



Dear Parent/Carers,

My last newsletters took a slightly different format, with three special editions keeping families updated on our wonderful London residential. Since then, it has been a busy few weeks, packed with trips, transition activities and celebrations.

Last week was particularly unusual. Whilst many schools closed or partially closed during the heatwave, we remained open throughout. The adaptations needed to keep everyone safe brought back memories of the flexibility and creativity we all became accustomed to during the Covid years. Thankfully, our children took it all in their stride, as they always do. Now, with just two weeks left of the academic year, this penultimate newsletter is an opportunity to celebrate some of the many events and achievements that seem to have flown by at remarkable speed.

Yorkley's Talent Showcase:



Over three fantastic days, 20 of our talented pupils took to the stage to showcase a wonderful range of skills in our Yorkley's Got Talent event. Performances included electric guitar, gymnastics, singing, dance, drama, musical presentations and two beautiful Acappella performances. We were also treated to a special performance from our school choir, led by Ms Solana.

We are incredibly proud of every child who took part, demonstrating confidence, creativity, teamwork and excellent oracy skills throughout. Thank you to all the parents and families who came along to support and celebrate our talented performers



Our Amazing Choir!



Calipso and Mariners trip: Sadly, due to the heatwave, we had to cancel our planned trip to Ogmores Beach. However, we quickly arranged an alternative visit to Wenchford, where Calipso and Mariner had a fantastic day. The children enjoyed exploring the environment, cooling off in the stream, pond dipping and bug hunting. Working with their buddies across classes helped build confidence and teamwork, while creating lots of happy memories.

"The stream was my favourite part because we were able to play with our buddies and splash each other." Ada

"I loved being with our buddies and exploring the water and forest." Rosie



'Valuing Learning, Learning to Value' Friday 3rd July - Summer / Issue 250

Curriculum Drivers = Creativity / Building Me / Belonging / Communication / Active Adventure.



'Valuing Learning, Learning to Value' Friday 3rd July - Summer / Issue 250

Curriculum Drivers = Creativity / Building Me / Belonging / Communication / Active Adventure.



Secondary links and Transition Days

Our amazing young mathematicians did such a fantastic job at the Five Acres Primary Maths Day Challenge. Eight children worked in two dedicated teams, spending the whole day stretching their maths brains through a variety of challenges, from number fluency to tricky word problems.

William, Jake, Feyi and Olivia earned an impressive 4th place, with Brooke, Nathan, Reilly and Rosie close behind in 5th. They should all feel incredibly proud of themselves, their hard work, teamwork and determination really shone through.



As part of preparing for the next stage of their education, our Year 6 children have also been enjoying transition days at their feeder secondary schools. Visits to Five Acres, Wydean and The Dean Academy have given pupils the opportunity to explore their new surroundings, meet staff and make new friends. These experiences have helped build confidence and excitement for September.



Book fair

Thank you to everyone who attended our recent Book Fair. Your support and book purchases help to fund and enhance our school library, giving our children access to even more fantastic books. You spent an amazing £944.35 and thanks to your generosity, £472.18 worth of books will also be donated to the school free of charge.

'Valuing Learning, Learning to Value' Friday 3rd July - Summer / Issue 250

Curriculum Drivers = Creativity / Building Me / Belonging / Communication / Active Adventure.



Our **Father's Day Share a Book with a Special Person** event was a lovely occasion and a wonderful opportunity to celebrate reading together. Thank you to all the parents, carers and special family members who attended and helped make the event so enjoyable. It was fantastic to see so many children sharing books and spending quality time reading with the important people in their lives.



We are also coming to the end of our **READ Initiative**. The final few children are busy collecting their last

colours, and we are delighted to see more pupils than ever achieving their **Gold Certificate**. Their enthusiasm, perseverance and love of reading have been wonderful to see, and we are incredibly proud of all they have accomplished. Well done to everyone who has taken part!



Attendance Really Matters:

Whole School Attendance = 94.62%

Class:	Week ending:		
	12 th June	19 th June	When school stayed open: 26 th June
Calipso	93.60%	96.00%	73.20%
Apollo	96.92%	99.62%	72.69%
Phoenix	93.85%	95.38%	63.46%
Oberon	94.81%	97.38%	71.11%
Mercury	97.50%	97.39%	63.91%
Mariner	91.25%	94.17%	59.20%
Skylab	93.04%	94.78%	60.87%

'Valuing Learning, Learning to Value' Friday 3rd July - Summer / Issue 250

Curriculum Drivers = Creativity / Building Me / Belonging / Communication / Active Adventure.

House Points:

Week ending 12th June - Blue 182, Yellow 139, Green & Red 132.

Week ending 19th June - Green 193, Red 168, Yellow 162 and Blue 150

Star of the Week:

Week ending 12th June



Congratulations to: Alfie, Leo, Ella, Daisy, Faye, Ariadne and Noah

Week ending 19th June



Miesha, Lily, Madison-Eve, Nancy-Lil, Theo, Grace and Esmé

Kind regards,

K. Burke

Mrs K Burke

Executive Headteacher

Forest of Dean Community Schools Federation

'Valuing Learning, Learning to Value' Friday 3rd July - Summer / Issue 250

Curriculum Drivers = Creativity / Building Me / Belonging / Communication / Active Adventure.

Out of School Celebrations - Skills and Talents:

Well done to all our children for their fantastic achievements outside school! Oliver received two trophies from Ellwood Football Club, while Clay, Oliver and Max helped their team win a football tournament. Rosa achieved her Orange Belt in kickboxing, Max earned his *First Skills* boxing trophy, Freddie's football team won the Whitecroft Tournament, and Noah won *Team Event B* at Scout Strategy Camp. Otilie has been participating in All Stars Cricket Club for the season. Congratulations also to Otilie, Izzy, Elodie, Ivy, Gabi and Enfys for their swimming achievements. Paddy came an impressive 8th out of 48 riders in a challenging sand race, and Phoebe attended her first dog agility competition, earning a Judge's Special Rosette.



Reminder: Young Writers Summer Term Competition

We are excited to invite children to take part in the Young Writers "Big Poetry Party" and "Story Lab" competitions! These fantastic writing opportunities encourage creativity and imagination, and entries can be submitted in school until **Monday 13th July**. In the **Big Poetry Party** competition (ages 4-11), Young Writers will pick their favourite **five poets** who will each win a **£50 gift voucher of their choice**. In the **Story Lab** competition (ages 7-11), Young Writers will pick their favourite **five writers** who will each receive **£100 and a trophy!**

We would love as many children as possible to enter and share their wonderful ideas and writing talents. If you are interested, please speak to your teacher over the next few weeks for more information on how to enter. Good luck!



'Valuing Learning, Learning to Value' Friday 3rd July - Summer / Issue 250

Curriculum Drivers = Creativity / Building Me / Belonging / Communication / Active Adventure.

IMPORTANT DATES: - New dates in Red

DATE	EVENTS
Mon 6 th July	The Dean Academy Transition Day Year 6 (Day 1)
Mon 6 th July	Moving up morning - whole school *and new reception.
Tues 7 th July	The Dean Academy Transition Day Year 6 (Day 2)
Tue 7 th July	Moving up morning - whole school *and new reception.
Thu 9 th July	Leavers Play 5.30pm
Tues 14 th July	Written Reports out to Parents
Wed 15 th July	PTA Disco & Leavers party
Fri 17 th July	End of Term 6 - Finish at 1.15
Tue 1 st and Wed 2 nd September	INSET Days - School Closed
Thursday 3 rd September	Start of Autumn - Term 1

**SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS
2026/27**



SEPTEMBER					OCTOBER					NOVEMBER								
Mon		7	14	21	28	Mon		5	12	19	26	Mon		2	9	16	23	30
Tues	1	8	15	22	29	Tues		6	13	20	27	Tues		3	10	17	24	
Wed	2	9	16	23	30	Wed		7	14	21	28	Wed		4	11	18	25	
Thur		3	10	17	24	Thur	1	8	15	22	29	Thur		5	12	19	26	
Fri		4	11	18	25	Fri	2	9	16	23	30	Fri		6	13	20	27	
Sat		5	12	19	26													
Sun		6	13	20	27													
DECEMBER					JANUARY					FEBRUARY								
Mon		7	14	21	28	Mon		4	11	18	25	Mon	1	8	15	22		
Tues	1	8	15	22	29	Tues		5	12	19	26	Tues	2	9	16	23		
Wed	2	9	16	23	30	Wed		6	13	20	27	Wed	3	10	17	24		
Thur	3	10	17	24	31	Thur		7	14	21	28	Thur	4	11	18	25		
Fri	4	11	18	25	Fri	1	8	15	22	29	Fri	5	12	19	26			
Sat		5	12	19	26													
Sun		6	13	20	27													
MARCH					APRIL					MAY								
Mon	1	8	15	22	29	Mon		5	12	19	26	Mon	3	10	17	24	31	
Tues	2	9	16	23	30	Tues		6	13	20	27	Tues	4	11	18	25		
Wed	3	10	17	24	31	Wed		7	14	21	28	Wed	5	12	19	26		
Thur	4	11	18	25	Thur	1	8	15	22	29	Thur	6	13	20	27			
Fri	5	12	19	26	Fri	2	9	16	23	30	Fri	7	14	21	28			
Sat		6	13	20	27													
Sun		7	14	21	28													
JUNE					JULY					AUGUST								
Mon		7	14	21	28	Mon		5	12	19	26	Mon	2	9	16	23	30	
Tues	1	8	15	22	29	Tues		6	13	20	27	Tues	3	10	17	24	31	
Wed	2	9	16	23	30	Wed		7	14	21	28	Wed	4	11	18	25		
Thur	3	10	17	24	Thur	1	8	15	22	29	Thur	5	12	19	26			
Fri	4	11	18	25	Fri	2	9	16	23	30	Fri	6	13	20	27			
Sat		5	12	19	26	Sat	3	10	17	24	31	Sat	7	14	21	28		
Sun		6	13	20	27	Sun	4	11	18	25	Sun	1	8	15	22	29		

Term Time	Holidays
Bank Holiday	INSET

Christmas Bank Holidays	25 th December 2026
	26 th December 2026
New Year Bank Holiday	1 st January 2026
Good Friday	26 th March 2027
Easter Monday	29 th March 2027
Early May Bank Holiday	3 rd May 2027
Spring Bank Holiday	31 st May 2027
Summer Bank Holiday	30 th August 2027

Term 1: Tue 1 st Sept – Fri 23 rd Oct 2026	39 days
Term 2: Mon 2 nd Nov – Fri 18 th Dec 2026	35 days
Term 3: Mon 4 th Jan - Fri 12 th Feb 2027	30 days
Term 4: Mon 22 nd Feb – Thur 25 th Mar 2027	24 days
Term 5: Mon 12 th April – Fri 28 th May 2027	34 days
Term 6: Mon 7 th June – Wed 21 st July 2027	33 days
Total	195 days*

*195 days are defined as "School days". In the school year 2026/27 pupils must attend for 190 days. Schools may decide individually or collectively which 5 days in the year are INSET or non-contact days (days pupils do not need to attend). Academies and free schools are not legally bound by school day and school year regulations; however, the DfE has stated they should be working towards a minimum of 32.5 hours per school week by September 2024 at the latest.

Please Note: As per the Governance handbook, academies and free schools can choose to set their own term dates. Schools considering alternative dates or considering changes to their school opening times may wish to contact our Transport Team to discuss transport implications and contact local childcare providers to discuss what impact this could have.

Community News:

All History entries will be on display this Sunday 5th July in Coleford.



Forest of Dean Local History Society

Schools History Competition and History Quiz Open Afternoon

Sunday 5th July 2026 14:00 - 16:00
at The Main Place, Old Station Road, Coleford GL16 8RH

Free Entry, drop in to see all the pupils' work, including the winning entries




Meet us at...

Join us at partner picnics, play sessions, family events and community activities for **FREE** family fun throughout the summer

JULY

Quedgeley Saturday 4th July Family Fiesta 9.30am-4pm Fishers Meadow Monday 27th July Play Rangers Community Play 10am-4pm Manor Farm Park Kingsway	Matson Saturday 11th July First Blast Fun Fest 11am-3pm Three Oaks Park Thursday 23rd July Hillside Community Picnic 11am-3pm Hillside School Field	Forest of Dean Tuesday 28th July 10am-12pm Sedbury Saturday 25th July Lydney Community Event 2pm - 7pm Bathurst Park Thursday 30th July 10am-12pm St Briavels
Coney Hill Tuesday 28th July HAF Pop Up Activity Day 10am-2pm The Vibe	Linden Thursday 30th July HAF Pop Up Activity Day 10am-2pm The Lannett	

FOR FULL DETAILS
glosfamilycentres.org.uk

FREE ACTIVITIES FRIENDLY FACES EVERYONE WELCOME



PROSTARS KIDS CLUB

SUMMER HOLIDAYS!

FUN, ACTIVE & CREATIVE HOLIDAY CLUB FOR BOYS & GIRLS AGED 5-11!

SPORTS GAMES, CREATIVE ACTIVITIES & LOTS MORE!

VENUES FOR THIS SUMMER:

- PRIMROSE HILL - LYDNEY
- BERRY HILL - COLEFORD
- WYEDEAN - CHEPSTOW
- ABBEYMEAD - GLOUCESTER
- NAUNTON PARK - CHELTENHAM
- WALFORD - ROW

MAKE MEMORIES, MAKE FRIENDS, HAVE FUN!

BOOK NOW! prostars.ipalbookings.com
 OR SCAN THE QR CODE



KEEP ACTIVE MAKE NEW FRIENDS TRY NEW THINGS SAFE, FUN & SUPPORTIVE OUTDOOR & INDOOR FUN!



Meet us at...

AUGUST

Kingsway Monday 3rd August Play Rangers Community Play Sessions 10am-4pm Manor Farm Park Tuesday 4th August HAF Pop Up Activity Day 10am-2pm Kingsway Field, behind Sports Pavilion Monday 10th August Play Rangers Community Play Sessions 10am-4pm Manor Farm Park Monday 17th August Play Rangers Community Play Sessions 10am-4pm Manor Farm Park	Longlevens Friday 7th August HAF Pop Up Activity Day 10am-2pm Armscroft Park White City Wednesday 12th August HAF Pop Up Activity Day 10am-2pm The Venture Community Hub Tredworth Thursday 13th August HAF Pop Up Activity Day 10am-2pm Parry Field Kingsholm Friday 14th August HAF Pop Up Activity Day 10am-2pm Serbert Street Park	Tuffley Tuesday 18th August HAF Pop Up Activity Day 10am-2pm Holmleigh Park Forest of Dean Thursday 13th August 10am-12pm Jays Green Saturday 15th August Bells Field Family Fun Day 2pm-5pm Bells Field, Coleford Friday 28th August 10am-12pm Mitcheldean Westgate Thursday 20th August HAF Festival 10am-2pm The King's School
Abbeyle Thursday 6th August HAF Pop Up Activity Day 10am-2pm Gleven Way Park, next to Community Centre		

FOR FULL DETAILS



FREE ACTIVITIES FRIENDLY FACES EVERYONE WELCOME



EXCITING NEWS

FOR FOREST OF DEAN GIRLS!

YORKLEY A.F.C. IS LAUNCHING A BRAND-NEW GIRLS FOOTBALL TEAM!

Whether you've played football before or are completely new to the game, we'd love to hear from you. This is a fantastic opportunity to develop your skills, build confidence, stay active and be part of a growing girls' football community in the Forest of Dean.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR GIRLS WHO ARE:

- ✓ CURRENTLY IN YEAR 5 GOING INTO YEAR 6
- ✓ CURRENTLY IN YEAR 4 GOING INTO YEAR 5
- ✓ INTERESTED IN FOOTBALL, MAKING NEW FRIENDS AND BEING PART OF AN EXCITING NEW TEAM!

Be part of the start of **SOMETHING SPECIAL.**

 <p>FA-QUALIFIED COACHING</p>	 <p>FUN AND INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT</p>	 <p>OPPORTUNITIES TO TRAIN, DEVELOP AND PLAY MATCHES</p>	 <p>SUPPORTING OUR GIRLS TO GROW AND SUCCEED</p>	 <p>OPEN TO ALL ABILITIES - EVERYONE WELCOME!</p>
--	--	---	--	--

YORKLEY A.F.C. – NEW FOREST OF DEAN GIRLS TEAM
CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TRAINING DETAILS

#GirlsFootball #ForestOfDean #YorkleyAFC #GirlsInSport #FootballForAll
#FutureLionesses #GrassrootsFootball #GirlsFootballDevelopment #WatchThisSpace