



Critchill School Newsletter
October 2024



Head Teacher News

Autumn Term 1

Welcome Back to all our Critchill families and a warm welcome to new families who have joined us. We are nearing the end of our first term and it is with great pleasure that we can share how well the students have settled in. I have been around to classes and seen students engaged in their learning and beginning to demonstrate progress towards their PLI Maps. At playtimes we can see students exploring the outdoors and enjoying time with friends from across the school.

This term we have begun a work placement at Longleat, we have been on external visits including to the Egg Theatre and we have already seen a range of visitors including the Wonder Dome to support learning on Space in key stage 2 and Fairfield Electrical to support Working Futures in Post 16.

We have implemented new Annual Review paperwork that has made meetings more purposeful and less about form filing, whilst meeting our statutory duties and keeping Children at the centre. Please do share any feedback you have on our Annual review meetings and we will reflect on this.

I hope everyone has an enjoyable Half term break and we look forward to seeing students back in school on Monday 4th November.

Kind regards,

Emma West

Staff Information



Maria is retiring from Critchill School. She has been a member of staff for 27 years and will be greatly missed by all staff and students. We wish her a relaxing retirement.

Upcoming Dates

4th November - Term 2 Starts

15th November - Children In Need

10th December - Christmas Fayre / FOC raffle

12th December - Christmas Jumper Day

18th December Christmas Lunch Day - **available to book now on Parent Pay**

20th December - End of Term 2

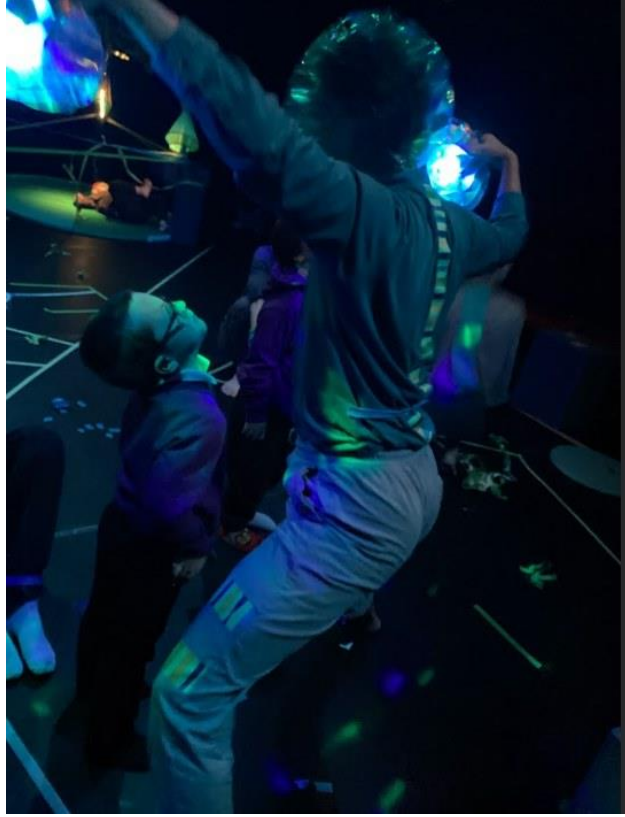
School News





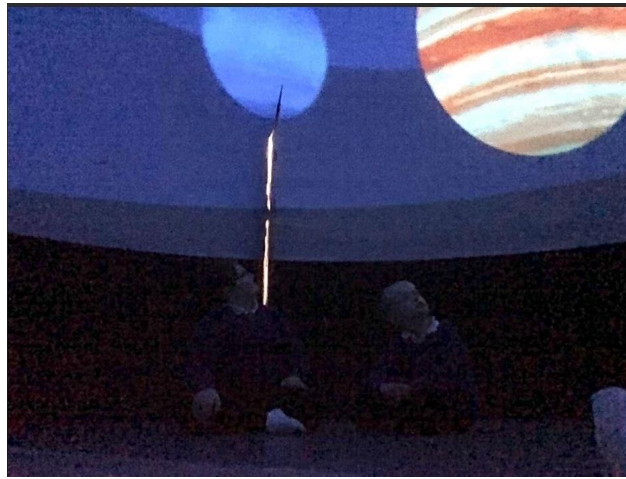


As part of our 'Under The Sea' theme, Wrens Class enjoyed an external visit to Acres Supply Garden & Aquatics Centre. All Students were able to have a look at different types of fish and sea creatures. Wrens class all showed safe behaviours and it was lovely to see them enjoy their first external visit.





This term Bramblings class have been learning about our senses and attended a multi-sensory dance show at The Egg Theatre titled 'Sticky Dance'. The children enjoyed an hour long performance that incorporated light, music, movement and sticky tape!



This term Key stage 2 finished off their theme of "Space" by exploring the Wonderdome. Whilst inside the dome, the pupils watched projections about the solar system and the planets. They were able to recall what they have been learning whilst also having the opportunity to relax and enjoy the projections.







This term in KS1, Bramblings and Nuthatches have been learning about their different senses as part of their theme 'All About Me'. They have explored a variety of senses through different activities, including having a musical visit from Singaling and taking a trip to visit some of our P16 students at Victoria Park Cafe for a yummy treat! In school students have also engaged with some exciting activities linked to our senses including making scented playdough, going for listening walks, exploring different textures through messy play and making lemonade!



This term in Kestrels we have been working on our theme of 'buildings'. Kestrels class have been researching a variety of different buildings from across the world. Kestrels have made towers and houses from a range of different materials and discussed what has worked well.



Hawks have been working hard this term on developing their core strength and fine gross motor skills through circuit training. Towards the end of term, they have begun to develop their own workouts for

themselves through choosing the exercise cards available to them. They are beginning to make decisions of their own fitness circuit exercises and it's good to see them continually develop this. Well done Hawks.

Critchill School Council



This term we welcomed six new members to the School Council. They will be representing pupil voice until Spring Term 1. They have been busy sharing their news and collecting and discussing entries from the suggestions box.

Highlights this term have included the completion of the new playground shelter which originated as an idea from the suggestions box. Money was kindly donated by Friends of Critchill in July for this project.

The Console Team requested some more up to date resources, and following a whole school vote, a Playstation was the most popular. Friends of Critchill have now very kindly bought a Playstation 5. This news was shared at a recent assembly and received a standing ovation.

Watch this Space: Critchill Council are also keen to help others in the community and are working on setting up a food donation point to support Fair Frome food bank.

Contact Details: critchillcouncil@critchillschool.com

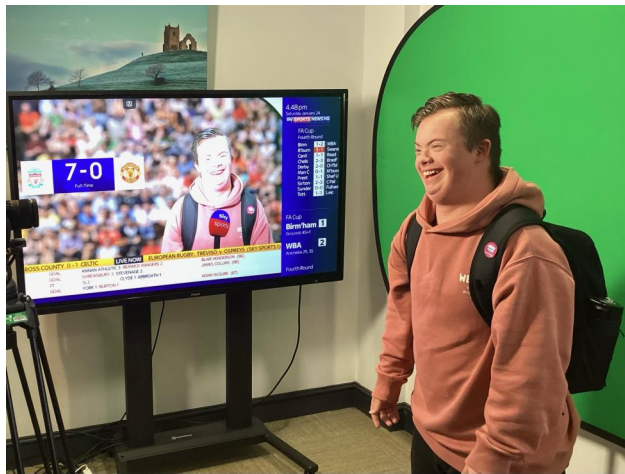


Working Futures (P16)

Pupils enjoyed a visit to the Yeovil Careers Fair this term. They had the opportunity to find out about their potential next steps after they leave Critchill. There were plenty of opportunities to consider and have a taster of.

As part of their ongoing work on careers, the Post 16 class were delighted to receive a visit from Fairfield Electrical. They learnt about electrical safety, what tasks an electrician does and what qualifications are required to become an electrician. Pupils had the chance to wire a socket and demonstrated fantastic teamwork. There was a really interesting conversation about the increasing need for electricians because of electric cars and maybe in the future there will not be a need for wiring due to wireless technology. Pupils were intrigued to learn that currently you cannot become an electrician if you are colourblind and unfortunately there is a shortage of women entering the profession.

We would like to thank Adam and Martin from Fairfield Electrical for their visit.





Friends of Critchill School

Following our Halloween event Friends of Critchill would like to thank everyone that came and made the event a success!

From this event we made an incredible £460!

This term we have donated a brand new Playstation 5 and games to the Console Club. We hope they get lots of fun and entertainment from it.

Coming home at the end of this week will be raffle tickets for you and your children to sell to enter the Friends of Critchill Raffle. There are some amazing prizes including Paulton park tickets, Avon Valley park vouchers and much more. Please look out for these in your childrens school bag. The draw will take place on Tuesday 10th December. Please ensure all unsold tickets come back to school.

Friends of Critchill are still in need of volunteers, with some outstanding roles to be filled along with some exciting new ones. Please do get in contact with us, you can have as much involvement as you like from taking on a role or volunteering at events. Without filling these roles and having volunteers we risk losing the PTA and will not be able to continue fundraising to enable us to do amazing things for the children at the school.

Please drop us an email at friendsofcritchill@gmail.com for more information.







Safeguarding

Online Gaming: We teach important safety messages about online safety in our Critchill Code lessons. Please do keep us informed if you feel your child would benefit from some additional support or a social story linked to this area.

Below is some guidance taken from the NSPCC website

Online games can be a great way for children and young people to keep busy and stay in touch with friends and family, but it's important that they play safely.

Things to consider if your child games online:

- age ratings of games they play
- messaging and contact functions on the games
- in-game purchases
- trolling, griefing and scams
- how to report problems
- where they can get further support.

Also, if you have more than one child in your home, be aware that games suitable for one child to play or watch, may not be suitable for another

For further information : <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-games/>

Family Information

School meals - Due to a system upgrade all meals that have been booked for after half term have been removed. Please re book from Friday 25th October. Sorry for any inconvenience.

Poppy Appeal



The Poppy Appeal merchandise is on sale in school from the office. If your child wishes to purchase an item please send a donation (minimum £1) in an envelope addressed to the poppy appeal. Thank you

Headlice



We have seen an increase in cases of head lice in school. It is important to check your child's hair for head lice.

The best technique is to use a head lice comb when the hair is wet, leaving in conditioner and combing the hair in sections. When the hair is wet, head lice cannot move so they are easier to comb out. Please note that they do not jump or fly, you can only catch head lice from head to head contact. If you find head lice, you should: Treat appropriately: the wet combing technique eradicates the lice and eggs. This should be done every 3 to 4 days over a 2-week period to break the life cycle. If you require further information please have a look at the following website: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/> Children who become clear of head lice can be re-infected at school. You can help to tackle this by following good prevention, by being vigilant to spot any new infections or re-infections and by seeking prompt treatment if you find any head lice. Head lice are best prevented and controlled by regular wet combing, and keeping long hair tied up.

Thank you for your help in this matter.

Nut Free

**THIS SCHOOL IS
NUT FREE**



A reminder we are a nut free school. We are asking that you do not send any food or drink into school that contains nuts.

Advice line



Royal United Hospitals Bath
NHS Foundation Trust

Children's Occupational Therapy Advice Line

Do you have any questions about a child or young person's ability to carry out daily tasks and activities?

01225 82 6659
The first and second Tuesday of each month.
2pm – 4pm

Our Advice Line is open to Parents / Carers, Schools, Nursery and Healthcare professionals of children who have a **BANES GP**

If the child is already on our Waiting List or is known to BANES OT Service, and you would like to speak to a member of the Occupational Therapy team, please contact 01225 82 4220.

The RUH, where you matter

They find handwriting really difficult.

He trips over really easily.

She struggles with zips and buttons.

They find it difficult to pick up small objects and play with small toys.

He can't catch a ball very well.

He doesn't like getting messy.

He finds it difficult to use cutlery.

They hate busy places and don't like loud noises.

They put everything in their mouth.

She can't tie her shoelaces.

Advice Line is open to children who have a BANES GP

Whats on in the local area



Pumpkin picking at **Palette & Pasture** on our new pumpkin patch with a wider variety of pumpkins to pick.

Entry to the pumpkin patch is priced at £1.50 per person.

You need a ticket for every adult and child aged 3 years and older to enter into the pumpkin patch.

You will have up to 2 hrs in the pumpkin patch.

You are welcome to pick as many pumpkins as you like. Wheelbarrows will be available for you to borrow on the day (subject to availability).

We are open every weekend in October, and everyday during October Half Term.

Prices of Pumpkins vary



Taking place in the creepy Rook Lane Chapel (Frome, Somerset, BA11 1DN) we will have our usual tuck shop with treats, no tricks! The fantastic Glitter Temple will be back to help you feel and look the part but don't forget we will also be holding a fancy dress competition and the best dressed will win a free ticket to our Christmas rave. So get your spooky outfits ready!! We will have a bouncy castle for you little ravers. The music will be raising the roof in the main room and the second room will be quieter chill out zone.

Please note – Under 13s need to be accompanied by an adult. Under 3s rave for free



FAMILY HALLOWEEN



OCTOBER 2024
4 days of fun activities in Frome
for families in need of support.

Tuesday 29th October	1pm-3pm	Play and Take Away with spooky crafts	Frome Library, Justice Lane, Frome, BA11 1BE
Wednesday 30th October	2pm-4pm *	Gardening	Rosetti House Care House, Welshmill Lane, Frome, BA11 2AA
Thursday 31st October	10am to 1pm *	Spooky Family Cookery	Trinity Church Hall, Trinity Street, Frome, BA11 3DE
Friday 1st November	2:30pm-5:30pm *	Building and decorating homes for the Fair Frome garden animals!	Fair Frome, Unit 7 Longacre (off Mooracre, Manor Furlong)

***Free Fair Frome lunch served at each session.**

BOOKING ESSENTIAL - contact RebeccaHarrison@purpleelephant.org.uk to book a place or ask your school or support worker to refer you

Adults to accompany and remain responsible for their children at all times.
 Family support workers available at all sessions.

Funded by:










4 activities during the October half term for local families

Chat and play

at Egford Park

Monday
28th October
1pm to 3pm

Join Frome Town Council for half-term fun in Egford Park.

- Frisbee golf
- Garden games

and view some ideas for new play equipment from Green Play Project.

greenplayproject 

Frome TOWN COUNCIL | Made differently



Chat and play at Egford Park