Term 4 Newsletter

Karl's Corner

As we come to the end of term 4 - and now two-thirds of the way through our school year - it has been most welcome to see the arrival of Spring. One of the things I really notice and value when working in a school is an awareness of the cycle of the seasons. Seeing blossom and daffodils arrive, alongside some sunshine and longer days, means we pupils can start to enjoy our outdoor spaces more and we can all enjoy the joy that a bit of sunshine brings. This is also the time of year when the whole school feels so settled, as everyone is embedded into their routines and relationships between pupils and staff are so established.

A number of our classes have been taking the opportunity to take our pupils on educational visits right now, with the Year 13 Post 16 students visiting a range of settings in preparation for their transition to Post-19, when they leave us in Year 14. This term they have visited SGS The Chase, City of Bristol (Ashley Down), Fired Up!, Peopleton Brook Farm and Buddies (Yate) . Our Post 16-3 class are also planning to visit SGS Filton in May. Meanwhile, Ruby and Diamond had a great day visiting the Bristol Zoo Project. Again, the warmer weather helps with all of this and it is great for our students to get out of school to broaden their experience of their wider community.

Primary classes have all been learning about 'The Circus' this term. Blue and Violet classes hosted parents for a circus experience, including clowns (with custard pies), juggling and a spectacular light show! We are really looking forward to planning more events involving parents, particularly as we move into the summer months.

I hope you, your family and your loved ones have a fantastic Easter break and we look forward to welcoming everyone back into school in just over two weeks.

- Karl

Around the school

Silver Class

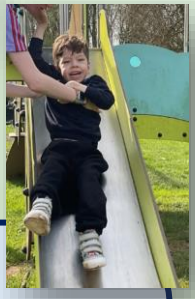
This term in silver class we have been learning about Bristol. We have enjoyed feeling the fan move the air whilst we watch hot air balloons and we have looked at all the animals in the zoo. We have also matched lots of famous landmarks on maps and done stencil painting like Banksy.

Diamond Class

Diamond and Ruby had a wonderful time on their trip to Bristol Zoo Project. We saw lots of different animals. We have also enjoyed preparing for our Bristol inspired art gallery.

Post 16 - friendships

Although we are learning across three classes, we still have plenty of time to hang out together and make friendships. Here is a selection of pictures of some of our leisure times where we have managed to snap of moments of friendships over this term.



Blue Class

This term for Red Nose Day, we decided to do our favourite thing – getting out to the park! We shared swings and loved the slide!

Community news

This term, FONSS have helped to fund some fantastic Forest School sessions for pupils to practise their practical skills in woodwork.

Plans will soon be underway for this year's summer fair!

If you would like to volunteer some time in either the organisation or running of the event on the day, please contact the school office who will pass on your contact details to the FONSS team.

A Wonderful Visit to Thornbury Library

To celebrate World Book Day, our Primary Site pupils enjoyed a fantastic trip to Thornbury Library. It was a wonderful opportunity to explore books, develop a love of reading, and enjoy stories together.

We were welcomed by the librarian, who read us a story. Afterwards, everyone joined in with some fun songs.

Pupils then had time to explore the library, discover new books, and choose a story to share with friends or adults. It was lovely to see the children so enthusiastic about reading and exploring books.

We had a brilliant time at Thornbury Library. Thank you to the library staff for welcoming us so warmly and helping us celebrate World Book Day in such a memorable way.

Around the school

Indigo Class

We have loved our Circus Sensory story, we listened to music, explored the big tent (parachute), tried on clown wigs & looked at our reflection and then splatted the clown with whipped cream! We have been using our communication boards to label items and request more.

Gold Class

Gold Class visited Bristol Museum. We went onto the Downs to look at the Suspension Bridge but it started hail stoning! We drove over the bridge in the minibus and looked at the cars and river below.

Emerald Class

Emerald class have loved learning about Bristol. We have tracked aeroplanes going into Bristol airport, made our own hot air balloon crafts and colourful houses thinking about the colourful houses in Totterdown. We have also enjoyed Brizzley Beatz songs thinking about Bristol Bears and exploring signs of spring, like blossom on the trees.

Subject area in focus:
Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

The EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) is the guidance for how all young children should be taught, supported, and cared for in their earliest years (from birth to five.)

The EYFS provision at New Siblands is highly individualised, therapeutic, and development-focused, while still following the framework set by Early Years Foundation Stage.

The EYFS is built around seven key areas:

Prime Areas

1. Communication and Language – listening, understanding, communicating
2. Physical Development – movement, coordination, health
3. Personal, Social and Emotional Development – relationships, confidence, managing feelings

Specific Areas

4. Literacy – reading and writing
5. Mathematics – numbers, shapes, patterns
6. Understanding the World – people, communities, environment, technology
7. Expressive Arts and Design – creativity, imagination, music, art

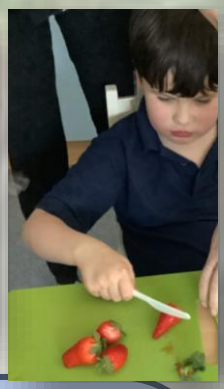
Uniform Swap Shop

Our uniform swap shop is up and running!

Pre-loved uniform is available upon request to be used by families. We are also accepting donations of uniform that no longer fits but is in good condition.

If you would like to make use of our uniform swap shop, please let your child's class teacher or email uniform@newsiblands.org.uk

Around the School



Red Class

As well as our colourful and excitement topic "The Circus", we have found a lot of celebrations to get involved in. Amongst others these have included World Book Day, where we joined the whole of Primary walking to Thornbury Library, Chinese New Year, where the children explored rice and noodles and Holi, where we all got covered in paint! To conclude the term, we held a Comic Relief disco and we haven't even started thinking about Easter yet!

Green Class

This term in Jigsaw we have been learning about being healthy! We have tried some different types of exercise and looked at the changes in our body when we are exercising like red cheeks! We also tried and prepared some different fruits and vegetables to try. It was great to try something new.

Yellow Class

Yellow class has had a wonderful term exploring lots of different celebrations such as Mothers' Day, World Book Day, Eid and Easter! Some of us had a lovely trip to the library where we listened to a few stories and explored the books, we had an amazing time! We also had a great outdoor learning session with Hilltops; we each had a go at making sparks and drilling!

Ruby Class

Ruby class have really enjoyed learning about all things Bristol this term! We have been busy looking at maps and learning about some of Bristol's key features; Clifton Suspension Bridge, the Harbourside, the colourful houses and Bristol Zoo Project! We had a wonderful trip to the zoo this term - we especially liked the (stinky) giraffes!

Term 5 Dates

Term dates for pupils

Term 5:

Term starts: Monday 20th April

Term ends: Friday 22nd May

Post 16: Work experience @ Grace Care Home

Post 16 3 have been visiting residents at Grace Care home weekly since January. We have been trialling out this as a future place of work. We have needed patience, kindness and the ability to chat to anyone. It has been lovely to make friends with the residents and find out more about their lives. They have lots of the same interests as we do, such as painting and jigsaws! It also made some of us realise this is not the career we want to go into to, whilst others have loved it.

Medication in school

If your child needs to have medication in school, please make sure that the medicine is in a **new, unopened** bottle/box with the child's name and prescription label (where appropriate) clearly printed.

You can follow the QR code below to fill in the relevant permission forms.

CPD corner

Ever wondered what teachers and support staff do after the pupils have left, and on INSET days? Gemma - our continued professional development (CPD) lead – tells us more…

"During term four we received some fantastic training on using Widgit. Widgit is a system of symbols and software used to support communication, understanding, and learning. Chloe (Diamond class teacher) and Alina (Ruby class teacher) shared their expert knowledge on using Widgit to all teachers and support staff during staff professional time.

Coming up at the end of term we also have our Trust Inset day on Thursday 2nd April. During this day teachers, support staff and carers can visit another one of our Trust schools and engage in their choice of two workshops. Some examples of available workshops include musical playfulness, emotional regulation and sensory processing strategies."

SEND Stay & Play

UNIQUE VOICE

We are delighted to be able to offer relaxed Stay & Play sessions in the school holidays during 2026 for children with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) and their families. Scan the QR code for registration details and locations!

SCAN ME

FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK

OR CLICK TO REGISTER

What to Expect:

- Arts & Crafts
- Drama & Storytelling
- Food Activities
- Support / Signposting

"My son really enjoyed attending the sessions today. He was able to take part in activities that would otherwise be difficult to attend. He was able to feel safe and express himself in an environment that was understanding of his needs."

Free* Entry

Dates in all school holidays throughout 2026!

Scan the QR code for more information

*Supported by:

COMMUNITY FUND

South Gloucestershire Council

Delivering for you

EASTER HOLIDAY SEND MUSIC SESSIONS!

Music-Makers sessions with North Somerset Parents and Carers Working Together.
Music sessions for young people with additional needs and their families.

13th April. The Firs, Drove Road, Weston-super-Mare
10-11am & 11.30-12.30 Family Sessions, 1.15-2.15 young person session.
Booking opens 26th March
Click here for NSPCWT Events Page
https://www.nspcwt.org/calendar

Family Sessions with BANES Parent Carer Forum
17th April, The Hive, Bath Road, Peasedown St John, Bath BA2 8DH
10.00-12.00 Families with primary aged children
1.00-3.00pm Families with secondary aged children
Families with children of mixed ages are welcome to attend either session!
Music Workshop – BANESPCF
Music Workshop – BANESPCF

3:1
2:1
1:1
SWIMMING LESSONS
NEW SIBLANDS POOL
TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAYS
4PM-8PM 25 MINUTE LESSONS
ENQUIRIES@SWIM4SUREUK.COM
SWIM4SURE
WWW.SWIM4SUREUK.COM