



**IMPORTANT DATES:**

**INSET day** Friday 12<sup>th</sup>  
February 2021

6pm to 7pm ~ Friday 12<sup>th</sup>  
February ~ **FIRST ONLINE**  
**FREE FAMILY QUIZ** via  
LetsLocalise

**February half-term** 15<sup>th</sup> to  
19<sup>th</sup> February 2021

**Term 4 begins** Monday 22<sup>nd</sup>  
February 2021

**World Creative Writing**  
**Month** 1<sup>st</sup> March – 31<sup>st</sup> 2021

**World Book Day** 4<sup>th</sup> March  
2021

**INSET day** Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March  
2021

**British Science Engineering**  
**Week** 6<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021  
**Comic Relief** 19<sup>th</sup> March  
2021

**World Poetry Day** 21<sup>st</sup>  
March 2021

**Reading Matters Week** 22<sup>nd</sup>  
to 26<sup>th</sup> March 2021

**World Autism Awareness**  
**Day** 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2021

**IMPORTANT REMINDER:**

Please **wear face**  
**coverings while on our**  
**School grounds.**

Dear Parents/Carers

This is the final newsletter of this term and I wanted to start by thanking you all for your kindness, smiles, positive messages and support this half-term we could not have got through it without you. We know for those of you that have been learning at home it has not always been easy but you have supported your children and the school in so many different ways and I want to thank you all.

As a school we have worked very hard each and every day to ensure we have remained open. **I know as a school we continue to be fortunate to not have closed any of our bubbles at all this academic year. This has only been achieved by the dedication of the staff here following all the risk assessment procedures and your ongoing parental support with social distancing. Alongside this, the staff have planned learning, taught children in school, produced printed home learning packs, made phone calls and updated Class DoJo. They are an amazing, dedicated and generous team and I couldn't be prouder of them!**

Unfortunately, there is no sunshine and blue sky today however Mr Kinver has successfully predicted the weather for the last few weeks and to finish the term he is predicting snow for Monday. We will see whether our very own weather man is correct- watch this space.

Parent consultations have taken place this week for children in Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum classes using Parent Cloud. It has been lovely to see so many of you even in a virtual way over the last two weeks and to catch up with you about the children their learning and wellbeing. We know that there were some issues around connectivity but on the whole this new system has worked well. If you missed your appointment because of technical issues, please do not worry teachers will be catching up with you this week or the first week after half-term.

Also the next edition of our **SEND newsletter will be emailed tomorrow**. We hope you have found the last two editions very informative. If you are looking for copies of these, you can find them on our website. If you have any concerns around SEND, please talk to your child's teacher in the first instance or email the school office and Mrs Horn or Mr Bogg will get back to you.



Last year in February half-term we had our first **Random Acts of Kindness Day** when over 40 volunteers and staff painted sheds, prepared our **ELSA rooms**, built furniture, tidied gardens, prepared our **forest school area**, made five new growing beds, cleared out spaces within the school and they also built a '**Living Willow Den**' that was kindly donated by Mrs Dodge family to the school in memory of her mother Angela. Mrs Dodge (Silver Class /Oak Class Teacher) explained that her mother loved the outdoors and reading. This year we however can't have people on site in the same way but the school continues to develop the spaces we have.

Mrs Parfitt message continued

**INSET days for 2020/2021**  
**School closed for all pupils**  
**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021**  
Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021  
Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Over this **half-term the site will be busy with painters and carpet fitters preparing our new Reception and Key Stage 1 Library area and our Main Key Library is being updated** as well.

We are looking forward to sharing these new spaces with you all once they are completed. We **do however need some help planning our five growing beds so if you know of anyone who is green fingered or has an allotment and they could help, we would love to hear from them.** Please email the school office [School@stmartinsgarden.org.uk](mailto:School@stmartinsgarden.org.uk) or let us know through Lets Localise that you could support us.

At the end of the newsletter we have attached some events that are happening over half-term although they are virtual please do take a look. **Talking of half-term, I have already seen some photographs of delicious cakes. These are one of Mrs Franklin's Fab, Fun Feb activities.** Remember you can **take photos share on Class DoJo or email them through your class email to your teacher.** I have also seen lots of skipping videos and will be skipping myself this half-term to keep up with Mrs Barrow who currently leads the school staff on 280 skips in two minutes. Let the skip off begin!

Also **tomorrow evening we have our first Free Virtual Quiz night with LetsLocalise.** The virtual door opens at 6pm and closes at 7pm. **FULL DETAILS BELOW.** There are numerous questions with options, a bit like 'Who wants to be a Millionaire'. This is our first Let's Localise event and I hope you enjoy it. Please do share this event with others.

Have a very restful half-term, take care and keep safe, Kind regards, Claire Parfitt, Head teacher



**PLEASE JOIN US for our First Family online Quiz night on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February at 6pm to 7pm via LetLocalise. LetsLocalise puts us in contact with local and national business and volunteers who may be able to help us with projects within school. They also help us organise fun family events.**

<https://www.letslocalise.co.uk/entertainment-details-view?eventId=11090> . Register for the event by following the link. This is NOT a zoom type event you will not see the other teams but there will be a live leader board. Prizes for the winning Teams. Pass this information to your family and Friends. Good Luck!

#### **step by step guide, to joining our Quiz**

- Click on the link for the event, (as above)
- Press 'Pledge Now'.
- If you have already registered with LetsLocalise, please use your login details to sign in.
- If you haven't got a LetsLocalise account yet, please press 'New to LetsLocalise? Create and account'
- Make sure the 'Individuals' box is ticked on the top.
- Add your full name, email address and a password. No further details are necessary for initial registration.
- Once confirmed, log in and press 'Pledge Now' again.
- Add the number of participants for the quiz and press 'Submit'.
- No further action needed, on the day of the Quiz Event LetsLocalise will share the joining details and instructions with you via the email address you gave when signing up.

## Coronavirus advice from NHS England

If you or anyone in your household has any of the main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), **get a test as soon as possible**. You MUST ALL Stay at home until you get the result. Only leave your home to get a test. The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

PLEASE VISIT <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19> for more information on the current COVID-19 procedures.

## FREE SCHOOL MEALS (Eligible by Benefits). Are you claiming benefits? You maybe entitled to Free School Meals!

Your child is eligible for benefit-related free school meals if they are attending a state school in Bath and North East Somerset, and you are receiving one or more of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit (if your annual net earned income is £7,400 or less, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit, **without any Working Tax Credit**, and an annual household income of £16,190 or less (as assessed by HMRC - Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs)
- **Four-week run-on** Working Tax Credit (paid for four weeks after you **STOP** qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

### How to apply

Call **Free School meals at B&NES** on **01225 39 43 17** to make a telephone registration, email [Freeschoolmeals@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:Freeschoolmeals@bathnes.gov.uk) or complete the on-line registration form <https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/form/apply-for-free-school-meals>

If you are entitled to Free School Meals (Eligible by Benefits) and **not attending school**, we are on behalf of the Government, issuing Vouchers, during this lockdown, via **Edenred**. Call the school office on 01225 832112 for more details. Please note: This is different to Universal Free school meals for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils.

**FEBRUARY HALF-TERM ~ B&NES council** will be issuing vouchers for Free School Meals pupils to cover Half-term (15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> February). You should have received an email regarding this. If not please call **B&NES directly on 01225 477777**. Thank you.

# Our Big Day Out

*Join our Virtual Day Trips and we'll bring half term to you!*

*Monday 15 February*

**Noah's Ark Zoo Farm**

*Tuesday 16 February*

**Aerospace Bristol**

*Wednesday 17 February*

**Bristol Aquarium**

*Thursday 18 February*

**We The Curious**

*Friday 19 February*

**Police Horses & Dogs**

**BBC** RADIO

**Bristol**