Pucklechurch Newsletter

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in Heaven"
Matthew 5:16

9th October 2026
Contact: admin@pucklechurchprimary.org.uk
Website: www.pucklechurchprimary.org.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are now well into term 1. All the classic hallmarks of autumn are all around. The air definitely has an autumnal chill, the evenings are certainly drawing in and the Harvest Festival is just around the corner. As usual, we are collection Harvest donations for the North Bristol foodbank so would appreciate any doantions you can spare – see below for more details of a list of acceptable items.

This week, we were proud to show Local Authority Education Leads around our Early Years space. They were impressed with how well our newest children have settled and the confidence with which they wanted to share what they were doing. It was so lovely to hear the children so enthusiastic to tell us all about their learning. They all poke so knowledgably after only a few weeks about our values and the learning behaviours they have been showing in class. They really have immersed themselves in school life and are thriving! The extra space the children have really makes a difference too – having an extra classroom to spread out has undoubtedly enhance their provision.

We've also had a new addition to our early years team – we've been delighted to welcome Miss Jacquetta Webb to our staff team who many of our already know as she's also part of our parent community. In only 2 weeks, she's settled into school life and we couldn't be more pleased that she chose to become part of our staff team.

It has also been a pleasure to show prospective new parents, both for the 2027/28 Reception cohort and for families looking to make in-year transfers to Pucklechurch. Families have remarked how calm the school is and have been impressed with the children when we've popped into classes. They are always so polite and happy to share what they are doing in class when visitors have arrived at their door – which has occurred several times over the last few weeks but they're all so used to it now!

Our new sports provision from Ignite Sports is now well underway. The KS2 children have been sharing just how much they are enjoying their lessons. Ian Shrubsole, our Ignite sports coach, brings a wealth of experience across a range of different sports and the children are really benefitting from his expertise. He definitely knows a thing or two about growing sporting excellence as he's father to Anya Shrubsole, former England cricketer and part of the England Women's Cricket World Cup winning team in 2017 - Anya Shrubsole: Former England bowler and World Cup winner to retire after The Hundred - BBC Sport

Please don't forget to scroll down to see out school diary pages – now with added Christmas event dates.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Jones

Certificates

Now that our newsletter has moved to fortnightly publication, we will celebrate the children who were awarded our certificates on our Facebook page.





Piano Lessons



Linzi Sidney, a local piano teacher will be offering piano lessons for Year 3 and above. Payment for lessons is termly & will be charged at £11 for an individual lesson of 20 minutes. Your child will also need a piano book; these generally range between £5-£10.
Please contact linzi.sidney@live.co.uk.
Places will be allocated on a first come basis

Pucklechurch Newsletter

"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in Heaven"
Matthew 5:16

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

9th October 2026
Contact: admin@pucklechurchprimary.org.uk
Website: www.pucklechurchprimary.org.uk

Lunchtimes

Since returning to school in September, several children and staff have shared that the school lunch hall is increasingly becoming a place of overwhelm and sensory overload. The combination of scraping chairs, clattering cutlery, shouting voices, bright lights and food mess on the floor is proving to become too much for some of our children and is something that we felt the need to address.

We have discussed this during Collective Worship with the children today and explained that we need to turn the lunch hall back into a calm, relaxing space for them to eat their lunch and socialise with their friends. We need it to be a place where children enjoy spending time.

We have introduced a traffic light system into the hall at lunchtimes. When the arrow is pointing to green, the children can chat to their friends on their tables so they can enjoy their lunch together. We talked about the importance of ensuring that children are sitting down facing their lunch and not turning arounnd to talk. This is when food spills on the floor, uniform and tables. The year 2 children learnt today during their first aid workshop and were keen to share their advice to 'sit, chop, chew' – ensure that you are sitting still, facing forwards while eating, that you cut food into bitesize pieces with your cutlery and chew food carefully before swallowing'. These will all be expectations of conduct in the hall during lunchtimes.

We explained that if the members of staff in the hall feel that the safe, calm lunch behaviour expectations are not being met and volume of chatter becomes too loud, children are spilling carelessly or shouting to children on other tables for example, the arrow will be moved down to the amber traffic light. This is to give the children the chance to return their noise volume to the calm quiet chatter we expect and ensure they are eating safely. If this isn't the case and children continue to be loud, the traffic light will move to red and the children will be asked to eat silently for 5 minutes to reset the noise volume and lunchtime expectations. After the 5 minutes is up, they will have the opportunity to try again to resume usual lunchtime volume levels. If they are successful, the traffic light arrow will be moved to green again but if not, the arrow will move to red and another reset 5 minutes of silence will begin again.

We explained to the children that whether they're asked to eat in silence will be down to them and whether they choose to decrease the volume when they get a reminder. The most they will ever be asked to eat in silence is 5 minutes at a time and is designed to reset a volume that had become too overwhelming for lots of our children.

Lunchtime operates with several sittings and not all children are eating at the same time. We explained to the children that whenever they enter the hall, they will be able to see the arrow pointing at one of the traffic lights. If they walk into the hall and hear that it is silent, this is because the children aleady in the hall are resetting the noise volume and usual lunch volume will resume in a maximum of 5 minutes.

We have worked hard to reduce sensory overload and over stimulation as much as possible within our classrooms and we feel passoionate that this should be the case everywhere in school. Stimuli such as food aromas are not something that we can control in the lunch hall so it is important that we work to reduce the sensory overload that is within our control.

We believe that every child has the right to enjoy lunchtime in the hall with their friends. We hope that by introducing this system, we create an inclusive environment that everyone enjoys and no longer have children who feel overwhelmed in our lunch hall.

Pucklechurch Newsletter

"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in Heaven"
Matthew 5:16

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

9th October 2026
Contact: admin@pucklechurchprimary.org.uk
Website: www.pucklechurchprimary.org.uk

Harvest Festival - North Bristol Foodbank donations

This year's Harvest Festival service during Collective Worship will be held on Thursday 15th
October in school. We will be collecting donations for North Bristol Foodbank. For anyone in a position to be able to donate food items, please see the full list of items:

SHOPPING LIST – Harvest 2026

- Tinned Veg – Sweet Corn, Carrots etc
- Instant Mashed/Tinned Potatoes
- Tinned Chicken in White Sauce
- Tinned Mince Beef
- Tomato Based Cooking Sauces
- Tinned Fruit
- Tinned Rice Pudding
- Tinned & Packet Custard
- Packet Rice (Microwaveable)
- Long Life Fruit Juice (Orange or Apple)
- Orange or Blackcurrant Squash
- Wrapped Chocolate Biscuits (Kit-Kats, Penguins etc)
- Washing Up Liquid
- Deodorant – Male and Female

First Aid

Today, Years 2 and 6 had first aid workshops to learn more about what to do to prevent accidents but they also learnt basic first aid so that they knew what to do in an emergency or if either themselves or someone around them had an accident. They got not one, but two certificates for their efforts!

Year clearly felt empowered by their new knowledge and created some posters to display in the lunch hall to remind children to 'sit, chop, chew' to help them to avoid choking accidents by sitting still when they are eating, chop their food into bite size pieces and chew to break food up even further in your mouth before swallowing it. Thank you Year 2!







Pucklechurch Newsletter

"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in Heaven"
Matthew 5:16

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

9th October 2026
Contact: admin@pucklechurchprimary.org.uk
Website: www.pucklechurchprimary.org.uk



Year 6 also took part in a first aid workshop and built on what they learnt when they were in Year 2. The learnt emergency response skills such as CPD and knowing what to do in the event of loss of consciousness, suspected broken limbs and choking. No-one ever wants to be in the situation where they need to apply these skills but we hope the children learnt skills for life that they can call on should they ever need to.







School Admissions

Primary School - Reception – September 2027

If you have a child who turned/turns 4 between 1st September 2026 and 31st August (inclusive), they are eligible to start school in September. Admissions are now open.
If you would like to book onto an information session for Pucklechurch Primary, please contact the school office…..

https://life.southglos.gov.uk/kb5/southglos/directory/advice.page?id=4vPD_KfmtZs&familychannel=2-2&channel=family

Secondary School - Year 7 - September 2027

If you have a child currently in Year 6, applications for Secondary School are now open

https://life.southglos.gov.uk/kb5/southglos/directory/advice.page?id=4vPD_KfmtZs&familychannel=2-2&channel=family

Pucklechurch Newsletter

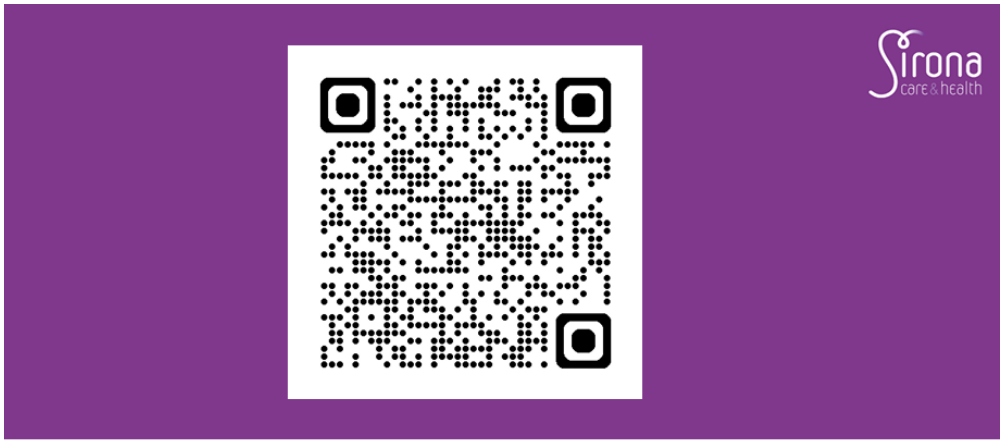
"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in Heaven"
Matthew 5:16

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

9th October 2026
Contact: admin@pucklechurchprimary.org.uk
Website: www.pucklechurchprimary.org.uk

Flu Immunisations

Sirona will be coming into school on Friday 6th November for the annual flu immunisations. Consent can be given via the QR code below.



Scan the QR code above to give consent for the Autumn/ Winter 2026 school Flu programme

- For children in Reception – Year 11 in September 2026 (all children in SEND schools)

Bag 2 School Collection

Thank you to everyone that donated to Bag 2 School Collection on Tuesday.

All money raised will go towards purchasing new books for the school.

Many thanks for your support with this!

Arbor Meals

We have had a few parents report they are having difficulty using the meals section of Arbor. There seems to be a difference when using the app to a desktop site for some parents. We have provided a link below to the Arbor help section where it has a step-by-step guide to help.

Meal Menu choices on the Parent Portal or Parent App – Arbor Help Centre

Pucklechurch Newsletter

"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in Heaven"
Matthew 5:16

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

9th October 2026
Contact: admin@pucklechurchprimary.org.uk
Website: www.pucklechurchprimary.org.uk



Our PTA have played such a huge part in the Pucklechurch Primary School community but the current team are stepping down. If you and your children have enjoyed the PTA events over the years, please consider becoming part of the new PTA team so that these events can continue this year and beyond.
If you're keen to learn more about how you can help our PTA continue to flourish, please attend the PTA AGM ON Tuesday 15th October 2026 at the Rose and Crown pub in Pucklechurch.

Pucklechurch Newsletter

"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in Heaven"
Matthew 5:16

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

9th October 2026
Contact: admin@pucklechurchprimary.org.uk
Website: www.pucklechurchprimary.org.uk

Dates for your Diary

October 2026	Term 1: Monday 1 September – Friday 24 October					
Sun	**Mon**	**Tue**	**Wed**	**Thu**	**Fri**	**Sat**
				1	2	3
				EYFS Open Evening 5pm	EYFS Open Morning 9am	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Bag2School Collection				
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	Mill on the Brue	Mill on the Brue	Mill on the Brue	Mill on the Brue	North Bristol Food Bank Collection Mill on the Brue	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November 2026	**Reminders:** Term 2: Monday 2 November – Friday 18 December **Anti-Bullying Week**: Monday 9 – Friday 13 November 2026.					
Sun	**Mon**	**Tue**	**Wed**	**Thu**	**Fri**	**Sat**
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	INSET DAY			Individual & Sibling photos 9am	Flu Vaccines 9am	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
					Children in Need	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Pucklechurch Newsletter

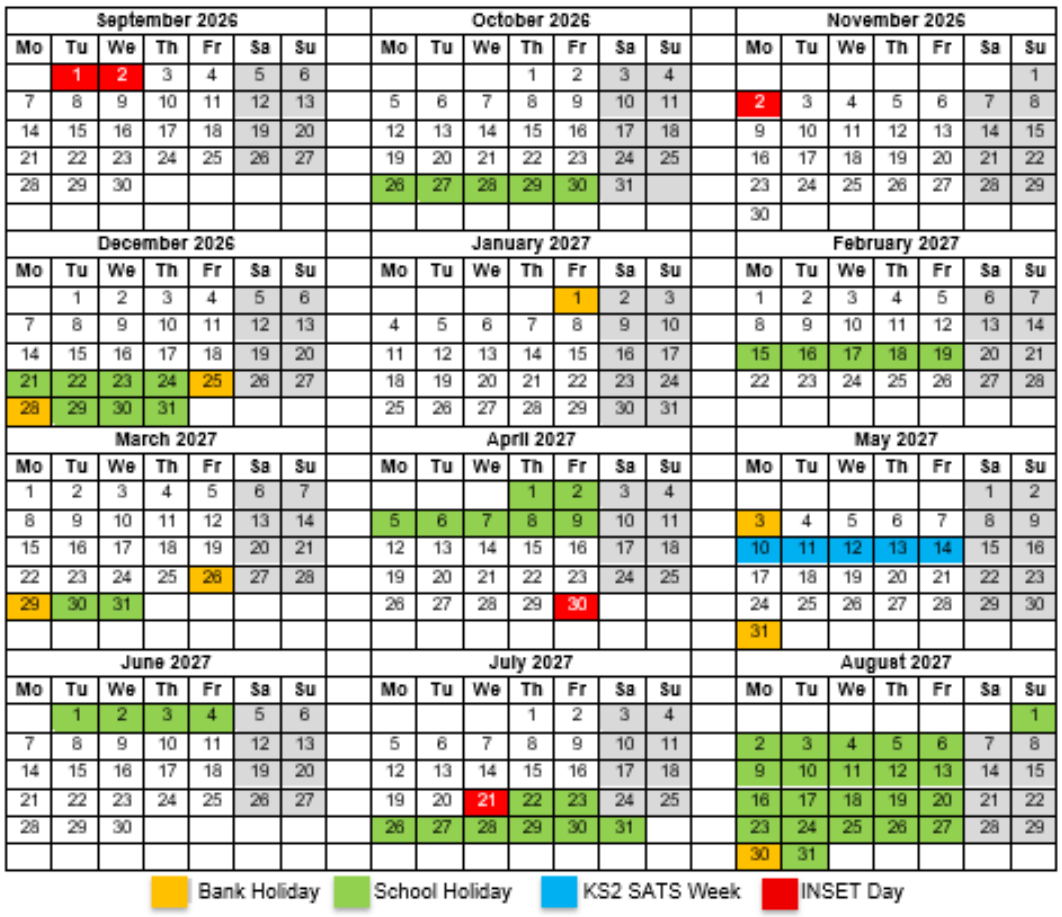
"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in Heaven"
Matthew 5:16

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

9th October 2026
Contact: admin@pucklechurchprimary.org.uk
Website: www.pucklechurchprimary.org.uk

School Term & Holiday Dates

SCHOOL TERM & HOLIDAY DATES 2026-2027



An additional 5 days are available for professional training (INSET days). These additional closures are set by the Headteacher and Governors of individual schools.

Bank & Public Holidays 2026-27	
Christmas Day	25th ~~December~~ 2026
Boxing Day	28th December 2026
New Year's Day	1st January 2027
Good Friday	26th March 2027
Easter Monday	29th March 2027
May Day	3rd ~~May~~ 2027
Spring Bank Holiday	31st May 2027
Summer Bank Holiday	30th August 2027

Term Dates Summary	
Term 1	39 days
Term 2	35 days
Term 3	30 days
Term 4	24 days
Term 5	34 days
Term 6	33 days
Total	195 days

Staff INSET Days (School closed to pupils)
Tuesday 1st September 2026
Wednesday 2nd September 2026
Monday 2nd November 2026
Friday 30th April 2027
Wednesday 21st July 2027

Pucklechurch Newsletter

"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in Heaven"
Matthew 5:16

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

9th October 2026
Contact: admin@pucklechurchprimary.org.uk
Website: www.pucklechurchprimary.org.uk



Pucklechurch Newsletter

"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in Heaven"
Matthew 5:16

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

9th October 2026
Contact: admin@pucklechurchprimary.org.uk
Website: www.pucklechurchprimary.org.uk



Community Notices

Pucklechurch Newsletter

"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in Heaven"
Matthew 5:16

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

9th October 2026
Contact: admin@pucklechurchprimary.org.uk
Website: www.pucklechurchprimary.org.uk



Pucklechurch Newsletter

"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in Heaven"
Matthew 5:16

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

9th October 2026
Contact: admin@pucklechurchprimary.org.uk
Website: www.pucklechurchprimary.org.uk



Pucklechurch Newsletter

"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in Heaven"
Matthew 5:16

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

9th October 2026
Contact: admin@pucklechurchprimary.org.uk
Website: www.pucklechurchprimary.org.uk

Crossing Patrol – Vacancy

BECOME PART OF THE SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL AT PUCKLECHURCH

Dear Parents
You can make a difference and be part of your local community by providing a safe crossing point for pupils and parents travelling to and from school, helping to encourage active travel and indepentent journeys for older pupils.
Your school has a School Crossing Patrol site which, at present, is vacant.

Post Details:



Role: School Crossing Patrol – Pucklechurch.
Site Location: Pucklechurch School Gate.
Times: 8.25am – 9.00am
3.00pm – 3.30pm

Hourly rate: £13.28ph (2026)

Full training and uniform are provided. We are happy to consider part time and/or job share. For further details please contact Martina Byrne-Obee at roadsafetyeducation@southglos.gov.uk or 01454 867802