advice and support to help families determine whether or not their child can attend school: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Personal development

Next week, children from Kingfishers will have the opportunity to compete in a football match against Iron Acton after school on Wednesday. We are thrilled with the children's enthusiasm for this match and we look forward to celebrating their effort during the match whatever the outcome may be! Good luck to our fantastic football team.

Children in Robins are currently participating in a series of music lessons led by a visiting teacher from the music hub. These lessons take place for 30 minutes every Friday and are known as 'Beat Bus'. There will be a short concert for families to come along to date to be confirmed.

Teachers are beginning to allocate parts for the Christmas performances which will take place later this term. There will be a lot of time spent preparing and rehearsing during school time. We also ask for families to support us by rehearsing at home. We look forward to sharing these performances with you.

Monitoring and development this term

The school continues to work hard to do the best it can for the children families who attend. As part of our ongoing drive to improve as a school, we have the following events taking place this term:

1. A visit from the Diocese of Gloucester to scrutinise our provision as a church school.
2. Ongoing monitoring from Governors focused on various aspects of school life.
3. A whole school review from Trust leaders who will spend time looking at teaching, learning and curriculum.
4. A termly review from an English adviser at the English hub.
5. Term 2 assessment tracking for English and maths.
6. Subject leader and SENCO monitoring of teaching and learning through book looks, lesson visits and pupil conversations.

All monitoring is designed to be supportive and to enable to school to continue on its journey forward.

Term 2 calendar

Event	Date and time	Information
Earth day	07.11.25	We will look at how we can help protect the environment.
Celebration service	07.11.25, 2.50pm	Come and join us in the hall.
Anti-bullying week	w/c 10.11.25	Odd socks day will take place on the Monday.
RE inter-faith day	12.11.25	
Football match against Iron Acton	12.11.25, 3.30	This will take place at Iron Acton. Parents must arrange to take their child to and from the event
Children in Need	14.11.25	We will hold a non-uniform day to raise funds for this charity.
Christmas lunch	11.12.25	
Robin Class Christmas performance	11.12.25 2pm	We invite all families to join us in the school hall.
Kingfisher Class Christmas performance	17.11.25 2pm	We invite all families to join us in the school hall.
Christingle service	19.11.25 2.30pm	This will take place in the church. All families are invited.
Last day of Term 2	19.12.25	
First day of Term 3	05.01.26	

2025-2026 term dates

Term	Starts	Ends
Term 1	Monday 1 September 2025	Friday 24 October 2025
Term 2	Monday 3 November 2025	Friday 19 December 2025
Term 3	Monday 5 January 2026	Friday 13 February 2026
Term 4	Monday 23 February 2026	Thursday 02 April 2026
Term 5	Monday 20 April 2026	Friday 22 May 2026
Term 6	Monday 1 June 2026	Tuesday 21 July 2026