



Pittville School

**NEWSLETTER – Term 1 2023
Part two**

Dear Parents/Carers,

With such a busy term the newsletter comes in two editions. Welcome to part two.

Mr Gilpin

Literacy at Pittville

Word of the Week!

At Pittville we are continually looking for ways to increase our students' literacy skills. One way to do this is through the direct instruction of what is called 'Tier 2 Vocabulary'. These are words that are cross-curricular and enable our students to increase the level of their academic writing and talk. Each Monday, a new Tier 2 word is shared by tutors, teachers, all display the word in their classrooms, and use it at least once in their teaching of each group. Students need to hear a new word around ten times before they can assimilate it - this method therefore creates that exposure. Students are also rewarded if they use the word in their verbal or written responses. So far this term, Tier 2 words have included 'crucial', 'emphasise', 'impulsive' and 'beneficial'. Why not ask your child if they can use each word correctly in a sentence, or tell you the definition? We are all teachers of literacy!

Miss Wheelwright,

Teacher of English & Literacy Coordinator

Library News



Very well done to Zach Browne in Year 7 for achieving his Millionaire badge. Zach has read over 1,200,000 words which is a fantastic achievement.

Congratulations to Isobel Davies in Year 8. Isobel cracked the code on the library code box and won all the prizes inside. Well done Isobel!



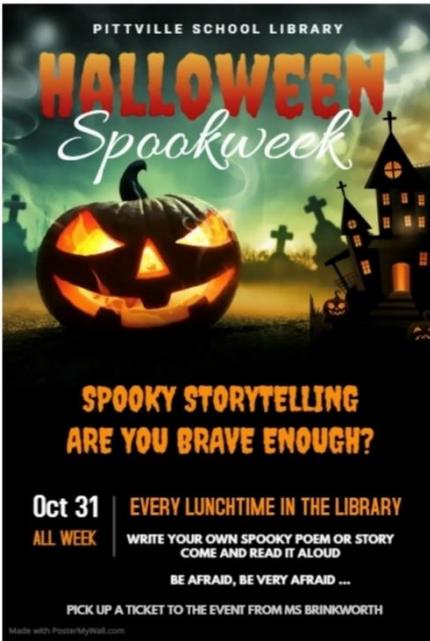


The library would like to say a huge **THANK YOU** to the Friends of Pittville School (FOPS) for the purchase of our wonderful new book spinner.

Find out more news from the library from the QR code below.



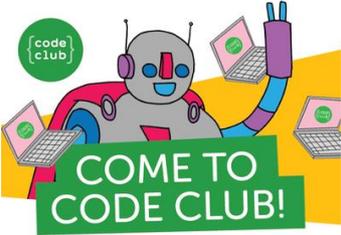
After half term the library will be enjoying spooky stories and poems at lunchtime for the first week back. If you would like to write something to read aloud please come and pick up a ticket from the library.



Clubs

A full list of clubs running for Terms 1 and 2 is now available on our website.

After-school and lunchtime clubs offer an opportunity for students to learn new skills and develop their interests in extra-curricular activities. An example of this can be found with the success last term of our Code Club.



Ms Vaughan writes, **The return of Code Club!** Code Club will be resuming after October half term. This gives students in KS3 the opportunity to come and solve coding challenges and work with industry experts from local organisations. The club will run every Thursday from 3.10 - 4.10pm. Students must register their interest with Ms Vaughan (Room 43) as soon as possible. There will be a cap on

numbers at 25 and places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Code Club is open to all KS3 students and covers all levels of experience. It would be lovely to see some new Year 7's there!

Mood Monsters

MOOD MONSTERS

Presented by Alyson Thomsen and Kelly Green

'We are a partnership dedicated to improving the mental health and well-being of children and young people through the medium of LEGO®'

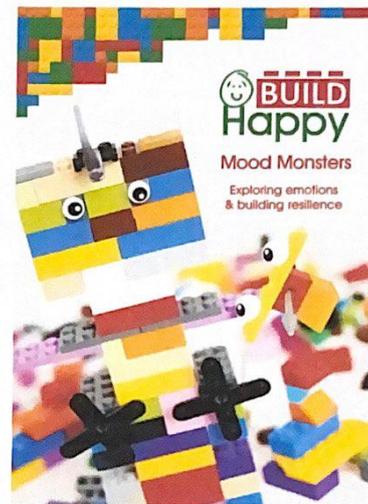
Mood Monsters has been designed as a specialist intervention to help children identify the range of emotions they experience, to understand how these emotions can affect them, to support the development of strategies for managing these emotions and to recognise the part that they play in shaping their own future.

The activities utilise the literal and metaphorical use of bricks and elements to promote expression, collaboration and meaningful communication.

Conversations are designed to encourage the sharing of experiences and strategies for coping with difficult feelings and situations. LEGO® is used to engineer purposeful conversation and build resilience.

No specialist sets are required to deliver the 'Mood Monsters' intervention.

This resource may be used widely in Primary and SEND settings and has been used effectively with KS3 pupils who struggle with communication and emotional regulation.



Thursday 3rd November 2022

The Library
Pittville School
Albert Road
Cheltenham
GL52 3JD

For more information and bookings:
Contact: Sally Young
syoung@pittville.gloucs.sch.uk



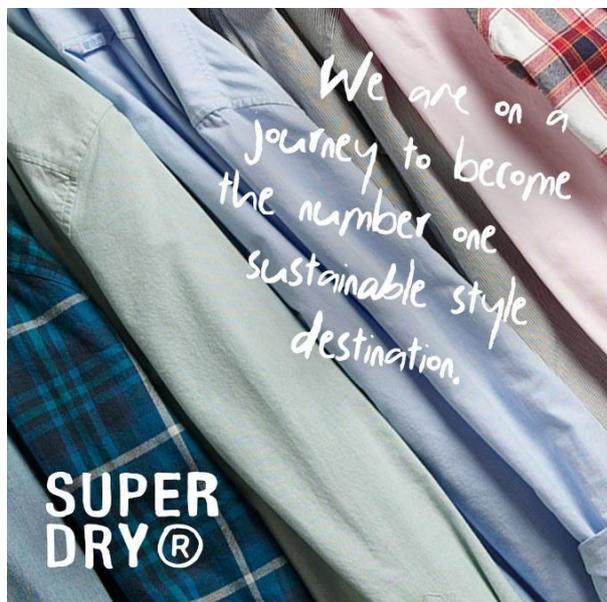
Independent Study

Independent study was launched in September and runs every Monday and Thursday from 3.10-4.10pm in the canteen. Everybody is welcome, we have laptops, resources and refreshments available.

There are teachers and teaching assistants on hand to support students. We would like to encourage students to attend regularly, complete homework or undertake further studies/revision to support progress in lessons. We have been delighted with the atmosphere thus far in sessions and hope to see this after school study session becoming increasingly popular with students from every year group.

Mrs Pitt and Mrs Kavanagh.

Cheltenham Education Partnership



As part of Cheltenham Education Partnership, two of our students attended a talk at Cleeve School given by Jasmine Stockham, Senior Ethical Trading Coordinator at SuperDry. The students learned in great detail how the company is working to increase sustainability in all parts of the supply chain from cotton growers in India to paper bag makers in Wales. In particular students learned how the company is aiming to reduce their water footprint in water used in the manufacture of their products. Students also learned how the company is using Digital Avatars, in the sample approval process, which was particularly interesting. The talk was both informative and insightful. Ms Stockham is a young person with great passion for and dedication towards her chosen area of work and she was particularly inspiring.

Parent Support Group

The following information has been received from TIC+ Parent Support Referral Team.

FREE PARENT SUPPORT GROUPS STARTING NOVEMBER 2022

We still have spaces on the FREE Parent Support Groups that we are running in Cheltenham and Stroud from November 2022 over a course of 6 weeks, for parents/carers of children between the ages of 11-18 within Gloucestershire. Our Zoom sessions are now fully booked; however, we will be releasing another Zoom Group for November imminently. The details for this will be on our website soon.

Dates	Day	Time	Location	Eventbrite Link
01/11 - 06/12/22	Tues	10:30am-12:00pm	Stroud Morning	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/414106492667
2/11 - 7/12/22	Wed	7:00pm - 8:30pm	Cheltenham Evening	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/414139952747

Our established groups are designed to inform and support parents, helping them to understand their child's distress and discover effective strategies to improve their resilience. The group is also an opportunity for parents going through similar experiences to encourage, support and learn from each other in a safe and friendly environment.

All details are on our website under the following link: <https://www.ticplus.org.uk/parents-carers/parent-carer-support-groups/>

School Uniform Bookings

Details have been shared recently, via Edulink, regarding some special offers and summer bookings being available at our uniform stockists. A reminder of the contacts for our suppliers:

www.theschoolwearcompany.co.uk
www.schooltogs.com

Please ensure that you make contact and secure your booking. Schoolwear and schooltogs company bookings:

<https://theschoolwearcompany.co.uk/book-an-appointment>
https://www.monkhouse.com/school-resources?utm_medium=Email&utm_source=ASM&utm_campaign=Resources

Covid vaccines

COVID vaccines: how to access first or second doses for children aged 5-17

It isn't too late for children to access a COVID vaccination if they haven't already completed their course.

Children are eligible for:

- First or second dose – Children aged 5 to 11 (paediatric dose Pfizer)
- First or second doses – Children aged 12-17 (Pfizer)
- Third primary dose – Children aged 5-11 who are severely immunocompromised (paediatric dose Pfizer – 8 weeks after second dose), anyone aged 12+ who is severely immunocompromised (Pfizer – 8 weeks after second dose)
- Autumn booster - Children aged 5-11 who are severely immunocompromised or have household contact of someone immunocompromised (paediatric dose Pfizer – at least 3 months after previous dose), anyone aged 12-17 who is severely immunocompromised or household contact of someone immunocompromised (Pfizer – at least 3 months after previous dose)

*children aged 5-15 inclusive must wait 12 weeks after a COVID-19 infection to get a vaccination

**people aged 16 or over must wait four weeks after a COVID-19 infection to get a vaccination

To access a vaccination, contact your GP Practice for advice on how to book an appointment at a local vaccination centre, use the national booking system to get an appointment at a community pharmacy or the JabVan at Gloucestershire Royal Hospital (www.nhs.uk/covidvaccination or call 119), or look out for drop-in clinics on the <https://covid19.glos.nhs.uk/vaccinations/#link-dropin>

Please make sure to carefully check eligibility before taking your child to a drop-in clinic; depending on their age they may only have specific vaccines which will not always be available at every clinic.

More information about the COVID vaccines for children and young people is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-resources-for-children-and-young-people>

Reporting an absence

Parents of all students in ALL year groups 7-11 should report an absence either by leaving a message on the Attendance office voicemail, 01242 524787, or direct dial or by emailing achieve@pittville.gloucs.sch.uk

Parents should contact the attendance officer on the first day of absence and on any subsequent days. Any students arriving late for school must sign in at student reception with the attendance officer.

Please note any requests for holiday should be directed to the headteacher.

Appointments during school hours

When students are attending an appointment during school time, parents must let school know beforehand. Please either send a letter with your child (who should show it to their tutor and then hand it in at main reception when they sign out) or email achieve@pittville.gloucs.sch.uk detailing the time, what the appointment is for, who will be collecting the student, and the expected time of return.

Dates for your diary:

Thursday 3rd November - Y11 Dance Set Phrase exam.

Friday 4th November – Y11 Mock exams begin – see timetable above.

Wednesday 7th December – Y10 Parents Evening – online.

Thursday 8th December – Christmas Jumper and Christmas Lunch Day.

Friday 16th December – End of Term 2, school to finish at 13.20pm

Tuesday 3rd January – Inset day, closed to students

Wednesday 4th January – Term 3 begins

Stay in touch

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Friends of Pittville:



Pittville performing arts