

WEST TOWN LANE ACADEMY

WHERE THE LEARNING JOURNEY IS AN ADVENTURE



Sports Day 2026

With just a few weeks until half term, we thought we would share our Sports Day plan, as it will be upon us before we know it!

Please note the following dates for this year's **Sports Days**:

Tuesday 23rd June - Nursery and Reception (10:30 -12:00): Picnic 12:00 – 12:30

Wednesday 24th June - KS1/KS2 (Years 1-6)

The KS1 & KS2 Sports Day (Years 1-6) will be split in two.

Ravenclaw classes - 9:30 start	Hufflepuff classes – 13:45 start
1R, 2D, 2VR, 3DS, 4PHW, 4LW, 5T, 5H, 6B	1KP, 1P, 2DL, 3B, 3H, 4JW, 5C, 6W, 6J

Please note, there will be no picnic between these events this year, school lunches will be available for the children as normal.

Can children please wear a T-shirt which represents their house team e.g., Park (Green), Anning (Yellow), Stephenson (Red) & Campbell (Blue).

We're all really looking forward to the event; let's hope the sun shines!



Key Dates

May

1st – Year 4 Camp Returns

4th – May Bank Holiday

7th – Coffee Morning & Yr5 Mosque trip

11th – Yr 6 SATs Week

12th – Caterpillars visit to the zoo

13th – Bumblebees visit to the zoo

14th – Relationship & Sex Education online meeting for parents/carers (16:00 -17:00)

19th - Dragonflies visit to the zoo & Nursery Stay & Play

20th – 'Space' Workshops Yr 5 & 6 & 'No Pens Day'

21st – Year 5 Adventure activity – AllAboard Watersports, Nursery Stay & Play & FOS Non-Uniform Day

22nd - INSET DAY – School Closed

1st June - RETURN TO SCHOOL

Knowledge Organisers

We have recently shared knowledge organisers, designed to give you and your children the key knowledge that will be learnt during a new unit of work. They will be introduced at the beginning of a new unit, and will contain key vocabulary, diagrams, dates and people.

Children will have a knowledge organiser in their books, which they will refer to each lesson across the term. The hope is that by having all key information easily accessible, this will help the children remember and apply this knowledge.

Here's how you can help:

- **Quiz your child:** Use the sheet to ask questions, check key vocabulary, or ask them to define terms.
- **"Look, cover, write, check":** Have your child study a section, cover it, and try to write it from memory.
- **Create a blank version:** Challenge your child to fill in a blanked-out version of the organiser.
- **Identify gaps:** Use it to find which bits of knowledge your child finds tricky.
- **Teach back:** Ask your child to explain a topic, diagram, or process using the organiser as a guide.

We aim to introduce the knowledge organisers across more subjects soon. We hope these documents will be a useful learning tool moving forward.

Top 10 Attendance - February

6B were our Top Attending Class in **April**. A big well done to them! Each month, the class with the highest attendance will receive the Attendance Trophy and are rewarded with a 'Free- Time Pass' which entitles them to an additional playtime.

Ranking	Class
1 st	6B
2 nd	3B
3 rd	4LW
4 th	4PHW
5 th	1R
6 th	2D
7 th	1P
8 th	3H
9 th	3DS
10 th	5H



6B - top attending class in April 😊

Attendance Matters

Every Day Counts....

Year 6 visit to Bannau Brycheiniog

The Year 6 teachers and the Admin team organised a wonderful trip to Bannau Brycheiniog to visit the Sgwd Gwladys waterfall. The children had a lovely day learning about the different features and facts about rivers and streams, including the source, confluence, tributaries, meander, deltas and mouth.

This visit links to our, 'What is the Journey of a River?' enquiry.



Have you considered fostering?

Children in Bristol urgently need foster homes. By fostering with Bristol City Council, you help children stay close to their friends and family. Every child deserves a safe and welcoming home to help them reach their potential.

There's no typical foster family – just as there's no typical child.

You don't need to be married, own your own house, or have specific qualifications to be a foster carer. We welcome people of any ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age and religion.

In return for your time and care, you'll receive:

1. A weekly allowance per child plus weekly payments
2. Dedicated support and regular contact with other foster carers
3. Free access to Bristol City Council gyms and other citywide discounts

"Fostering is the best thing we have ever done and brings us joy and fun every single day." BCC foster carer.

Want to know more or have an informal chat with our team?

Email: fostering@bristol.gov.uk

Call: 0117 353 4200

Congratulations

A huge congratulations to Mr & Mrs Rayner on the birth of their son Toby. He was born on the 8th April and weighed 9lb 10oz.



STEM Careers Event

We are pleased to report that our **Year 5 & 6 Careers Event** was a great success.

The afternoon provided a wonderful opportunity for our children to look beyond the classroom and consider the many pathways available to them. It was a pleasure to see the children engaging so politely and showing genuine curiosity throughout the various sessions.

The children made the most of the afternoon, asking thoughtful questions and gaining a clearer understanding of what different roles look like in practice. The sessions sparked new passions and potentially altered the future trajectories of our pupils' lives.

We would like to extend a **huge thank you** to all our volunteers for kindly giving up their afternoon. We truly appreciate the effort made to share your experiences and help inspire the children as they begin to think about their own futures.



Name the Chick Competition

We are introducing four more chicks to the coop to join Jazz, Cookie, and Flo! These chicks hatched in our Nursery class incubator and have already created quite a buzz around the school. To celebrate, we're giving the children the opportunity to name our new arrivals.

On Facebook, please record your child's first name, their suggestion, and their year group under each photo. We will be selecting our favourites, and there will be a small prize for the winners!

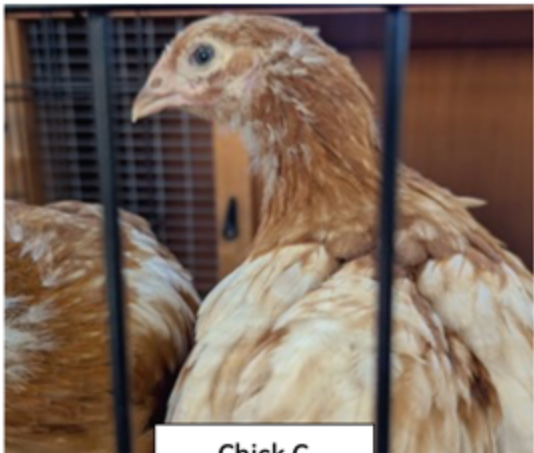
The competition closes on 15th May. If you are not on social media, please email ideas to office@wtlacademy.brsitol.sch.uk



Chick A



Chick B



Chick C



Chick D

Sponsored Read

We are absolutely thrilled to celebrate the incredible success of our recent Sponsored Read.

To all the children who participated: **thank you!** Your dedication and commitment was truly inspiring.

Beyond the funds raised, the real win is the positive impact on our children's learning. Immersing ourselves in books helps to:

- Expand vocabularies and improve writing skills.
- Boost imagination and empathy.
- Develop focus and a lifelong love for learning.

We also want to extend a **huge thank you** to Mr. Brown. This event wouldn't have been possible without his time spent organising every detail. Thank you again to our families for your generous support. Happy reading!

Sponsored read 2026 winners

Reception	Kalmin O-P 225 minutes read!
Year 1	Megan C-W 245 minutes read!
Year 2	Maggie W 435 minutes read!
Year 3	Arthur H 163 minutes read!
Year 4	Freddie S 230 minutes read!
Year 5	Harry M 360 minutes read!
Year 6	Zahra R 300 minutes read!



Staff & Volunteer Profiles

We thought it would be a great idea to let you get to know our staff and volunteers a little better. We employ over 100 people at WTL so there are a lot of individuals that you may know very well, but a significant number you may have never seen before! Many thanks to those staff and volunteers who have agreed to take part!

Name: Steve Robinson

Place of birth: Bath

Role in school: Site Manager

Time worked at WTL: Since July 2023

Other employment in schools: This is my first 'school' role although I did visit West Town Lane Academy amongst many other schools across the country as a contractor in my previous role.

Hobbies outside of school: I enjoy going to live gigs, Richard Ashcroft being the most recent and Shed Seven being next up, the odd round of golf, walks with my dog and I have a season ticket at Bath City FC. I have also recently got a taste for paddle boarding and will be back out there on (or more accurately 'in') the sea again soon.

The best thing about working at WTL is: Seeing the children learn and grow in an environment in which I play a role in providing. The fantastic effort and support I receive from the site, cleaning and catering team and of course starting the 'Great Fire of London' each year is always a highlight!

My biggest achievements/proudest moments at WTL: For me it's creating and maintaining the things that the children can really enjoy whilst they learn, so it's the chicken coop and school pond makeovers and the introduction of the school allotment and garden

Favourite subjects: P.E. History & Geography

An interesting fact about me: The most recent would likely be taking an RV trip across the U.S. states of Colorado, Wyoming & Montana and fulfilling a lifelong ambition of visiting Yellowstone National Park. Whilst on my travels, I swam in the world's largest mineral hot spring in Thermopolis, Wyoming and witnessed Bears, Buffalo & Wolves (amongst others) in their natural habitats which was pretty special to see.



NHS School Nurse

Our school nurse, Marie Bowden, will be available for drop-in sessions on the first **Friday of each term from 9-11am**. Slots are 15 mins.

She can offer support in topics such as: Eating, Sleep, Toileting, Emotional Wellbeing

Parents can arrive at 9am at the office and wait for a slot.





**FRIENDS of
SCHOOL**

Registered Charity Number 1216549

Wow. It's Term 5 already! We hope you had a fantastic Easter break. These last two terms are a busy time for the Friends team, so read on to find out what we are doing and how to help.

Quiz

Thank you to everyone who came to the quiz on Friday 24th April. It was a fantastic event, with the apple, grape and grain juices flowing and lots of brain cogs turning. Together, we raised a fantastic **£618.36!**

Non-uniform day - Thursday 21st May

Children can wear their own clothes on the last day of Term 5 for a donation of £1 or unwanted wine, alcohol or tombola items. The link to donate will follow closer to the day.

SAVE THE DATE - Summer fair Friday 19th June 5-8pm

How you can help

- *prize draw prizes*

If your business or employer could sponsor a prize, please get in touch.

- *think about volunteering on the day*

Parent volunteers are crucial to the success of the event. All the planning and purchasing ahead of the event are all for nothing if we don't have people to run stalls, face paint, help with the bar, set up stalls etc. Whether it's an hour or a whole day it all helps.

Does your employer support volunteer days? If so, we can offer a letter for your employer to support a day of volunteering for our charity.

- *discuss match funding from your employer*

Lots of businesses (Bristol water, M&S, Greggs and many more) will match funds raised by a charity. So why not volunteer on a stall and ask your employer if they'll match fund the money made?

Keep an eye on our socials or email us friends@wtlacademy.bristol.sch.uk for more info.

- *Donations, donations, donations!*

Having a clear-out? We'd like the following items:

- wine and bottles of alcohol,
- adult tombola prizes - alcoholic drinks, books, beauty gift sets, crockery, candles etc
- children tombola prizes - complete and like new toys such as puzzles, books, dolls, teddies, soft toys.

Please donate these items in our donation bin, which is next to our shed. Our shed is near to the path leading from the main gates to the classrooms opposite the school playing field.

Safeguarding – Term 5 theme

Our Safeguarding theme for term 5 is NSPCC PANTS ([Follow the link for info](#)) and our Inclusion theme is 'We all belong at West Town Lane'.

Our Safeguarding Team is:

Mrs Franklin (Designated Safeguarding Lead)

Mr Robbins (Deputy DSL)

Mrs Whiddington (DSL)

Mrs Hendy (Deputy DSL)

Colin Clements (Safeguarding Governor)

Changes to the RSHE curriculum

The Relationship, Sex and Health Education (RSE) guidance will change from September 2026.

If you would like to hear from our PSHE lead on what the new curriculum will look like in September, please come along to our online meeting on **May 14th at 4pm**. Please contact the Office for an invitation.

Here, we will share relevant documents, discuss the upcoming changes, and share information on your 'right to withdraw' from certain elements.

If you would like to see any materials we will be using from the Jigsaw scheme of work, please see your class teacher who will be able to provide you with a personalised access code to log in and look at Parent/Carer resources. We are unable to share these publicly.



Children on our RADAR

The following children have displayed an **outstanding** combination of **Respect**, **Adventure**, **Determination**, **Achievement** and **Resilience** over the month. Congratulations to:

Ladybirds – Zlata L

Caterpillars – Annabel P

Dragonflies – Aadam P

Bumblebees – Mayah S

1KP – Sonny A

1R – Anya P

1P – Freddie B

2DL – Declan K

2VR – Lola M

2D – Harishvini V

3B – Theo O

3DS – Thomas D-S

3H – Nuala S

4LW – Rosa C

4JW – Noa R

4PHW – Martha H

5TC – Leilani M

5C – Arthur L

5H – Amelia S

6B – Humaira S

6J – Mollie H

6W – Flynn B

