



Summerhill Academy

Term 2 Newsletter

December 2025



Welcome to the end of another busy, successful term!

There has been so much happening – see below for the highlights. I particularly enjoyed taking part in the St George Lamplighters Parade with Year 4, and seeing so many of you lining the route and cheering us on. Thank you!

As I said at the end of the Year 3 Nativity show yesterday, it has been lovely getting to know the new members of our Summerhill Academy Community, and they did a great job in the show!

You will have noticed that attendance - children coming to school every day unless they absolutely can't - is a really important priority for us, and we've really appreciated your support with it so far this academic year.

We hope that however you are spending the winter break, that it is time of peaceful joy for all, and we look forward to seeing everyone again on Tuesday 6th January 2026 for another exciting term.

Chris Barratt,
Principal

Let's Get Talking!

Oracy is a key skill for all children in the Summerhill community. Please encourage your child to use their oracy skills at home over the break by discussing this talking point:

If you could design the perfect winter day, what would you do?

Some possible sentence starts:

- My perfect winter day would start with...
- I would spend the day with ... because...
- My winter day would be unique because...
- The most important thing to include would be... because...

Year 5 Swimming Reminder

Year 5 will be starting swimming lessons every Wednesday from January. Children will need to arrive at school with their swimming costumes on underneath their uniform. Boys will need swim shorts that come above the knee. Girls will need all in one swimming costumes (no bikinis).

Children will need to bring:

- A towel
- Underwear
- A hairband for long hair (if necessary)
- Goggles are highly recommended

Year 3 go on a Tudor Adventure



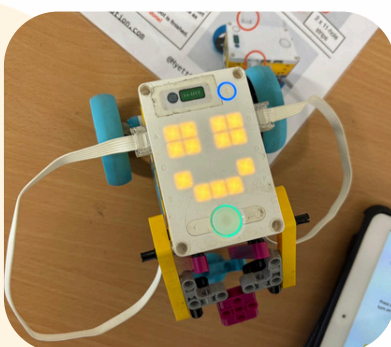
Year 3 had an incredible learning experience at Hampton Court Palace, where they experienced what life was like in Tudor times and attended a workshop all about Henry VIII. This supported their brilliant writing as historians when they answered the question: **Henry VIII - tyrant or great statesman?**

A big thank you to Mrs McNamara and Miss Pomeroy for organising this terrific trip, and securing funding! And of course thank you to our volunteers for making this trip possible - we couldn't do it without you.

Year 6 Build Robots!

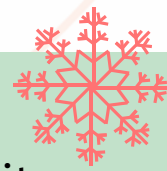
Year 6 had an amazing opportunity this term, taking part in a STEM Robotics workshop.

They built their own robots 🤖 and then used a coding programme to give commands, enabling the robot to follow a course. Lots of engaged children and smiley faces all round! Well done Year 6!





Festive News!



Winter Fayre and Year 3 Nativity



The year's **Winter Fayre** was a big success! Families joined us for a jolly afternoon of fun, food, games, and enjoyed some wonderful festive songs from every year group. Together, we raised an incredible **£1,082!** Thank you to everyone that came for this special event, and congratulations to the winners of this year's raffle. A special shout-out to Miss Lowther for her hard work organising everything. **A very big thank you** also goes out to all the helpers, bakers, and prize donators - your ongoing support really makes a difference in expanding opportunities at Summerhill.



In other Festive News, **Year 3** for put on two amazing performances of their Nativity show! Friends and family were in attendance and thoroughly enjoy the show. What's more, some very kind volunteers went to sing Christmas songs at St George Care Home. They arrived back amazingly happy with the trip, and the teaching team were very proud of them - well done Year 3!



Fun Fest School Games Event at City Academy


A group of pupils had an amazing time this term at the Fun Fest School Games event at City Academy. The children loved the different activities, which included Pac-man, Crash Bandicoot and Battleships, and as usual everyone's conduct was amazing, with teachers from other schools commenting on their good behaviour.



Clothes Bank

As the seasons change, it's a great time to make use of our **Clothes Bank**, available to all families in our school community. This scheme supports re-use of the unwanted clothes for good causes, and helps raise funds for the school. Please ensure donations consist of clean, usable clothing, shoes, bags and belts.

Winter Eco Tip: Seasonal Art

Get off those screens and out into nature this winter break! Try creating some nature art - collect twigs, leaves and stones to create outdoor art. Please do share any pictures with your class teacher 

Church Road Lantern Parade!

Our school shone brightly at the Church Road Lantern Parade on Saturday December 6th! We were very lucky to have artist Dee Moxon come in and work with Year 4 pupils to create two large lanterns for the **Be Wild** theme: a majestic stag and an elegant doe. The children showed great creativity and teamwork on this one, with fantastic results as you can see! We also held successful afterschool family workshops, where families crafted their own individual, imaginative lanterns.

Thank you to everyone who participated and helped make the parade a magical event. And a big thank you to Lamplighter Arts for all they have done to make this happen!



Bikeability

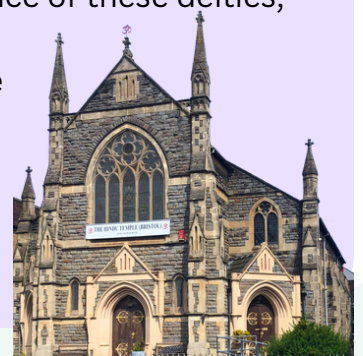
A big round of applause for those children who completed this year's Bikeability Course! Children in Year 3 and 4 took on the challenge of learning to cycle, and we saw a fantastic effort from everyone - well done!

Please please keep an eye out for further details about higher level Bikeability courses for other year groups running in Term 4.



Year 5 Hindu Temple Trip

Year 5 enjoyed a walk down Church Road to visit the Hindu Temple as part of their learning about Hinduism. They discovered that Hindus believe in one supreme God, and the many deities represent the different roles and qualities of this God. They explored the stories and significance of these deities, enriching their understanding of the Hindu faith. Thank you to those who volunteered for this trip.





SUMMERHILL NEEDS YOU!



Summerhill Academy Friends are looking for volunteers! Every offer of help makes a difference, no matter how small.

SAF support our community by fundraising and putting on fantastic events and activities, helping make unique experiences possible for our children.

Here are just a few reasons to join:

- Meet other parents and carers
- Make a real difference to the school
- Develop new skills and gain experience
- Fun, rewarding, and flexible involvement

**Join now and make a difference in the
Summerhill Community!**

Email summerhillacademyfriends@gmail.com
to get involved



Term Dates 2025-2026

Term 1	
First day of term for students	Wednesday 3rd September 2025
Last day of term for students	Wednesday 22nd October 2025
INSET Dates	Monday 1st September 2025 Tuesday 2nd September 2025 Thursday 23rd October 2025 Friday 24th October 2025
Term 2	
First day of term for students	Monday 3rd November 2025
Last day of term for students	Friday 19th December 2025
Term 3	
First day of term for students	Tuesday 6th January 2026
Last day of term for students	Friday 13th February 2026
INSET Dates	Monday 5th January 2026
Term 4	
First day of term for students	Tuesday 24th February 2026
Last day of term for students	Thursday 2nd April 2026
INSET Dates	Monday 23rd February 2026 Friday 13th March 2026
Bank Holidays	Friday 3rd April 2026
Term 5	
First day of term for students	Monday 20th April 2026
Last day of term for students	Friday 22nd May 2026
Bank Holiday	Monday 4th May 2026
Term 6	
First day of term for students	Monday 1st June 2026
Last day of term for students	Tuesday 21st July 2026
INSET Dates	Friday 3rd July 2026

☀️ Venue Available for Hire – Great Rates! ☀️

Looking for a space to host your next event or club?
Our **school hall and field** are available for weekend and evening hire at very competitive rates!

Whether it's for sports, clubs, community groups, or something else entirely, we'd love to hear from you.

All enquiries to info@sa.clf.uk

A promotional graphic for the Bristol Sport Foundation. It features a colorful geometric border on the left. The top left shows a group of children in green vests playing on a field. The top right shows a young child in a yellow vest kicking a soccer ball. The central text reads: "BRISTOL SPORT FOUNDATION" in large pink letters, followed by "ACTIVE. HEALTHY. HAPPY." in blue. Below this, it states: "We deliver fun and inclusive sport and physical activity sessions in Greater Bristol to provide children with opportunities to enjoy being active and fall in love with sport." It then says: "Find out what Clubs, Hubs & Camps we have available at your school and in the local area at www.bristolsportfoundation.org." At the bottom left is the Bristol Sport Foundation logo, and at the bottom right is a QR code.

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BRISTOL
SPORT FOUNDATION



Admissions Policy Consultation Process

The Academy is consulting on its Admissions Policy and the proposed policy can be found on our website here <https://summerhillacademy.clf.uk/our-academy/admissions/>

You are invited to provide any comments for consideration on the proposed arrangements by 5pm on 31 January 2026 for comments. Final arrangements must be determined (approved by academy councils) by no later than 28th February 2026 and must appear on the school website by 15th March 2026.

Any comments or objections can be made during the stated period to Jacqueline Friday, Admissions and Governance Administrator, for the Cabot Learning Federation. The email address for correspondence is admissions@clf.uk or in writing to Jacqueline Friday, Federation House, King's Oak Academy, Brook Road, Bristol, BS15 4JT.