



**Biscovey Academy Newsletter**  
November 2023  
**Issue 3**

# Welcome back to Autumn 2!



A very warm welcome back to Autumn 2! The term powered by twinkle, sparkle and Reindeer food! Over the course of this term we will be practicing for our nativity performances, getting ready to sing at Leekseed and preparing for our Christmas Fayre on the 7<sup>th</sup> December. Initially, we had planned to hold our Fayre straight after school but to allow for some very special visitors we have **made the decision to move the starting time to our Christmas Fayre from 3:30pm to 6:00pm, ending the event at 8:00pm.** Keep reading our newsletter to find out who our special visitors will be...





# Diversity and Aspirations at Biscovey.

Last week I was very fortunate to be able to travel around the country delivering training to schools in Bristol. One school in particular was situated next to the Clifton suspension bridge which I had never seen before. I was fascinated by the engineering which went into firstly, building the bridge and secondly ensuring its longevity! Opening in 1864, it now sits at the ripe old age of 159 years old and appears to be as strong as ever! Whenever I am fortunate enough to see such feats of engineering I think, the person who built that had a teacher! I find that incredibly humbling and further evidence that the work we do in school and alongside our pupils should lay the foundations for them to believe that they can achieve anything!

Finally, I ended the week at the House of Lords where I was invited to consult on a diversity paper! Diversity is a key driver for our Dare to DREAM curriculum and is the first value we teach at the start of every new academic year. Diversity, in all its forms, is carefully planned into our curriculum design and appears in many different forms whether that be through exposure to the Kingdom of Benin in History, the concept of Trade in Geography, the explicit teaching of religion in R.E and the maps children explore across the school. Therefore, it was a real privilege to be asked to share the work we do here at Biscovey, listen to what other schools do, and discuss key challenges we face in relation to diversity across the country.





# Personal Development at Biscovey Academy

Our personal development offer in regard to our Trauma Informed approach is something that we pride ourselves on here at Biscovey. Last year we welcomed 12 schools from across the Duchy and wider counties who came to see how we support our pupils therapeutically, whether that be in class, as part of small group work or on a 1:1 basis. We work tirelessly to know all of our pupils and weekly meet as a welfare team to ensure that the most appropriate support is being offered to the young person or family. As a school we are incredibly lucky to have such relationally skilled staff and some incredible spaces to hold therapeutic interventions within. Therefore, I wanted to take this opportunity to raise the profile of these spaces with you all.







The Cove...



# The Nest...





# Biscovey Academy House Points



112



149



124



Lifeboats

129



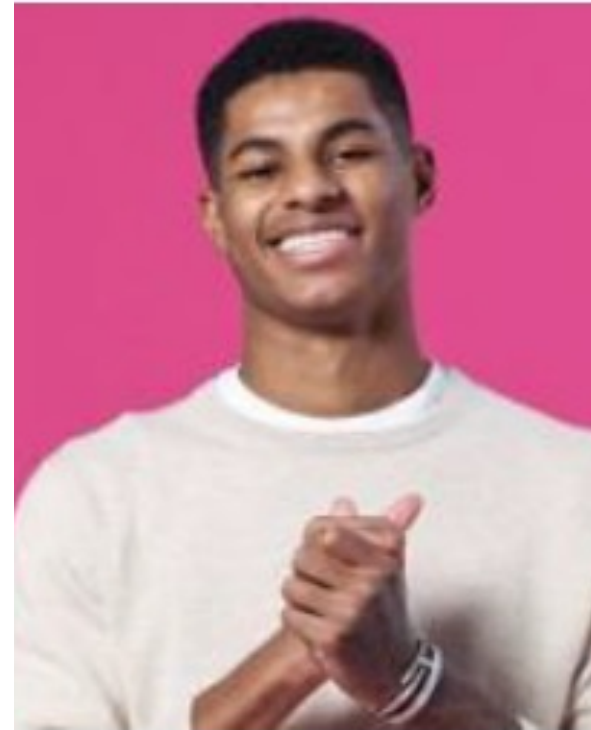
**Marie Curie**  
**Blue**

*Supporting Cornwall Air Ambulance*



**Barack Obama**  
**Green**

*Supporting Children's Hospice  
SW*



**Marcus Rashford MBE**  
**Red**

*Supporting Cornwall Search and  
Rescue*



**Sir David Attenborough**  
**Yellow**

*Supporting the RNLI*

# Key Attendance Messages



## ATTENDANCE

### WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

#### ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Children are required by law to attend school 190 days per year. The Government states that every pupil's attendance should be at least 95%.

How do YOU measure up?

| Attendance | Days<br>Absent | Weeks<br>Absent | Lessons<br>Missed |
|------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 95%        | 9 Days         | 2 Weeks         | 50 Lessons        |
| 90%        | 19 Days        | 4 Weeks         | 100 Lessons       |
| 85%        | 29 Days        | 6 Weeks         | 150 Lessons       |
| 80%        | 38 Days        | 8 Weeks         | 200 Lessons       |
| 75%        | 48 Days        | 10 Weeks        | 250 Lessons       |
| 70%        | 57 Days        | 11.5 Weeks      | 290 Lessons       |
| 65%        | 67 Days        | 13.5 Weeks      | 340 Lessons       |

89% & Below  
Drastic effect on  
academic achievement

95%-90%  
Cause for  
concern

100%-96%  
Excellent



...being in school, on time, every day,  
ready to learn.



Poor punctuality - less  
chance of success

Very poor punctuality-  
serious impact on education  
and reduced life chances.

**DID YOU KNOW?** If you are 15 minutes late each day you  
will have missed a full 2 weeks of school in one year?

#### Lateness at Biscovey Academy:

X2 lates= Text message home

X2 more lates= A letter sent home

X2 more lates= A meeting with SLT



# Holidays during term time:

Dear all,

We are seeing a large increase in the number of holidays being taken during term time. Whilst we fully acknowledge the financial strains placed upon families by taking a holiday during term time in the middle of a cost-of-living crisis, we cannot authorise holidays taken during term time and this may result in a fine being issued to you.

I appreciate that this can be frustrating, and I apologise for any upset this causes.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Mr Tyers.

Head of School.

# Key Diary Dates (Autumn Term 2)

- **07/11/23**- Parents Evening 1 3:30- 5:30
- **08/11/23**- Parents Evening 2 3:30- 5:30
- **08/11/23**- Parent and toddler group every Wednesday 9:00-10:00
- **WC13/11/23- 17/11/23**- Biscovey Autumn term book fair.
- **17/11/23**- Children in Need school events
- **22/11/23**- Year 3 Aquarium trip (rescheduled)
- **07/12/23**- Biscovey Academy Christmas Fayre. **TIME CHANGE** 18:00-20:00
- **08/12/23**- Year 3 Christmas Hall for Cornwall workshop
- **12/12/23**- Leekseed Methodist Church Choir Performance. 18:00-19:00 with a shared meal after.
- **14/12/23**- Year 3 and 4 Nativity Performance:
  - **Performance 1**= 10:00 (Doors Open 9:45) enter via reception for a performance in the Hall.
  - **Performance 2**= 14:00 (Doors Open 13:45) enter via reception for a performance in the Hall.
- **14/12/23**- Year 6 pupils watching Peter Pan at the Hall for Cornwall.
- **18/12/23**- Year 5 and 6 Carol concert.
  - **Performance 1**= 10:00 (Doors Open 9:45) enter via reception for a performance in the Hall.
  - **Performance 2**= 14:00 (Doors Open 13:45) enter via reception for a performance in the Hall.
- **19/12/23**- Whole school Christmas cinema trip.
- **19/12/23**- Break up for Christmas 13:45





# 2023-2024 Term Dates

## Cornwall Council

### 2023/2024 School Term Dates for Community and Voluntary-Controlled Schools



| September 2023 |   |    |    |    |
|----------------|---|----|----|----|
| Mon            |   | 4  | 11 | 18 |
| Tue            |   | 5  | 12 | 19 |
| Wed            |   | 6  | 13 | 20 |
| Thurs          |   | 7  | 14 | 21 |
| Fri            | 1 | 8  | 15 | 22 |
| Sat            | 2 | 9  | 16 | 23 |
| Sun            | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 |

| October 2023 |   |   |    |    |
|--------------|---|---|----|----|
| Mon          |   | 2 | 9  | 16 |
| Tue          |   | 3 | 10 | 17 |
| Wed          |   | 4 | 11 | 18 |
| Thurs        |   | 5 | 12 | 19 |
| Fri          |   | 6 | 13 | 20 |
| Sat          |   | 7 | 14 | 21 |
| Sun          | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 |

| November 2023 |  |   |    |    |
|---------------|--|---|----|----|
| Mon           |  |   | 6  | 13 |
| Tue           |  |   | 7  | 14 |
| Wed           |  | 1 | 8  | 15 |
| Thurs         |  | 2 | 9  | 16 |
| Fri           |  | 3 | 10 | 17 |
| Sat           |  | 4 | 11 | 18 |
| Sun           |  | 5 | 12 | 19 |

| December 2023 |   |    |    |    |
|---------------|---|----|----|----|
| Mon           |   | 4  | 11 | 18 |
| Tue           |   | 5  | 12 | 19 |
| Wed           |   | 6  | 13 | 20 |
| Thurs         |   | 7  | 14 | 21 |
| Fri           | 1 | 8  | 15 | 22 |
| Sat           | 2 | 9  | 16 | 23 |
| Sun           | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 |

| January 2024 |   |    |    |    |
|--------------|---|----|----|----|
| Mon          | 1 | 8  | 15 | 22 |
| Tue          | 2 | 9  | 16 | 23 |
| Wed          | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 |
| Thurs        | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 |
| Fri          | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 |
| Sat          | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 |
| Sun          | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 |

| February 2024 |   |    |    |    |
|---------------|---|----|----|----|
| Mon           |   | 5  | 12 | 19 |
| Tue           |   | 6  | 13 | 20 |
| Wed           |   | 7  | 14 | 21 |
| Thurs         | 1 | 8  | 15 | 22 |
| Fri           | 2 | 9  | 16 | 23 |
| Sat           | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 |
| Sun           | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 |

| March 2024 |   |    |    |    |
|------------|---|----|----|----|
| Mon        |   | 4  | 11 | 18 |
| Tue        |   | 5  | 12 | 19 |
| Wed        |   | 6  | 13 | 20 |
| Thurs      |   | 7  | 14 | 21 |
| Fri        | 1 | 8  | 15 | 22 |
| Sat        | 2 | 9  | 16 | 23 |
| Sun        | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 |

| April 2024 |   |    |    |    |
|------------|---|----|----|----|
| Mon        | 1 | 8  | 15 | 22 |
| Tue        | 2 | 9  | 16 | 23 |
| Wed        | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 |
| Thurs      | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 |
| Fri        | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 |
| Sat        | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 |
| Sun        | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 |

| May 2024 |   |    |    |    |
|----------|---|----|----|----|
| Mon      |   | 6  | 13 | 20 |
| Tue      |   | 7  | 14 | 21 |
| Wed      | 1 | 8  | 15 | 22 |
| Thurs    | 2 | 9  | 16 | 23 |
| Fri      | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 |
| Sat      | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 |
| Sun      | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 |

| June 2024 |   |   |    |    |
|-----------|---|---|----|----|
| Mon       |   | 3 | 10 | 17 |
| Tue       |   | 4 | 11 | 18 |
| Wed       |   | 5 | 12 | 19 |
| Thurs     |   | 6 | 13 | 20 |
| Fri       |   | 7 | 14 | 21 |
| Sat       | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 |
| Sun       | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 |

| July 2024 |   |    |    |    |
|-----------|---|----|----|----|
| Mon       | 1 | 8  | 15 | 22 |
| Tue       | 2 | 9  | 16 | 23 |
| Wed       | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 |
| Thurs     | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 |
| Fri       | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 |
| Sat       | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 |
| Sun       | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 |

| August 2024 |   |    |    |    |
|-------------|---|----|----|----|
| Mon         |   | 5  | 12 | 19 |
| Tue         |   | 6  | 13 | 20 |
| Wed         |   | 7  | 14 | 21 |
| Thurs       | 1 | 8  | 15 | 22 |
| Fri         | 2 | 9  | 16 | 23 |
| Sat         | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 |
| Sun         | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 |

#### School holidays

#### Bank holidays

|                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Christmas Day       | 25 December 2023 |
| Boxing Day          | 26 December 2023 |
| New Years Day       | 01 January 2024  |
| Good Friday         | 29 March 2024    |
| Easter Monday       | 01 April 2024    |
| May Bank Holiday    | 06 May 2024      |
| Spring Bank Holiday | 27 May 2024      |
| Summer Bank Holiday | 26 August 2024   |

#### AUTUMN TERM (72 days)

4 September - 19 December 2023  
(HALF TERM 23-27 October 2023)

#### SPRING TERM (56 days)

4 January - 28 March 2024  
(HALF TERM 12-16 February 2024)

#### SUMMER TERM (67 days)

15 April - 24 July 2024  
(HALF TERM 27-31 May 2024)

195 days are included on the school calendar. Schools will be open to pupils for 190 days. The five additional days are allotted for In-Service Training (INSET). Schools allocate their own INSET days.

# The Next DREAM to achieve...



-V-



We have an incredible opportunity to take a large amount of our pupils to watch another 'live' sporting event. This time we will be heading off to watch the Women's Super League in Bristol! The game will be Bristol City -v- Manchester United!!

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November. K.O 12:30.**

We will aim to leave school early morning and return at around 17:45ish. It takes place in Ashton Gate stadium, a superb modern ground, with the women often drawing crowds of 5,000-8,000!!

Biscovey  
DREAMS  
Big!



Experience another culture

Visit a City

Watch LIVE sport

Go to the theatre

Sky Dive (Indoor)

Hold a concert on the field

Visit a University

Take part in a musical

Visit museums

Fly on a Plane

Record a music single

10 big DREAMS to achieve before  
you

leave Biscovey Academy

#DARETODREAM

#BABIG10





# Support within the community



Here at Biscovey Academy we are working alongside St Austell foodbank to help our families in need.

We can issue foodbank vouchers, which can be exchanged for food parcels.

The Light & Life Centre,  
Units 4-5 Brunel  
Business Park,  
St Austell,  
PL25 4TJ



Help reduce food waste, whilst filling your cupboards. Drop by and help yourself to what you need.

**Every Wednesday**

**St Blazey 12:30-13:00**

Burrows Centre, Lamellyn Road,  
PL24 2DD

**St Blazey 13:30-14:00**

St Blazey Football Club, 61 Station  
Road, PL24 2ND



Local shops provide Remake Cornwall with surplus food, which is then available for you to pop in and help yourself to.

Check out their Facebook page to see what's available in the fridge!

86 stennack Road  
St Austell  
PL25 3JQ  
07480 135818

# Raising a concern



It is very important to us that you have any concerns dealt with swiftly and promptly. I wanted to share the process with you all again for raising concerns to ensure that any queries, questions or concerns are raised with the appropriate person.

1. Any concerns should be raised directly with the class teacher in the first instance. This is an opportunity for the matter to be investigated and findings fed back to you.
2. If you feel the matter is continuing, or that you are unhappy with how it has been dealt with, then you need to raise your concerns with the year group's phase leader (Mr. Parker Y3 and Y4. Miss. Munson Y5 and Y6). If the issue is a matter regarding either Mr. Parker or Miss. Munson, then it needs to be raised with either Miss. Bignell or Mr. Wallbank.
3. If the matter continues following your meeting with the phase leader then a meeting or conversation is to be had with Mr. Wallbank or Miss. Bignell.
4. If following Mr. Wallbank and Miss. Bignell's investigation/ handling of the matter you are still unhappy, then a meeting will then take place with Mr. Tyers.



# Welcoming Santa's Reindeer to Biscovey! (No Joke)

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of December between 18:00 and 20:00 we will be welcoming 4 of Santa's real-life Reindeer to Biscovey Academy! Kindly, Santa has given the 4 of them some time off before the big day and after Mr Tyers wrote directly to Santa he was able to secure 4 of them to come and visit our Christmas Fayre! Below is a picture of 2 of them sent to Mr Tyers by Santa himself! This year promises to be the best Christmas Fayre ever! Be sure to be there!



# Safeguarding at Biscovey



If any concerns about the welfare of a child, please contact a member of the Biscovey Academy safeguarding team:

**Mr. Wallbank-** Designated Safeguarding Lead



## Important Contact Numbers:

**MARU:** 0300 123 116

**NSPCC:** 0800 800 5000

**Police:** 999/ 101

**Mr. Tyers-** Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



**School:** 01726 812949