



May Park Primary School
"Nurturing Curiosity; Cultivating Creativity"
Coombe Road, Eastville, Bristol BS5 6LE
0117 9030075
enquiries@maypark.excalibur.org.uk
www.maypark.bristol.sch.uk



11th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Lovely to see you all following the Summer break.

Thank you so much for getting the children in on time, there are really focused sessions in each class first thing in the morning from 8.40 so we need all children in as soon as possible. We have Nursery places available in our fantastic nurser space and the team are always open to visits - please contact the office.

We'd like to thank the wonderful team from our local McDonalds for volunteering to clear the Nursery outside space - they were amazing - please see the photos!

A huge thankyou also to our brilliant team of parent gardening volunteers - have a look at the fabulous allotment space - we have big plans to create more spaces for growing and improving our ecology so please let the office know if you would like to help.

Mrs. Tovey

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Emma Tovey".

Mrs. Emma Tovey
Principal

Nursery

A lovely team of volunteers came from McDonalds in Fishponds along with their Manager Katie and the CEO Laura to support us with developing the outdoor area. They spent a day in over the summer holidays and plan to come back in October half term. Mrs Ghazal's children Hassan, Moosa and Yahya joined the volunteers and worked very hard too. A huge thank you to everyone for their time and hard work with supporting our improvements.



Reception

We would all like to say a BIG WELL DONE to the Reception children and families for a fantastic first few days of school! The children are settling well and happily exploring all the wonders of school. We can already tell it is going to be a year full of learning and friendship.

Year 3

What a fantastic start to the term it has been in Year 3! The children have settled in brilliantly and are already adapting well to life in Key Stage 2. They've been learning their new class routines with confidence and enthusiasm.

This term, we've started our exciting new history topic: *The Stone Age*. The children have really enjoyed beginning to explore what life was like thousands of years ago and are already full of interesting questions and ideas. In Authors, we've been looking at prepositions in our writing and have been introduced to our new class book, *Coming to England* by Floella Benjamin. The story has already sparked some wonderful discussions, and we're looking forward to seeing how it inspires our writing. In Mathematics, we've been working with 3-digit numbers—learning to read, write, and compare them, as well as exploring their place value.

It's been a great start, and we're excited for all the learning and adventures still to come this term!



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Year 4

Year four had a great time swimming this week. Most of the children were 'pool ready.' Please make sure they wear their swimming costume under their clothes and bring their pants in a bag to change into after swimming.

Resource Base

Lilliput Class:

This week in Lilliput we have been gently settling back into our class routines and enjoying spending time with old and new friends!

This week we have been focusing on exploring the story 'Owl babies' and playing with sensory equipment such as rice, pasta, gloop, kinetic sand and water. In Art we have been creating portraits of ourselves using a lot of different materials such as wool, pom-poms, yarn and tissue paper!

Narnia Class:

It has been so lovely to have everyone back in Narnia and welcome to our new children too. This week we have been focusing on settling into our new routine and getting to know each other.

This term in PE we are focusing on our ball skills. At the start of each lesson we learn a group game, our game is 'What's the time Mr Wolf?'. We then engage in a throwing, catching and kicking carousel.

Each child will also have their new reading book. Reading at home every day is strongly encouraged and so beneficial towards your child's development so please do read as much as you can!

Additional Information

Reading Volunteers Needed Please

We are passionate about our children becoming inspired and excellent readers. To achieve this, we are committed to listening to our children read 1 to 1 with an adult as often as possible.

So, we are appealing to you to Volunteer (even if just an hour whenever you can spare one or once a week) to listen to our children read. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please speak to your class teacher or Mrs Gibb.



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As part of our safeguarding the office will let you know what you need to do, and Mrs Gibb will organise a session of training, so you feel equipped to be a reading volunteer.



John Cabot Academy Open Day



Welcome to John Cabot Academy

Based in the heart of Kingswood, we are very proud to serve our diverse local community.

Our vision is simple, we want our students to thrive academically; flourish and grow as young people. When they leave us they will have a strong sense of self, their place in the world and the agency to fulfil their potential.

Originally one of the city's technical colleges, in 2007 we converted into a secondary academy for local students, removing all admissions tests and interviews from the application process. Our admissions policy is now purely distance based, so the closer you are, the more likely you are to get in, with 95% of students coming from within two miles of John Cabot Academy.

Open Evening

Tuesday 23rd Sept
2025, 4-7pm

No booking required.

Open Days

Tuesday 30th Sept
& 21st Oct 2025

Tours at 9am and 2pm
Book online from September.



Dear Year 6 Parent/Carer,

I would like to personally invite you and your family to visit us at John Cabot Academy and take a tour. At John Cabot we understand that making the right choice for your child's secondary education is one of the most important decisions you will have to make. Therefore we are providing these informative sessions for those parents considering our academy, to answer all the questions and any concerns that you and your child may have about making the best choice of school for your family.

We know that John Cabot traditionally has a reputation for tests and bussing students from all over Bristol and as such you may not have considered applying to us as you were worried about getting in. All of that has gone, we are now a highly inclusive local Academy with no entrance tests. I would encourage you to take up the opportunity of the tour, to meet key staff and ask all the questions that we know are essential to helping you make your choice. There is also further information on our website www.johncabotacademy.clf.uk

Open events will take place over three dates. Join us Tuesday 23rd September, 4-7pm for our open evening. Or alternatively come along to one of our open days on either Tuesday 30th September or Tuesday 21st October 2025. We will have tours running at 9am and 2pm, which can be booked online from September. I look forward to welcoming you to our academy.

Yours faithfully,
Ms K Willis
Principal



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jcainfo@clf.uk

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Clifton College Open Day

CLIFTON COLLEGE
cliftoncollege.com

Aim high, stay grounded

Clifton College is an independent co-educational day and boarding school nestled in the heart of Bristol, for pupils ages 3-18 years. Proudly offering a modern education set amongst historic grounds.

Minibus service available

Upcoming Open Events

- Friday 26th September
Preschool - Year 6
- Friday 3rd October
Sixth Form
- Saturday 4th October
Year 7 - Year 11

Book your Open Day visit online

CLIFTON COLLEGE
cliftoncollege.com

Achieve distinction and personal excellence through our scholarships programme.

Scholarship opportunities

At Clifton College, there is no one particular type of pupil that succeeds. Our range of scholarship opportunities promotes the development of emerging talents, and encourages a higher level of achievement in the pupil's dedicated focus area.

- 11+ scholarships**
Academic, Drama, Music, Sport
- 13+ scholarships**
Academic, Art, Design Technology, Drama, Music, Performing Arts, Sport
- 16+ scholarships**
Academic, Art, Drama, Music, Performing Arts, Sport

Minecraft Club Spaces

Please note that we still have spaces available for Wednesday's Minecraft club, which you can apply for using the following link:

<https://mlpminecraft.ecwid.com/May-Park-Primary-School-Bristol-Autumn-Term-1-2025-NEW-Wednesday-p759288953>

Please note that these are available on a first come, first serve basis.



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Bristol Family Hubs



Information Session

May Park School

Wednesday 17th September 3pm

**Come & meet your Family Hub Navigator,
and find out more about your East Central
Family hub services.**



Yvonne

Family Hubs can help you and your family find activities or support, and signpost you to the right services that match your needs.

- Activity groups at Family Hubs and elsewhere in your local community.
- Midwifery and health visiting services.
- Childcare, nurseries & education.
- Support for wellbeing and mental health, including drop-in baby groups, parenting classes, opportunities to meet other parents and help with feeding your baby.
- One to one support & specialist group support.
- Access to housing support and debt/financial advice.
- Youth & play services, youth clubs & support for children with SEND.

For further information contact us:

Email: eastcentral.navigators@bristol.gov.uk

Telephone: Yvonne 07393802844

Nut Allergy

May Park is a NUT FREE school. This means that children cannot bring in or consume any nuts or nut products at school. PLEASE DO NOT give your child peanut butter sandwiches and PLEASE CHECK ingredients on jars ESPECIALLY chocolate spread as most imitations of Nutella contain nuts. Even if the ingredients specify 'MAY CONTAIN PEANUTS AND OTHER NUTS', these must not be used.

Check online for nut free chocolate spreads, although we would recommend a healthier choice for a sandwich filling.

Safeguarding



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SUPPORTING CHILDREN GOING BACK TO SCHOOL

Returning to school after the summer holidays can be both exciting and daunting for children of all ages. Different routines, classes, schools, and academic pressures can cause anxiety or uncertainty. Parents play a vital role in easing this transition. This guide will help you support your child emotionally, mentally, and practically as they return to school.

- 1 RE-ESTABLISH ROUTINES**
Gradually shift your child's bedtime a week or two before term starts. Regular bedtimes, wake-up times, and mealtimes can help children feel more secure and reduce the shock of change when school begins. Encourage a routine evening preparation and bedtime, leading to reduced anxiety and improved sleep and concentration.
- 2 TALK ABOUT FEELINGS**
Encourage open conversations with children about their feelings. Ask them how they feel about returning to school and do what they're looking forward to and anything they might be feeling unsure or worried about. Validating their emotions can help reduce anxiety and show them it's okay to talk about their emotional wellbeing.
- 3 SUPPORT WITH SLEEP**
Children need adequate sleep for concentration, focus, mood, memory, and emotional resilience. Establish a consistent bedtime without screens at least an hour before bed, and encourage relaxing activities like reading or listening to calming music.
- 4 LOOK OUT FOR SIGNS**
Some children may show anxiety through changes in their behaviour, such as withdrawal, stomach aches, and irritability. If worried parents speak with their teacher or the pastoral team early to ensure you can be best supported.
- 5 REFRESH SOCIAL CONNECTIONS**
Help children reconnect with school friends by arranging playdates or video chats in the week before school starts. Practice lessons and a solid introduction to the first few lessons will provide emotional comfort for the first days back.
- 6 CREATE A CALM MORNING**
Mornings set the tone for the day. Plan ahead with a consistent morning routine that allows time for breakfast, getting dressed, and taking leisure time in the day. Good sleep and calm mornings reduce stress for everyone.
- 7 FOCUS ON POSITIVES**
Talk about the fun and interesting parts of school – seeing friends, favourite subjects, or exciting activities. Offer practical pointers: change materials can make it engaging. "How's your day going?" "Did that go well?" "I'm glad about your day!" This builds mood and positive experiences. Praising an achievement can help a child's attention, memory, thought, and physical activity as well as engaging them.
- 8 VISIT OR VISUALISE SCHOOL**
If possible, arrange visits to the school grounds before the first day. Expectations of a new school, making the walk to school, looking at photos of classrooms and corridors can reduce the unknown and help build a sense of familiarity. Consider a special treat or activity to give your child the day. This is particularly helpful for younger children or those with additional needs.
- 9 PLAN AHEAD TOGETHER**
Involve children in preparing for school – buying supplies, packing their bag, or choosing lunch options. This gives them a sense of control and builds self-esteem. Use checklists or timetables to prepare together, helping reduce last-minute stress.
- 10 STAY POSITIVE AND PRESENT**
Children pick up on your moods. Stay calm, positive, and present, especially during drop-offs. Avoid negative goodbyes and let them know you'll be there to pick up. A consistent, reassuring presence builds their confidence and resilience.

Meet Our Expert
This guide was created by Jo Martin-Brown, an Educational Health Practitioner with nearly 20 years' experience supporting children and young people's mental health. She provides ongoing support for parents and teachers to help them support their children's wellbeing, with a mission to help every child feel safe and confident in their education.

Wake Up Wednesday | **The National College**

Twitter: @wake_up_weds | Facebook: /www.thenationalcollege | Instagram: @wake.up.wednesday | TikTok: @wake.up.weds

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Attendance

I'd like to start off by saying a massive 'Thank You' to all our parents for getting the children into school.

I also wanted to share some good news following an attendance meeting. That our school's attendance (in comparison with this time last year) is showing an increase of 7%.



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We are currently at 92.2%
We need to keep this up and know that we can do it!!!

Well Done everyone.

Just to remind all parents we have a new attendance email address for all enquiries any proof of appointments, absence requests and to let us know of any absences -

mppattendance@maypark.excalibur.org.uk

Our absence request procedure is to collect a form from the school office at least 4 weeks before the absence and then email it to the above email address or hand it back into the office with any proof of the absence and any flight tickets.

Admissions -

Our school is currently quite full which is fantastic news but if you know anyone who has children looking for a nursery or interested in an open day please get them to email our new admissions email address -

mppadmissions@maypark.excalibur.org.uk

Thank you all so much again and the Attendance team are always here if you need us.

Family Support

Don't forget Open door on Monday 9am - 10.30am
If you just want to have a chat, I'm here to listen.
See you then, Mrs Allen

School Office

School Office Opening Time are:
8am – 12pm
12pm – 12.30pm CLOSED
12.30pm - 4pm

Can we please remind all parents that the office is closed from 12.00pm - 12.30pm. So, if your child has an appointment and you need to collect could you please collect before 12.00pm and after 12.30pm.