

Update from the Headteacher

Dear Parents

This academic year has seen the return of so many inter-house events, sporting fixtures, school trips, music events, PTA events, ice cream Fridays. As a result our children have gained so much more this year in terms of their personal development and all-round school life. We have loved the normality that the majority of this year has brought. I am ever grateful to my amazing team for their above and beyond support in making all these opportunities happen for our children.

Linked to their personal development this year, our children have been learning more about what makes an effective learner. These characteristics in our school, fall under three headings: Engaged, Active and Thinking Critically.

We are so lucky as the vast majority of our children approach new

opportunities with curiosity, energy and enthusiasm, but by identifying the skills they are using allows them to grow their independence when tackling new learning opportunities and as result they make excellent personal progress.

CHARACTERISTICS OF EFFECTIVE LEARNING



As a school we said a final goodbye to Miss Rand and Mrs Harrison, as well as Mrs Helen Wilson. Helen joined our school two years ago to teach music across the school and develop our music curriculum. Helen's passion for music and the impact it has had on the children she has taught has been superb. She has also taught 120 Y5 and 6s to play the Ukulele, led our Y5 choir to sing with 6 other primary schools with Cheltenham College and adult choirs in the spectacular Zimbe concert at the Town Hall and led the Young Voices choir too! She leaves us for St James Primary and we wish her the best of luck.

Finally, our amazing Year 6 children finished the year in style in front of a packed hall sharing their memories of their time at school in their Leavers' Service and whilst it is always sad to see a cohort leave, we know that we have prepared them so well for the next onward journey to secondary school, where their next adventures await!

Here's part of the leavers' speech for our Year 6 pupils from this year with the theme of memories and new beginnings:

Year 6, lots has happened in these last seven years. They are seven years full of friendships, seven years full of learnt experiences and seven years full of memories. Memories that you have made on your journey through our school - from your first day to your last.

Memories are simply experiences remembered – some of these memories are exact and some are a bit fuzzy round the edges...you might have enjoyed them – or

Warden Hill Primary School

endured them – but whatever they may be, we always somehow learn from them and for some special ones, treasure them – they are part of us and mould who we are.

I know that we will be hearing very shortly some of your memories from you time at our school – but before you take us on that journey down memory lane – I'd like to take you on another journey – through the words of an abridged poem by Robert Frost

The Road

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood, And sorry I could not travel both And be one traveller, long I stood And looked down one as far as I could To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair, And having perhaps the better claim, Because it was grassy and wanted wear;

And both that morning equally lay In leaves no step had trodden back. Oh, I kept the first for another day! Yet knowing how way leads on to way, I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh Somewhere ages and ages hence: Two roads diverged in a wood, and I— I took the one less travelled by, And that has made all the difference. Year 6, as you leave today, are taking the path no step has trodden back – you are going to have the best adventure yet and you will experience and learn so many different things along the way at your secondary schools. You have the chance to make new decisions, to try new things (sports, new languages, new friendships) make the most of the opportunities that come your way. Choose your own path – make the difference.

This is an end to your time with us - but in every ending is a new beginning. You have lived our school values of Belong, Explore, Succeed and I, and the rest of the team, are really going to miss you. So, as you leave Warden Hill today smile, enjoy the time, have fun, because the best thing about memories is making them.

That just leaves me to say have a wonderful family filled holiday and we look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 6th September.

From all the team at Warden Hill, wherever you may be have a fabulous summer and enjoy making new memories!

Georgina Flooks

Parents' Evening - survey

I would love to hear from as many of you as possible regarding how we do our parents' evenings next year. We have kept the video/phone calls this year and then in addition to this, given you opportunities to come in and see your children's books. I know from general feedback in passing, parents have welcomed the video/phone calls from a logistical point of view but have missed being able to come in to see the classrooms.

We have been thinking of a hybrid version of this next year along the lines of:

- First Parents' evening in the Autumn term in person to meet your child's teacher face to face and see their classroom as well as their books
- Second Parents' evening Summer term via video/ phone call
- Open morning in the Summer term to come in and look at your child's books

We will send a short survey to you via the Xpressions App. Thank you in advance for taking to vote for your preferred option.

School Start Time Change

To fall in line with the minimum average school hours per week by 2023 as directed by the Government, we will be changing the official start time of our school day.

From September 2022 school will start (registration time) at 8:45am and finish at our normal time of 3:15. This means that the gates will be open from 8:35 and will be closed at 8:45am as all pupils should be in their classrooms at this time.

School Absences

This year we have seen a big increase in the request for holidays during term time. A lot of these requests have been the 're –rearranged' dates given by travel companies linked to covid and I have completely understood the circumstances around these. However going forward, I need to remind you all that holiday absence during the academic year is not permitted (and therefore unauthorised) as it interferes with the continuity of our children's education.

Our absence data is regularly checked by the Local Authority and is also shared with the Department for Education.

The Local Authority has the power to prosecute parents who fail to secure their child's regular attendance at school. Schools can, in some circumstances, request that the Local Authority issue a Penalty Notice where parents have failed to secure regular attendance at school.



Pupils' Success

Millie Higgins (4G) competed in the Cheltenham Swimming Water Polo Club Internal Summer Championship a few weekends ago.

She did really well and won four gold medals in her age category for multiple disciplines (200m free style and breast stroke and 100m breast stroke and individual medley).

What an achievement! Well done Millie!

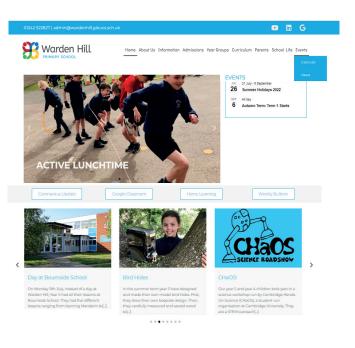


Head over to our website for more recent news

From September we will no longer produce the newsletter in its current form Instead, we will upload the news items regularly to our website. We hope that this way we will keep you informed of all exciting news and events at Warden Hill, as they happen.

The most recent news can always be seen on the home page. To view all the items, please go to Events - News.

Visit <u>https://wardenhill.gloucs.sch.uk/news/</u> to view our July posts.





Year 6 Performance

History Lesson on the High Street

On Friday Mth Xuy, war 5 damed their day at meeting in town in the classroom, in history they had been learning about how the high direct loads in the meet loads

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Day at Bournside School

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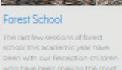
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Year 6: Osmington Bay

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Year 4 Ski Trip

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Year 4 Sleepover

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Reading Buddies

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Year 6 Osmington Bay Updates

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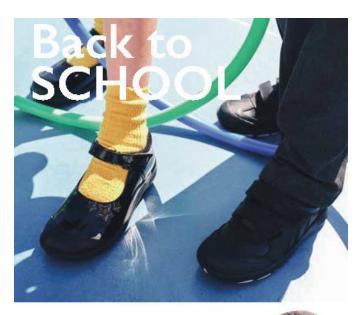


Better Together Community Sports Day

Thursday 28th July Ribston High School, Stroud Road, Gloucester 2:00pm - 7:00pm

The purpose of this event is to bring the community together and to have some fun!

There will be lots of activities taking places, such as a Climbing Wall, Tug of War and fun quizzes. We have a range of tournaments which you can join or watch. There will also be a range of free buffet of cultural foods.



Claim your FREE Jude's ice cream when you buy school shoes before 9 Sept 2022*.



Be ready for the new school year with John Lewis & Partners Cheltenham.

With a wide range of John Lewis & Partners school shoes, plus brands like **Clarks**, **Geox** and **Start-rite**, as well as many children's leisure shoes, we have all you need to get them back to school, fresh footed and ready to learn!



Scan to book your free appointment.

Don't forget that feet measuring and shoe fitting is available all year round in our Nursery department.

Name	
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*Terms and conditions 1. This vaucher exticks you to a free 100m (pet of juda's ice cream when you buy children's school shoes from john Lawis & Percens Chekenken, 2. The vaucher cert extry be redeemed in The Piece to Bar et john Lawis & Percensish Chekenkem end must be preserved slong with the seles receipt from your shoe purchess. 3. One vaucher per shoe purchess entry 4. This vaucher cennet be used in conjunction with any other effect. 3. Valid from Monday 19 July - Friday 9 Sept 2022. 6. No cash equivalent. 7. Subject to availability.





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