



Please remember to pack a healthy snack for your child's morning break. Drinks bottles should contain water only.

“Created by God to love and learn”

## NEWSLETTER 1

### 6.9.24

Violence, abuse and threatening behaviour against school staff or other members of the school community will not be tolerated

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome back to our children, parents and families. A special welcome to our new Reception starters and all of our new children who joined us this September. We are all incredibly proud of how well the children have settled in. It has been lovely to see them all looking so cheerful around school.

We have another exciting and busy year ahead, so please do check the calendar below and your messages from school to keep up with diary dates and new after-school clubs. This newsletter is produced fortnightly and is our main channel of communication, along with letters, texts and emails. Emails and texts are sent as reminders for upcoming events – we do try very hard to give parents adequate notice.

Finally, a reminder that in the mornings you can walk your child round to the rear door of the building if you wish. This is a return to our pre-Covid arrangement. **Please note that adults cannot enter the building without supervision for safeguarding reasons.**

With very best wishes,

Mr Mark Hilliam,  
Headteacher

#### **When are my child's PE days? (Please check with your child's class teacher for any changes)**

Ash (Reception): Wednesday\* and Thursday

Elm (Year 1): Monday and Wednesday

Maple (Year 2): Tuesday and Wednesday

Willow (Year 3): Wednesday and Friday

Hazel (Year 4): Wednesday\* and Friday

Birch (Year 5): Tuesday\* (double PE)

Oak (Year 6): Thursday (**Note on Tuesdays, Oak class will be swimming in Terms 1 and 6: children should wear school uniform**) \*These lessons are taught by our professional PE coaches from Signature Sports

#### **Swimming:**

Swimming will start on 1<sup>st</sup> October and is on Tuesdays. Year 6 will swim first, then Year 5, then Year 4.

Details below. Please let us know if you can volunteer to accompany the class. Dates are:

Oak (Year 6): 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> November and 17<sup>th</sup> December

Birch (Year 5): 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> January, 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> February and 4<sup>th</sup> March

Hazel (Year 4): 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> April, 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> May and 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> June

#### **Homework expectations:**

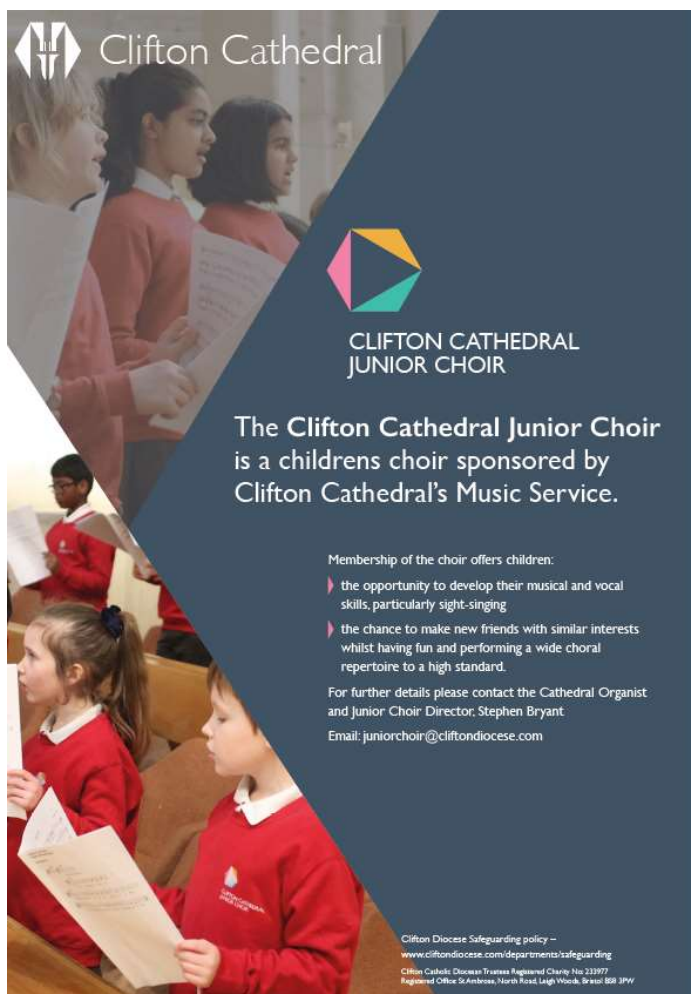
In the initial weeks, we allow time for the children to settle into school and become used to their new class and routines. Homework is designed to support learning and is comprised of activities that you could expect to undertake with your child anyway:

- 1) Frequent reading, daily if possible** – please listen to your child read and note in their reading record. You can start this when your child receives his/her reading book and reading record.


- 2) **Weekly spelling tests** – spelling lists will be given out soon, to be tested every Friday.
- 3) **Maths** – children in Years 1-6 will soon be set up on our 'My Maths' portal, which allows teachers to set work online. Children in Years 2-6 will also be able to practise their multiplication tables with their 'Times Table Rockstars' login. Again, details will follow.
- 4) **Topic homework** – this is set the week before a half-term holiday (i.e. three times per year) and children are given three weeks to complete it, allowing you the flexibility and time to choose whether to do it during a school week or the holiday.

**We know that some parents are keen for their children to practise their maths and other subjects at home and we would recommend the games and activities for home learning listed on our website:**

[St Augustine of Canterbury Catholic Primary School - School & Remote Learning \(staugustinedownend.org.uk\)](http://staugustinedownend.org.uk)



**Clifton Cathedral**



**CLIFTON CATHEDRAL JUNIOR CHOIR**

The Clifton Cathedral Junior Choir is a childrens choir sponsored by Clifton Cathedral's Music Service.

Membership of the choir offers children:

- ▶ the opportunity to develop their musical and vocal skills, particularly sight-singing
- ▶ the chance to make new friends with similar interests whilst having fun and performing a wide choral repertoire to a high standard.

For further details please contact the Cathedral Organist and Junior Choir Director, Stephen Bryant  
Email: [juniorchoir@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:juniorchoir@cliftondiocese.com)

Clifton Diocese Safeguarding policy – [www.cliftondiocese.com/departments/safeguarding](http://www.cliftondiocese.com/departments/safeguarding)  
Clifton Catholic Diocese Trustees Registered Charity No. 233977  
Registered Office, St Ambrose, North Road, Leigh Woods, Bristol BS8 3PW

## The STEM Factory

@St Augustine's Catholic Primary School



What: AI Robotics  
5, 45 minute sessions

When: Thursdays  
Start Date: 12/09/24

Who: Anyone in KS2

Price: £42.00



**ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**

No Chat GPT or Dall-E2. We're going to mix Robotics and AI instead. Part 1 of our AI Robotics course will cover Line tracking, Colour recognition and simplified Autonomous Vehicles. First we'll recap on the code, what does what etc. Then we cover using AI to recognise colours and react to them. Finally we introduce the idea of teaching AI to recognise lines and street signs enabling the robot to move around a predefined course.

How would you incorporate these features into a robot? What could they be used for?

For further information and to register your interest, visit:

**[thestemfactory.co.uk](http://thestemfactory.co.uk)**

### **Lunchtime meals must be ordered on School Food United:**

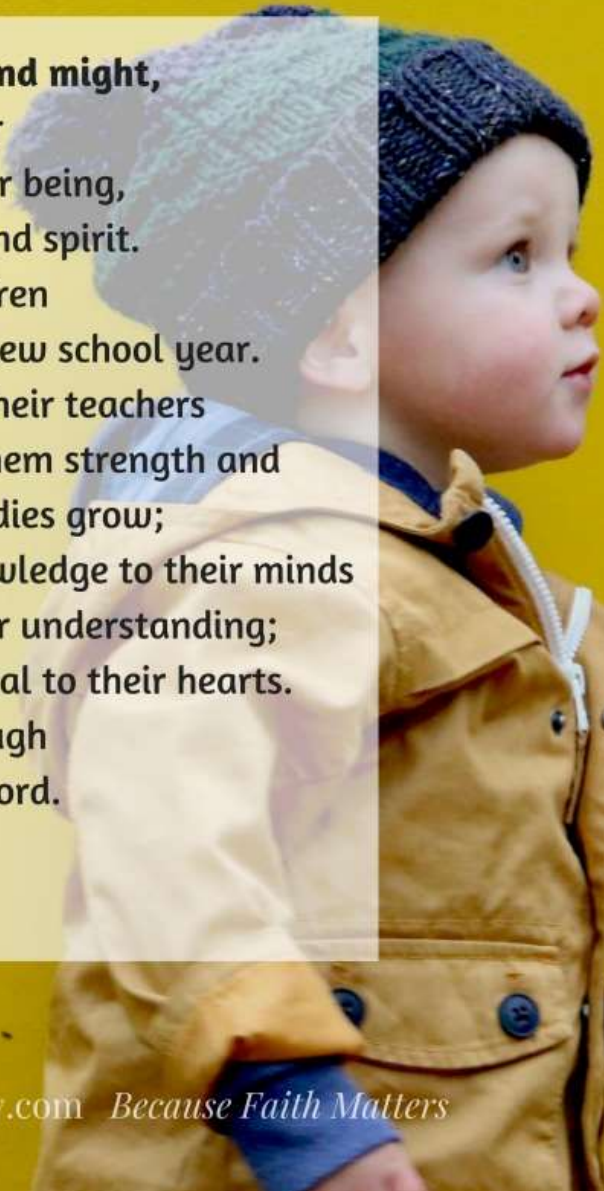
The children (and staff!) are really enjoying the new menus this year from our new caterers, AIP. It is essential that you order your child's lunch on the 'School Food United' app otherwise there will not be a lunch for your child. Both AIP and school staff want to avoid any upset at lunchtimes. AIP do not wish for any child to miss out but food is prepared freshly to order. Please contact the office if you need any help.

*Dates for your diary – more dates will be added as they arise:*

Monday	9 <sup>th</sup>	Sept	School council elections this week
Monday	16 <sup>th</sup>	Sept	House captain elections this week
Thursday	19 <sup>th</sup>	Sept	New school year mass, church at 9:30am
Tuesday	1 <sup>st</sup>	Oct	Mathstermind 1
Tuesday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Oct	Open Day 1: 9:30am, 11:30am and 2:30pm
Thursday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Oct	Tennis coaching (details to follow)
Friday	4 <sup>th</sup>	Oct	PTFA AGM and Quiz Night (details to follow)
Monday	7 <sup>th</sup>	Oct	Year 6 Oak Class mass, 2:30pm in hall
Wednesday	9 <sup>th</sup>	Oct	Open Day 2: 9:30am, 11:30am and 2:30pm
Friday	11 <sup>th</sup>	Oct	Harvest Festival, followed by conker competition
Tuesday	15 <sup>th</sup>	Oct	Pre-loved uniform sale (PTFA)
Wednesday	16 <sup>th</sup>	Oct	Open Day 3, 6pm
Friday	18 <sup>th</sup>	Oct	Buddy tea; Ash & Oak classes (details to be confirmed)
Friday	18 <sup>th</sup>	Oct	KS2 Film Club, after school (PTFA)
Monday	21 <sup>st</sup>	Oct	Maths themed day
Tuesday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Oct	Parents evening 1, 3:40-6:30pm
Wednesday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Oct	Bristol Museum Trip for Willow (3) and Hazel (4) Classes
Thursday	24 <sup>th</sup>	Oct	Parents evening 2, 4pm-7pm
Monday	28 <sup>th</sup>	Oct	HALF TERM
Monday	4 <sup>th</sup>	Nov	School returns – term 2
Tuesday	5 <sup>th</sup>	Nov	Y5 (Birch) class mass, 2:30pm in school hall
Friday	8 <sup>th</sup>	Nov	Open Day 4, 10am
Saturday	9 <sup>th</sup>	Nov	Open Day 5, 10am
Tuesday	12 <sup>th</sup>	Nov	Spellathon 1
Saturday	16 <sup>th</sup>	Nov	Parish Christmas bazaar, school hall
Monday	18 <sup>th</sup>	Nov	Open Day 6, 6pm
Friday	29 <sup>th</sup>	Nov	Wreath making, 7pm-9pm
Tuesday	10 <sup>th</sup>	Dec	Pre-loved uniform sale after school (PTFA)
Wednesday	11 <sup>th</sup>	Dec	Ash Class nativity, 2:30pm / KS1 nativity, 5:30pm
Friday	13 <sup>th</sup>	Dec	Christmas disco (PTFA)
Tuesday	17 <sup>th</sup>	Dec	KS2 Carol service, 6pm in church
Thursday	19 <sup>th</sup>	Dec	Christmas mass, 9:30am in church
Friday	20 <sup>th</sup>	Dec	Last day of term 2
Monday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Dec	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
Monday	6 <sup>th</sup>	Jan 2025	INSET Day 3
Friday	14 <sup>th</sup>	Feb	Last day of term 3
Monday	17 <sup>th</sup>	Feb	HALF TERM

Monday	24 <sup>th</sup>	Feb	School returns – term 4
Friday	4 <sup>th</sup>	April	INSET Day 4
Monday	7 <sup>th</sup>	April	EASTER HOLIDAY
Tuesday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	April	School returns – term 5
Monday	26 <sup>th</sup>	May	HALF TERM
Monday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	June	School returns – term 6
Friday	4 <sup>th</sup>	July	INSET Day 5
Tuesday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	July	END OF TERM

## Prayer for A New School Year



**God of wisdom and might,**  
we praise you for  
the wonder of our being,  
for mind, body and spirit.  
Be with our children  
as they begin a new school year.  
Bless them and their teachers  
and staff. Give them strength and  
grace as their bodies grow;  
wisdom and knowledge to their minds  
as they search for understanding;  
and peace and zeal to their hearts.  
We ask this through  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**