



Critchill School Newsletter
March 2024



Head Teacher News

Spring Term

Another busy term has seen lots of sustained progress in classes and out in the community. As parents you should be able to access photographs, videos and learning comments of your child working towards their personalised learning intentions on the Evidence for Learning App. Please let us know if you cannot access this.

Students in Post 16 have continued work placements at the Newt, Centre Parks and Julian House and Key stage 4 students are working towards elements of the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award. We have had a busy careers week with lots of exciting visits and visitors and also had whole school visits from a local live musician and Mojo Moves.

This term subject leaders have been monitoring core subjects through learning walks, deep dives into students' books and through talking to children. The outcomes are wholly positive and show the high standard of personalised learning our students access to on a daily basis.

I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable Easter Break and we look forward to welcoming you back for the Summer Term on Monday 15th April.

School Dates

28th March - End of Term 4

15th April - Start of Term 5

17th April - Critchill Code Day

21st May - PLIM Evening

24th May - End of Term 5

3rd June - Start of Term 6

28th June - Sports Day

12th July - Reserved Sports Day

19th July - End of Term 6

World Book Day 2024





World Book Day took place on Thursday 7th March. The children and staff had a wonderful day of dressing up and learning about new careers.

Critchill School News

Safeguarding

Stay safe online

We can all play a key role in helping children to stay safe online.

In Critchill Code lessons we teach all students about staying safe online and with their devices in school and at home.

This can be a useful discussion at home too.

- Talk with your child about their internet, tablet, gaming use.
- Consider the location they use these
- Explore parental controls

Did you know on apple devices you can use 'Guided Access' to enable children access to only one app game/app?



Some Critchill pupils took part in the SASP organised Somerset 'Step into Sport' Inclusive Leadership Day held at Millfield School. Pupils were encouraged to develop their leadership skills and explore the characteristics that make an inclusive leader. We were joined on the day by Paralympic Athlete, David Hill, who was Team GB's youngest athlete at the Athens Games in 2004. It was an informative and inspiring day and we are looking forward to seeing our pupils put their leadership skills to use in school!



Critchill children and young people have enjoyed more activities as part of the Safer School Streets program. We also welcomed Frome town Council and The Bee Friendly Trust who worked with Owls class to plant 4 planters that were donated to the school.



The Smoothie Bike visited the playground over the lunch hour. Pupils were invited to select their favourite healthy fruits and peddle them into a delicious smoothie.







The wonderful Mojo Moves visited. Staff and pupils took part in an energetic outdoor aerobics routine. The children loved dancing and joining in with the fun disco moves. A lovely start to the day!

Critchill School Council



Meet the new Critchill Council



The school council have been thinking about their favourite places/spaces within school. They have been using the illustrated map to help share this information. The suggestion box continues to be a popular means for children and young people to share thoughts, wishes and concerns about school. These are discussed in the weekly Critchill Council meetings and key information is then shared with the school governors. Following suggestions submitted by pupils, Friday afternoon clubs have been successfully set up with regular attenders to Dance, Console and Wellbeing sessions. This week, the council will be holding an information sharing event over lunchtime. This will be an opportunity to interact directly with their peers and gather further views on school improvements, events and news.

Working Futures

Careers Week

Wrens, Bramblings and Nuthatches enjoyed a visit from Little City. The students enjoyed exploring a variety of different job roles including hairdresser, mechanic, café owner and supermarket to name a few. It was really great to see the students interacting with the different roleplay areas and learning about the different job roles.

Mark Carter from the NHS visited Nuthatches, Finches and Starlings. In these interactive sessions he spoke about visiting a hospital and also the different jobs available.

We held a careers cafe for those students in Kestrels, Hawks and Post 16. This gave them an opportunity to meet a variety of people and understand more about their possible next steps. Thanks to Somerset Skills and Learning, Nathan an ex-student, Paul from Just a Chance charity, Asia, who works for Frome Town Council as a Town Ranger, Emma France our independent careers and skills advisor, Ms Rose and the Post 16 students for creating some informative short films about life in Post 16.

As part of Global recycling day Suez recycling also visited with their Romaquip and spoke to students about job opportunities and recycling in the county.

Those students currently on our supported internship programme visited Asda in Frome, Thanks to Jackie for talking to them about working at Asda.

We continue to build on relationships with local employers and secure both work placements and employer engagement opportunities. If you are able to help at all then please contact Sally Smiles, Careers/Working Futures Lead.

Supported Internship

A supported internship is a structured work-based study programme for students with SEND. The core aim of a supported internship study programme is a substantial work placement, facilitated by the support of an expert job coach.

The internship is designed for individuals with SEND and who have an EHCP, aged up to 19 years old.

The programme is five days a week, term time only.

The work placements at Palmers Gardens, Trowbridge include:-

- Horticulture Skills

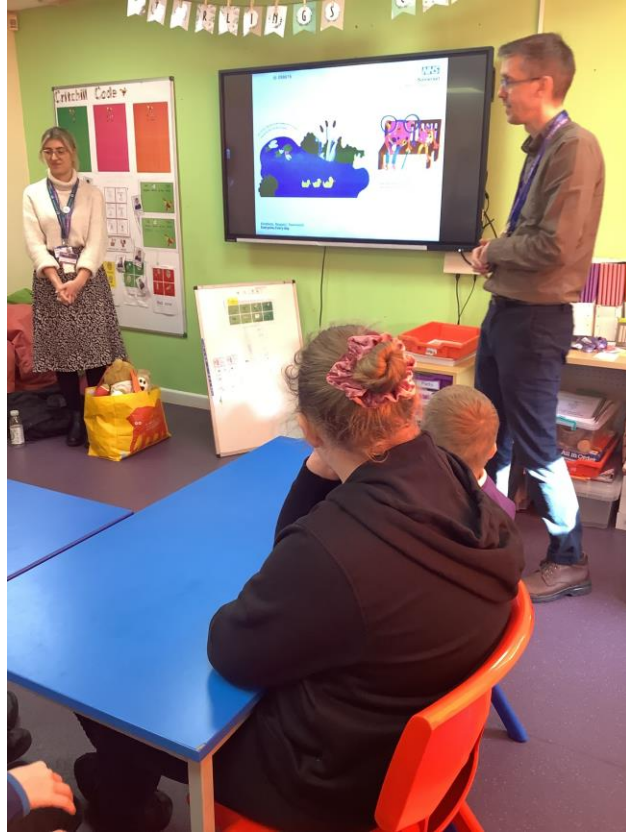
- Ground Maintenance
- Catering and Hospitality
- Retail

One day based in Frome with Working Futures as the learning provider offering functional mathematics, English and further developing their employability skills.

There are spaces available on the Supported Internship for September 2024

For more details, contact Sally Smiles at ssmiles@critchillschool.com











Friends of Critchill School

Thank you from Friends of Critchill to everyone who contributed to the amazing Easter event on the weekend. Just look at the lovely pictures that were captured. We made an incredible £250.

For those of you that came to the event, we hope you had a great time, and for those of you who couldn't make it we hope to see you at future events.

Over the coming months we will be looking forward to doing a cake sale alongside a uniform sale

If you would like to help with future events and get involved with Friends of Critchill then please email friendsofcritchill@gmail.com, we would be happy to hear from you.

The Children will be receiving a gift from Friends of Critchill at the end of term, and we hope you enjoy your Easter break.



Family activities during Easter Half Term



Join us for an EGGSplosive EGGStraordinary EGGStravaganza this Easter at Avon Valley!

[BOOK TICKETS](#) **Easter EGGStravaganza - March 29th - April 14th EGGSplosive!** We are proud to have designed the UK's first Candy Cannon!! We will be blasting thousands of sweets into the air every day to shower down on those waiting below for a really sweet treat!

EGGSciting! Immerse yourself in the BAAA-rilliant Lambing Live, where lambs are born every day! Join our shepherds for educational talks and bottle feeding demonstrations with our pet lambs in the Maternity-EWEnit. Meet our expectant mums and maybe see a live birth!

Have fun and raise funds for the Ruth Strauss Foundation at our Adult Easter Egg Hunt Charity 'Easter Nights' Event - March 30th Get ready to light up the night at our **EGGStra** special adult only, torchlit Easter Egg Hunt, where every hop, skip, and jump leads you closer to discovering over 2,500 hidden eggs with over £10,000 worth of prizes! Filled to the brim with chocolate delights and **EGGSciting** prizes, this is one Easter **EGGStravaganza** you won't want to miss!

Tickets are £15pp and all ticket proceeds from the night will go directly to the [Ruth Strauss Foundation](#) (charity number 1183221), supporting a cause that's truly close to our hearts. It's your chance to have a blast and make a difference!

Entry £1
Children under 12
FREE

The Pod

Everything you need
for art, craft and
play activities!

Tuesday 9th April 1.30-4.30pm
Cheese + Grain, Market Yard, Frome, BA11 3BE

Pop-Up Easter Fun for all Family Fun!

Scrapstore

Do you want access to a warehouse of weird and wonderful objects?
One persons waste is another persons treasure.

Come along for some creative fun and inspiration

Join the scrap creation journey...

Bring a bag for life.

Supporting
TOY LIBRARY

For more information or to donate scrap - Contact
scrapstore@thepodcharity.org.uk 07724315600

The Pod is a registered charity in England + Wales. Charity no 1161092.

Family First Magazine link - <https://familyfirst.co.uk/issue2-24>

Olgas Wood in Bruton 21st April 2024 at 11:00 till 17:00

We would like to invite you all to our „After“ Easter Egg Hunt. This is a special Opening Event for Olgas All Accessible Woods. There will be Arts & Crafts activities, alongside food and beverages! So hop hop over and have an „After“ Easter adventure with us! Check out @olgas_wood on Instagram

Community Inclusion and Activity Team
Family Club

Drop in club for families who have a child / young person with a disability and / or additional need. Siblings are welcome.

Activities include:

- Arts and crafts
- Outside play area
- Bike riding
- Indoor games
- Sensory activities
 - Lego

All parents/carers must be in attendance with children.
No need to book, just turn up!

The Mendip School
Edmond Rack Road, Prestleigh,
Shepton Mallet, Somerset,
BA4 4FZ.

2023
16th September, 14th October,
18th November and 9th
December

2024
13th January, 10th February,
9th March, 27th April, 18th May
and 15th June.

£3 per child
Maximum charge £6 per family

For more information, please email
CIATeam@somerset.gov.uk

Parent Carer Drop-In Session Frome



**Frome Town Hall ,10am -12pm
No need to book.**

Come and meet Tasha our SEND Navigator who is here to help families of children with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities in Somerset to:

- Access good quality information.
- Signpost to people who can help.
- Support parents to prepare for meetings and appointments.
- Help parent carers understand what help is available.
- Help parent carers by supporting with completion of forms such as DLA, PIP and applications for funding from grants.
- Help parent carers build confidence in understanding and supporting their child's needs.

2024 Dates

- Thursday 28th
- July
- March Thursday 25th
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We are a friendly, welcoming support group for families of children with additional needs.

We offer a monthly group session where we can provide support, advice and signpost to other useful organisations.

Dates for 2024

- January 15th 10am -12pm
- February 12th 10am-12pm
- March 18th 10am-12pm
- April 15th 10am-12pm
- May 20th 10am-12pm
- June 17th 10am-12pm
- July 15th 10am-12pm
- September 16th 10am-12pm
- October 21st 10am-12pm
- November 18th 10am-12pm
- December 16th 10am-12pm

Venue - Frome Town Hall Cafe

Come along for a cuppa, make new friends and share experiences in a private and safe space.

We look forward to welcoming you!

Any questions please email-
fromeautism.adhdparentforum@gmail.com
or join us on Facebook.