



Term 3 Newsletter

Welcome to the end of another great term here at Summerhill Academy!

As always, we have thoroughly enjoyed being part of our amazing community and giving children the educational opportunities they need to thrive. I've seen fantastic reading, writing, maths, science, forest school, PE, art... and everything else going on across the academy. Becks, our new school dog, has also had a great time so far!

We are particularly proud of our children and adults being featured in an Impact Report by Voice 21, a national organisation we work with to develop children's communication skills, which we know can have a hugely positive effect on their wider learning and life chances. You can read the report [here](#).



We hope you have a lovely half term break, and look forward to seeing you all again for an exciting Term 4.

Chris Barratt, Principal

SUMMERHILL ACADEMY FRIENDS

Be a part of the team that invents fun and creative ways to help raise funds for the school. This is a project where everyone can join in and every offer of help will be valued, no matter how large or small. Email summerhillacademyfriends@gmail.com to express your interest in joining.



ECO TIP!

Water is a valuable resource which can be taken for granted. At least 1.1 billion people globally lack access to safe water.

Tip: Never run the tap when brushing teeth! Instead, just rinse the sink once you're finished to save water.



CAN YOU HELP?



Join Summerhill Academy Friends to help raise funds for the school, organise fun events for the kids and support the community

summerhillacademyfriends@gmail.com

SWIMMING REMINDER YEAR 5

Please can you ensure your child is fully equipped for their swimming session and can all bags be clearly labelled with the child's name and class.

Unfortunately, we will be unable to make calls home if pupils forget any kits/equipment.

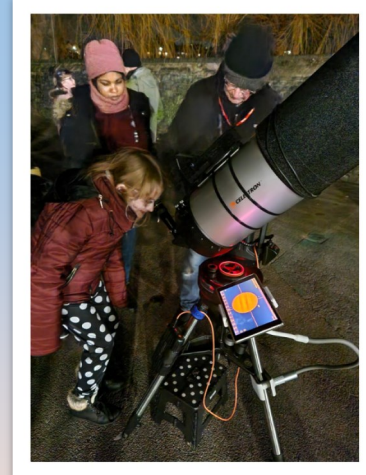
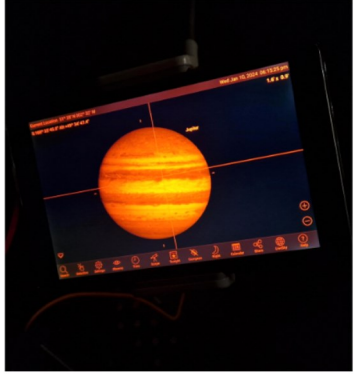
If you realise your child has forgotten their kit, it may be brought to the school office before 9:30am, otherwise they will not be able to participate in the session.



YEAR 5 STARGAZING

This term, Year 5 had the fantastic opportunity of an after-school astronomy event! Despite the very cold weather, plenty of families turned out for this special experience. Building on their learning of the solar system from earlier this year, Year 5 used telescopes to put their knowledge into action.

As you can see from the pictures, they were able to use the telescope to view clear images of the surface of Jupiter – hundreds of millions of miles away. They also enjoyed some delicious hot chocolate to keep warm!



A big thank you to the Bristol Astronomy Society, who kindly came to the school to provide this stargazing experience for us. The volunteers reported back to us

that they were "all impressed with how well behaved" Year 5 were throughout the evening. Thank you also to those members of our community who were able to attend, and to those who gave feedback, which helps us with putting on more of these events in future.

SCHOOL DAY REMINDER!

Year Group	Start	Finish
3 & 6	08:30	15:00
4 & 5	08:40	15:10



FOREST SCHOOL



This term, Year 6 had their turn at Forest school, using this opportunity to develop their knowledge of the Stone Age. They exercised great skill recreating a Stonehenge-like monument using found materials. They also had a wonderful time cooking up some lovely home-made jam to have on toast!



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

IN ON TIME, EVERY DAY

It's the time of year when coughs, colds and sore throats thrive. So, here are some tips for supporting your child's health this autumn:

- ◆ Stress the importance of hand washing, particularly before eating and after using the bathroom!
- ◆ Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, or cough/sneeze into an elbow
- ◆ Avoid close contact with individuals who are poorly



YEAR 5 ROMAN BATHS TRIP



This term, Year 5 enjoyed a trip to The Roman Baths, gaining first-hand experience of a World Heritage Site. This helped to further develop their historical understanding of The Roman Empire and its impact on Britain. They had an awesome time engaging with the history of the site – building mosaics, handling real artefacts and dressing up as Romans! They also had an audio tour around the ancient bath house, explored the underground investigation zone, and even had a taste of the water! Thanks to all those who came to help out on the trip, it really wouldn't be possible without your support.

ORACY IN MATHS CELEBRATED NATIONALLY!



For the last two years, we have been working closely with Voice 21, the UK's oracy education charity, to ensure we offer our pupils a high-quality speaking and listening curriculum across the school. Our success in this area means that we often host visitors from other schools to share our good practice. Most

recently, Juliet Chua, Director General for Schools Group at the Department for Education, remarked on our children's confidence when speaking and how articulate they were when sharing their thoughts and opinions. Our success has been celebrated in Voice 21's Impact Report 2022-23. We made the front cover!

Read more here: <https://voice21.org/impact-report-2022-2023/>



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 by discussing this question:

If there was a flood, what one item would you take from your home?

Here are some sentence starts they (and you!) may wish to use:

- 'If there was a flood and I only had time to take one item, it would be ... because ...'
- 'With respect, I disagree with your choice of item because ...'
- 'Building on ...'s point, I would also like to take ... because ...'



SCHOOL DOG UPDATE



This term, we had the region's education officer from the Dog's Trust come in lead a whole school assembly, to support with the integration of our school dog, Becks.

Helen spoke to the children about how they can stay safe around all dogs, including Becks, and gave some helpful tips to use.

- Always ask permission from the owner before petting.
- Let the dog come to you first.
- Give 3-4 strokes and stop. If the dog stays, this means they would like more. If the dog moves away, we need to respect the dog.

It has also been great to see children who sometimes find it tricky to be enthusiastic coming into school have their face light up when they see Becks in the morning, and run over to say hello!

Read more about Becks' start at the school here:

<https://bristolparent.co.uk/summerhill-academy-welcomes-becks-the-new-school-dog/>



EARLY COLLECTION REMINDER

Please be reminded in the unavoidable event of booking medical appointments during school hours, lunchtimes should be avoided to ensure your child is not interrupted during their meal.

Lunch times:

Years 3 & 6 **12 -12.50pm** Years 4 & 5 **12.50 - 1.40 pm**

REMINDERS FROM THE OFFICE

- **LOST PROPERTY:** We recommend labelling your child's school uniform with their name, otherwise lost items cannot easily be returned to their owner.
- **MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS:** Where possible, all medical, dental or optician appointments should be arranged for outside of school hours. Should this be completely unavoidable, please give the school as much notice as possible. We accept that hospital issued appointments are not negotiable. Please also provide us with a form of written confirmation of the appointment for our records.
- **EARLY PICKUP:** In the event that a child is collected from school early due to a sibling's or parent/carer's appointment, we would like to encourage families to use our wrap around care provisions (breakfast and afterschool clubs) to ensure that children are present for all key learning.

TERM DATES

Term 4	
First day of term for students	Monday 19 February 2024
Last day of term for students	Thursday 28th March 2024
<i>Non-Attendance Dates</i>	<i>Friday 29th March 2024 (Bank Holiday)</i>
Term 5	
First day of term for students	Tuesday 16 April 2024
Last day of term for students	Friday 24 May 2024
<i>Non-Attendance Dates</i>	<i>Monday 15 April 2024 (INSET)</i> <i>Monday 6 May 2024 (Bank Holiday)</i>
Term 6	
First day of term for students	Monday 3rd June 2024
Last day of term for students	Tuesday 23rd July 2024
<i>Non-Attendance Dates</i>	<i>Friday 5th July 2024 (Conf.)</i>

Have a wonderful half term!

