



## BARLEY CLOSE TERMLY NEWSLETTER

TERM 6 ISSUE 4 2025-26



### FREE SCHOOL MEALS

From September 2026, free school meal eligibility in England will expand to all households receiving Universal Credit, regardless of income, removing the current £7,400 income cap.

As a result of these changes, some families/pupils may no longer meet the eligibility criteria. Parents and carers of pupils who are no longer eligible will be notified via the Citizen Portal. We therefore ask parents and carers to regularly check their messages within the portal to ensure they receive updates promptly.



### SCHOOL NEWS

We have had a great science and Art/DT week. We have had plenty of workshops and experiences for all our children, including drama, bird of prey, local church, police and parents telling us about their careers.

Yr 3 had a great trip to We the curious and the summer inflatables raised over £600. Thank you for supporting it.



### LEAVING STAFF

At this time of year, we say goodbye to staff who are off to further their careers in other schools or to start a new adventure. We would like to say thank you to them and wish them well. This year we have lots of people leaving us Mr Manny, Miss Seward, Mr Hall, Mrs Clifford, Miss Norris who have been supporting SEND children for this year and Mr Thomas who has been covering a maternity leave. Della and Kim who have worked in OSC for many years are retiring and Miss Sheppard, Mrs Johnson and Miss Beard who have taught here for several years- 23 between them, Mrs Selway who is off to support children at secondary school and Mrs Chung, one of our LBS's.



### SCHOOL MEALS

We have been told that the cost of a school meal will be increasing to £2.60 as of 1<sup>st</sup> September 2026. All children in Rec, Yr 1 and 2 are entitled to a free school meal. If you are in receipt of FSM your child gets a free meal to the end of YR 6 at least.



### EDUSPOT MOBILE APP

Our school uses the Eduspot app to make home-school communication easier, more effective and more accessible. Eduspot is completely free, and available on the App Store (for Apple iPhone or iPad) or on Google Play (for Android smartphones or tablets). Benefits of using the app

- Get instant notifications for new messages from school
- View all updates from connected school systems in one clear timeline
- Make payments for meals, trips, clubs and more
- View student information including assessments, behaviour and attendance

If you have children in different schools where Eduspot is also used, you will be able to view messages and information about multiple children with a single login for the app. Please ensure we have an up-to-date email address and mobile phone number for you in our school database. You will need to verify these details for security purposes to login to the app, so it is important they match our records and are always kept updated.

If your contact details are up to date in our records, you can use these to login to the Eduspot app. You do not need to be issued with a username or password. Getting started with the app Please find "Eduspot" on the App Store/Google Play and install it. For more help with installing the app and logging in, visit: [parents.eduspot.co.uk/getting-started](https://parents.eduspot.co.uk/getting-started).



### SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

**See the difference the Summer Reading Challenge makes to your child's reading.**

**It's FUN and FREE, and every child aged 4 and above is invited to take part.** Children read any books they enjoy and take part in fun activities over the summer holiday to collect stickers and rewards including a medal and certificate.

Join the Summer Reading Challenge 2026: Read to the Beat at a South Gloucestershire library during staffed hours from Saturday 4 July and pick up your FREE activity bag.

Children love taking part and there are lots of **FREE activities:** West African Drumming Workshops with Batch Gueye, Crafts, Junk Modelling Workshops and Lego™ Challenges.

Find out more at

[www.southglos.gov.uk/summerreadingchallenge](https://www.southglos.gov.uk/summerreadingchallenge)

### HOLIDAY CHILDCARE

South Gloucestershire's Holiday Activities and Food programme is open for bookings for this summer for children and young people aged 5 to 16. There are lots of fun clubs and activities to choose from generally between Wednesday 22 July and Friday 28 August 2026, although some providers may offer different dates. Places are fully funded for children and young people who receive benefits-related free school meals. Eligible pupils can be booked on up to 16 days of activities. See all the activities available and book at [www.southglos.gov.uk/HAF](https://www.southglos.gov.uk/HAF)



### SUMMER SUPPORT

The government have set up some help for living and over the summer. Follow links below for more details.

[Summer Savings - Cost of Living Help](#)

[Cost of Living Help - Cost of Living Help](#)

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

|      |                                             |
|------|---------------------------------------------|
| 21/7 | 9:30 Year 6 leavers assembly<br>End of term |
|------|---------------------------------------------|

# **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

|                                      |                                                         |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> September 2026</b> | <b>INSET day</b>                                        |
| 2/9/26                               | Back to school 8:45am                                   |
| 22/10/26                             | 2:45 pupil of the term<br>End of term for children      |
| <b>23/10/26</b>                      | <b>INSET day</b>                                        |
|                                      |                                                         |
| 2/11/26                              | Back to school                                          |
| 6/11/26                              | Individual and sibling<br>photos                        |
| 17/11/26                             | Parents evening                                         |
| 19/11/26                             | Parents evening                                         |
| 20/11/26                             | Flu vaccine in school                                   |
| 24/11/26                             | 2pm Rec 2027 open day                                   |
| 26/11/26                             | 9:30 Rec 2027 open day                                  |
| <b>30/11/26</b>                      | <b>INSET day</b>                                        |
| 16/12/26                             | YR 6 life skills visit                                  |
| 18/12/26                             | 2:25 pupil of the term<br>End of term                   |
|                                      |                                                         |
| 4/1/27                               | Back to school                                          |
| <b>22/1/27</b>                       | <b>INSET day</b>                                        |
| 12/2/27                              | 2:45 pupil of the term<br>End of term                   |
|                                      |                                                         |
| 22/2/27                              | Back to school                                          |
| 1/3/27                               | Class and yr 6 leavers<br>photos                        |
| 16/3/27                              | Parents evening                                         |
| 18/3/27                              | Parents evening                                         |
| 25/3/27                              | 2:45 pupil of the term<br>End of term                   |
|                                      |                                                         |
| 12/4/27                              | Back to school                                          |
| 3/5/27                               | MAY DAY- school closed                                  |
| 10-14/5/27                           | Yr 6 SATS week                                          |
| 24-28/5/27                           | Yr 6 camp week<br>2:45 pupil of the term<br>End of term |
|                                      |                                                         |
| 7/6/27                               | Back to school<br>Yr 4 times table tests                |
| 14/6/27                              | Yr 1 phonics tests and yr 2<br>retake                   |
| <b>25/6/27</b>                       | <b>INSET day</b>                                        |
| 16/7/27                              | 2:45 pupil of the term                                  |
| 21/7/27                              | 9:30 yr 6 leavers assembly<br>End of term               |