

# newsletter

March 2024



## From the Headteacher

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Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to our March Newsletter.

It has been a very productive term despite the challenges we face as a city.

Easter is such an important time of year, as Christians remember the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and all that it means. I hope all members of the SMRT community can enjoy some form of rest over the Easter break. Please do follow [this](#) link to catch-up or revisit the weekly worships that have been shared during this period.

### **Year 7-9 Prayer Morning**

We had a KS3 prayer morning on Monday 25 March and it was great to see so many students involved. We are grateful to all the students who participated and to Chaplain Josh for his leadership.

### **ALIVE Points**

This week I have had the pleasure of celebrating with 62 students who have achieved at least 250 ALIVE Points this academic year. It was great to recognise them for all they do and are. I will be writing to all the students and look forward to celebrating with the next cohort later this year. Well done!

### **Attendance**

Thank you and our students for your support and resilience in ensuring students attend school as regularly as possible. Despite areas for development, we continue to have absence rates lower than the local and national average. We recently received national recognition for the levels of attendance at SMRT. As a parent myself, I appreciate how much work can be required. Thank you and please do visit our attendance page [here](#) for information on the support available and processes we have in place.

### **Uniform**

As we prepare for a two-week break, I would like to firstly thank all students who wear the school uniform with pride. This is a basic expectation, but nonetheless, it makes such a difference to the sense of community and belonging.

We know there are barriers for some families in terms of access to uniform. We have effective processes in place to help overcome these barriers and we therefore expect our students to wear the correct uniform in line with our Behaviour and Good Relationships Policy. [Here](#) is a link to our uniform page. We will notify parents, carers, and students when we move to the summer uniform, but in the meantime, we ask for your support as we enforce the expectation of the correct uniform being worn appropriately throughout the school day. If you need any support, please contact your child's tutor as the first port of call. We are in

discussions with our uniform provider regarding uniform costs. These discussions will gather pace now that we have our new School Business Manager in post.

### **Governor of Bank of England Visit**

We had the privilege of hosting the Governor of the Bank of England at SMRT on Tuesday 26 March, and he met with our A Level Economics student and some Y11 students who are hoping to study Economics in Y12 next year. We also welcomed staff and students from other Bristol Schools. Andrew Bailey shared that they were the best questions he had ever taken from a school group. We are very grateful to Andrew for being so informative, engaging, and approachable.

### **Neurodiversity Celebration Week**

Neurodiversity Celebration week took place during 18 to 22 March. My thanks go to our excellent SENDCo, Mrs Whittaker, and her Learning Support Team for all they do to make all our students feel valued and included. Congratulations to two of our students, Felix and Mabel, who starred in a film made for Primary School students about neurodiversity.

### **Seussical the Musical**

Congratulations to everyone involved in our musical which was performed in the Main Hall last week. Students from every year group took part, including some in the band and some backstage, and it was lovely to see so many staff and families supporting this event.

### **Banana Bridge News**

Bristol City Council will be starting the restoration of Langton Street Bridge in May as part of a wider programme of repairs. Langton Street Bridge, also known as The Banana Bridge, will be closing on 13 May 2024 for a complete refurbishment of the structure. It will remain closed throughout the project, which is anticipated to take up to 18 months.

The iron and steel footbridge is a Grade II listed structure that was built in 1883. It spans the New Cut of the River Avon between Bedminster Bridge and Bath Bridge, providing a useful pedestrian link between the north and south of the river.

While it is closed, signposted diversions will direct people either on a route via Bath Bridge on Bath Road or via Bedminster Bridge. **Students will need to factor the diversion into their journey into school and leave enough time for this diversion.**

If you are interested, you can find out more about the New Cut bridges programme of repairs at [www.bristol.gov.uk/newcutbridges](http://www.bristol.gov.uk/newcutbridges).

### **Contact Details**

Do remember to keep us updated with any change to your contact details. You can do this using your parent/carer Bromcom link, and you will find instructions on how to do this via the school website <https://www.smrt.bristol.sch.uk/parents-and-carers/supporting-your-child/bromcom-parent-carer-support> (see specific options at the bottom of this web page).

### **Community News**

We are saying goodbye to Ms Kim (Maths) at the end of this term, as she moves overseas. Miss Thomas (LSA) will be starting her maternity leave after the holiday. I am sure you'll join me in wishing them both well.

We will be welcoming a new Head of Year (Mr Mattson) and a new Second in DT (Ms Joyce) at the start of next term.

I'd like to thank all in our community for their patience and application as we all get to grips with aspects of Bromcom and wish everyone a well-deserved break over the Easter holidays. I look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 15 April, refreshed and ready for the final push toward the exam period for Y11 and Y13 students.

*Del Planter, Headteacher*

## Word Book Day 7<sup>th</sup> March

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We had a wonderful World Book Day on Thursday 7th March. Lots of Year 7s and a number of staff took part in dressing up as characters from books for World Book Day. This was a lovely celebration of books with the Year 7s deserving a lot of credit for their excellent costumes and sense of fun on the day. Here are some pictures of staff in their costumes!



*Mr Boswell*

## Attendance

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Fantastic news!!

The school has been awarded a National School Attendance Award by the Fischer Family **Foundation (FFT)** for being in the top 25% of schools in England.

Thank you to all staff for all your efforts in supporting students to promote the highest standards of attendance.

Also, a thank you to students at SMRT who have made this possible

*Mr. Thomas-White*

## Model United Nations Conference

17 of our 6th form students attended the Bath International Model United Nations conference at Kingswood School this weekend to debate the serious issues of the day, from climate change and AI to the rights of women and Middle East peace. They represented Slovenia, Tunisia, Philippines and Myanmar, alongside 400 other students from schools around the country. Most students were quite new to this format but did brilliantly well, everyone contributing to debate and improving their knowledge of world affairs. The unscheduled snowfall on Saturday morning was an added bonus!

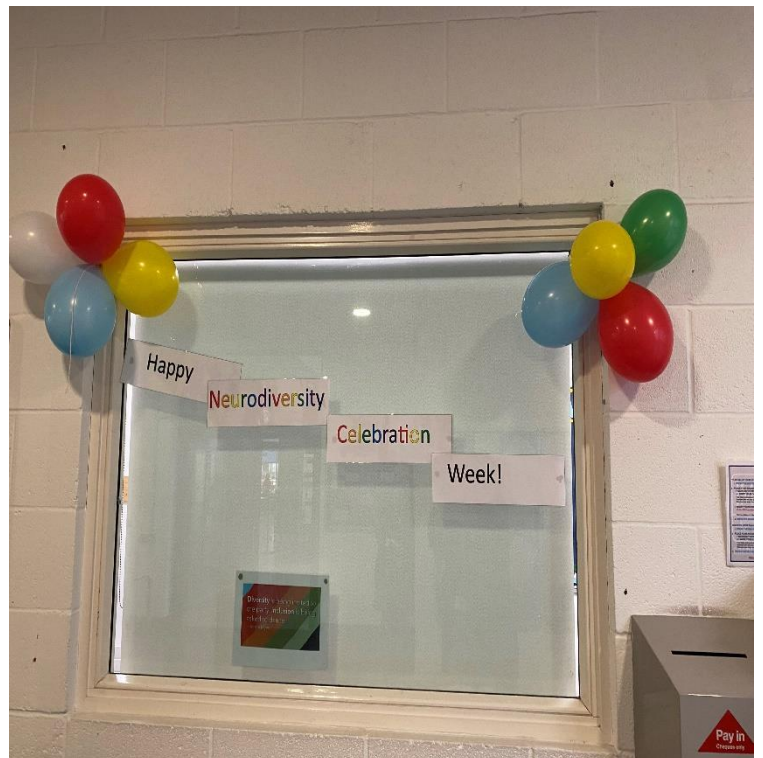


*Mr Wheeler*

## Celebrating Neurodiversity Week

During March, we have celebrated neurodiversity week in lots of ways. All students had an assembly all about what it means to be neurodiverse or neurotypical and how our school community is made up of so many different people. We also had a neurodiversity celebration poster competition running throughout the week. In tutor time, as part of the pastoral curriculum all students engaged in a session about how neurodiversity can bring creativity and lots of great skills to workplaces and communities. The Learning Support Team also had a stand with free bookmarks, stickers and leaflets to increase awareness.

Two of our students (Mabel and Felix) have featured in a film made for primary schools all about neurodiversity – we are so proud of them.



*Mrs Whittaker, SENCo*

## The School Nursing Service

The School Nursing Service is made up of specialist school nurses, school nurses, school health assistants and administrators. School Nurses work for the NHS and are not employed by schools. Parents and professionals can make referrals into the School Nursing Service and we can provide more information on this for any parent or carer who is interested.

Our allocated School Health Nurse is Elly Blackmore. She comes into school every Monday and offers a drop-in service at lunchtime, in Chaplain Josh's room on C floor in the main building. Any student is welcome to drop in to see her at any point throughout lunchtime. Any information shared by students with Elly will always be treated as confidential, unless this information indicates that there is a risk of harm to the student or a third party, in which case Elly will always explain to the young person who she needs to talk to and what might happen next.

Elly can support students with:

- Emotions and worry management
- Continence needs
- Sexual health and healthy relationship advice, including the C Card scheme
- Healthy lifestyles advice
- Talking to school and parents about students' worries
- Health questions
- Stopping smoking
- Drugs and alcohol advice
- Feeling unsafe

### The C Card scheme

The C Card scheme is aimed at young people between 13 and 24 years old, who can register to get a range of free condoms, information and advice. The aim of the service is to promote reproductive and sexual health and help young people to access local services.

The scheme is open to all young people. Condoms could be given to students over the age of 13 after lots of exploratory conversations with the School Nurse about safety, risks, healthy relationships and exploring ways of showing love without sex, if the nurse felt that the young person was going to participate in sex anyway. The nurse is bound by law to share information with the Designated Safeguarding Lead about any student under the age of 13 who asks for condoms. All students that want to participate in the C Card scheme are enrolled and have to participate in demonstrating the safe use and handling of condoms.

The School Nurse will also advise and signpost to other sexual health services if they are concerned about, for example, STIs, and can help the young people to make those appointments.

### Gender identity

While the School Nursing Service will provide advice and support around gender identity, where a student requests action from the school or college in relation to any degree of social transition, we will engage parents as a matter of priority, and encourage the student to speak to their parents.

*Ms Meredith*

## Friends of SMRT Quiz and Curry Night

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Dear Parents and Carers,

You are all warmly invited to attend our exciting QUIZ and CURRY NIGHT being held at SMRT school Hall on April 26th, 2024, at 7:30pm.

Please buy your tickets at the link below. By attending the Quiz and Curry Night we raise funds that help our school which mainly is to benefit our children.

Note: Copy and Paste the link below to your URL.

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/thefriendsofsmmaryredcliffeandtempleschool/1153626>

**Friends of SMRT**  
**FRIDAY 26th APRIL @ 7.30pm**  
**QUIZ & CURRY NIGHT**  
COME WITH A TEAM OR JOIN A TEAM ON THE NIGHT  
£15 PER PERSON  
CURRY INCLUDED IN THE PRICE. DRINKS AVAILABLE AT THE BAR.  
SIGN UP NOW  
<https://buytickets.at/thefriendsofsmmaryredcliffeandtempleschool/1153626>  
LOCATION: St Mary Redcliffe and Temple School, Redcliffe. BS1 6RT  
REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 282884

*Friends of SMRT*

## Dates for the diary

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[Click here](#) to visit our website calendar for up to the minute dates.

April 2024	
Mon 15 Apr	Y9 MenACWY Vaccinations
Tue 16 Apr	Start of Term Service
Thu 18 Apr	Y12 Geography Trip
Fri 19 Apr	Y8 MFL Spelling Bee Competition
Mon 22 Apr	Y12 UCAS Trip
Tue 23 Apr	Friends of SMRT Meeting 7pm- 8pm
Wed 24 Apr	Y11 Photography Exam start
	Y11 External PE Moderation

	GCSE Portuguese 3pm – 5pm
Thu 25 Apr	Junior Mathematical Challenge
	Y12 Geography Field Trip
Fri 26 Apr	Y12 Biology Trip (Bristol Uni)
	Friends of SMRT Quiz and Curry Night
Mon 29 Apr	Y10 Assessments Start
	Y13 Photography Exam Start
	GCSE Cantonese
Tue 30 Apr	GCSE German Speaking Exam

The full school calendar will be available [Click here](#) on the school website (School Life, Calendar). While correct at the time of publication there are occasional changes to the dates above, so for the latest information please refer to Options Form In the calendar on the website. If you don't have computer access and would like to receive a paper copy of the Newsletter, please contact Mrs Chaibi [chaibih@smrt.bristol.sch.uk](mailto:chaibih@smrt.bristol.sch.uk)

St Mary Redcliffe & Temple School, Somerset Square, Bristol BS1 6RT T: 0117 3772100 | [enquiries@smrt.bristol.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@smrt.bristol.sch.uk)

# Rent your PROM

**DRESSES & SUITS**



Why buy a dress or suit you'll only wear once? With '*Rent the Prom*' you can borrow the perfect prom dress, suit, shoes and accessories at a price that fits your budget. You will also be making your contribution against fast fashion.

## How renting works...pick your look!

- Come along on Thurs 25 April and have a browse of what's on offer.
- Try some on and find your perfect outfit!
- Have a glass of non-alcoholic prosecco while you try.
- Pay for your rental this **RESERVES** your item.
- Rental costs cover the dry cleaning and vary from £15-£25
- Get your collection and return date
- When your rental period is up, place your items (and the hangers and plastic) back in the garment bag they came in. Then bring it back to us.

**Suits are limited availability**

Please see Mrs. Jordan in DT Room A5 with any questions



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**BRISTOL BUS BOYCOTT 360  
TAKEOVER 2024 PROGRAM**

**APRIL 11TH -  
JULY 11TH 2024**

**WHERE  
CITY-WIDE**

<b>Apr 11 &amp; 12 11am - 3pm</b>	<b>Signs4Change:</b> Flag making workshop @ May Park School with Diaspora. <b>Free.</b>
<b>Apr 15 - May 5</b>	<b>Designs4Change:</b> digital ad campaign for a competition to design posters for bus stops across Bristol.
<b>Apr 17 10am - 4pm</b>	<b>Race In The City</b> @ City Hall. <b>Free.</b>
<b>Apr 18 10am - 4pm</b>	<b>Talks4Change</b> @ World Of Work: City of Bristol College. <b>Free.</b>
<b>APR 23 - 27</b>	<b>Community Service Play:</b> with Bristol Bus Boycott panel talk @ Tobacco Factory. <b>£12 - 20</b>
<b>Apr 25 6:30 pm</b>	<b>The Paul Stephenson Lecture</b> with Mayor of Bristol Marvin Rees @ Burges Salmon. <b>Free.</b>
<b>Apr 26 7:30 pm</b>	<b>60th anniversary</b> of Paul Stephenson's one-man sit-in of the Bay Horse Pub. <b>Free.</b>
<b>Apr 27 - May 27</b>	<b>Bristol Bus Boycott Exhibition</b> @ Sparks. <b>Free.</b>
<b>Apr 30 All day</b>	<b>61st Anniversary of Bristol Bus Boycott:</b> Citywide social media takeover. <b>Free.</b>
<b>Apr 30 6:30 pm</b>	<b>Plaque unveiling:</b> Tony Benn Hse and symposium with Jackie Graham Unites General Secretary. <b>Free.</b>
<b>May 5 &amp; 6 12 - 3:30pm</b>	<b>Walks4Change:</b> Guided tour of Bristol Bus Boycott sites with Bristol WalkFest & DIASPORA. <b>£10.</b>
<b>May 6 3.30 - 7 pm</b>	<b>Paul Stephenson Day Parade</b> @ College Green with DIASPORA. <b>Free</b>
<b>May 22nd</b>	<b>ABC of Guy Bailey:</b> @ UWE. <b>Free.</b>
<b>June 20th</b>	<b>Anthem4Change film</b> premiere and plaque ceremony unveiling @ Bristol Beacon. <b>Free.</b>
<b>July 11th</b>	<b>Designs4Change:</b> Bus stop design competition closes. Winner announced on August 28th.



For the full program and to pre-book your tickets to all events go to  
[www.CuriosityUnLtd.com](http://www.CuriosityUnLtd.com)

