



Backwell School Weekly Bulletin



Friday, 06 February 2026

Dear Parents, Carers, Families and Friends,

It has been a fantastic week at school, full of generosity, talent and community spirit — and even included a first for me: spending lunchtime today “in the stocks” being sponged! This was all part of our Raising and Giving Week entertainment, organised and launched entirely by our Sixth Form Council.

Our inaugural RAG Week has been a huge success, with activities including fair games, a clothes swap, bake sale, sponge-the-teacher and today’s non-uniform day, all raising money for a range of local charities. It has truly embodied our school values — being **kind** in thinking of others, **curious** in getting involved, and **ambitious** in launching the first event of its kind for our school community. I look forward to sharing the total amount raised with you in a future newsletter.

On the sporting front, congratulations go to our Year 9 girls’ football team, who progressed to the last eight of the English Schools National Cup with an impressive 6–2 win over Torquay Grammar School on Monday, played on our new 3G pitch. The girls continue to show outstanding teamwork and resilience and are a real credit to the school. They now await next week’s live draw to discover their next opponents — with possible trips to Doncaster or eastern Essex if the draw proves unfavourable!

Continuing with sporting success, it was wonderful to see two Backwell alumni, Ollie Harris and George Taylor, named in the starting XV for Bristol Bears when they played Gloucester on Sunday afternoon. Although the Bears narrowly lost the Premiership Cup fixture, both players performed strongly. As Mr Newell rightly noted, it is incredibly rare for a comprehensive school to produce two players in a professional rugby starting line-up, and we are immensely proud of them both and excited to follow their future progress.

On Wednesday, we enjoyed our first preview of what promises to be a spectacular production of *Oliver!*, with the cast performing for our Key Stage 3 students. Later in the day, we welcomed pupils from Backwell Juniors, many of whom were inspired by seeing former classmates on stage. It was particularly lovely to hear one student reflect honestly on how she once felt nervous about performing and how embracing opportunities and

curiosity has helped her grow in confidence and develop a love for the stage. There are still a handful of tickets available for performances at 7pm from 10th–13th February.

On Tuesday, our Year 10 students attended a powerful and thought-provoking presentation from Collaborate Digital on violence against women and girls, misogyny and positive action. This session forms part of our Personal Development programme and complements their SMSC learning. Students explored national and local statistics, discussed the impact of disinformation on social media, and considered positive actions and role models that help build a safe and inclusive culture. Their engagement and mature discussion were inspiring, and we are very grateful to Collaborate Digital for delivering such a valuable session.

Finally, a reminder that **Friday 13th February is an INSET Day**, and Term 3 will finish at the end of the school day on **Thursday 12th February**.

Thank you for all your continued support, and I wish you all a wonderful weekend.



Will Penny
Headteacher



Book of the Week

Best Wishes from the Full Moon Coffee Shop BY Mai Mochizuki

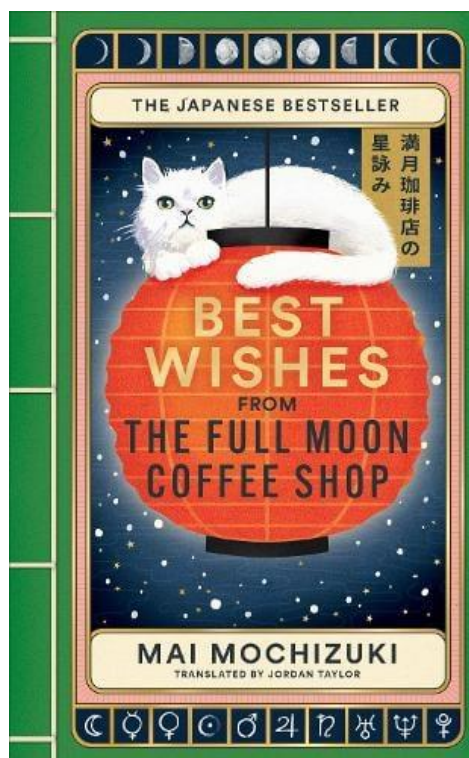
'At the Full Moon Coffee Shop, we don't take your order. Instead, we bring you desserts and drinks - selected just for you.'

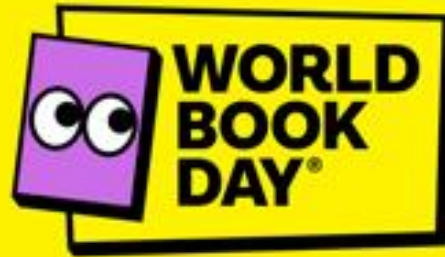
In Japanese legend, cats are symbols of good luck. If you are kind to them, they'll return the favour one day. And if you are kind to the right cat, you might find yourself invited to a celestial café.

The Full Moon Coffee Shop magically materialises with every full moon - plus one festive night a year. This Christmas, the sagacious cats open their doors once more to all lost souls in need of a guiding light.

The season's first customer, Satomi, catches wind of her boyfriend's plan to propose on Christmas Eve, and feels torn between love and success. Her disaffected intern, Koyuki, has her own reasons for dreading the day, while Junko is visiting home for the first time after decades away.

In this festive follow-up to the cosy classic, the customers of the Full Moon Coffee Shop stand at a wintry crossroads in their lives. With the help of some feline divinations, they will find the courage to follow their stars into the new year.





Book Fair

Friday the 27th of Feb in LB2

08:45 - 14:20

Celebrate World Book Day 2026 with our annual book fair.

Returning partners Story Smith will be providing books available for purchase throughout the day. Expect a wide selection of familiar favourites and recently released books.

Card and Cash Accepted
Don't Forget Your Book Tokens



BAKE-A-BOOK COMPETITION!



Open to All Year 7 - Year 13 students
Create a food item inspired by a book.

Submit your bake to the
library on World Book Day
- 5th March

RAG WEEK UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who wore non-uniform today to raise money for Children's Hospice South West. If you are yet to make your £2.00 payment/donation for your child/children, please do so via ParentPay by clicking on the link below:

[ParentPay](#)

Backwell School Production of "Oliver!" – Performances next week!

Rehearsals for our school production of "Oliver!" are going brilliantly and the scaffolding and staging is now up!

Tickets are selling very fast. If you are yet to buy your tickets, please click on the link below, before it is too late!

The show runs from Tuesday, 10 February to Friday, 13 February. Tickets are priced at £10 for adults and £6 for concessions.

[Your Box Office - Ticket booking for Oliver!](#)

Snapshots of rehearsals of Oliver! – Don't forget to purchase tickets for this incredible show.



Year 9 Options Evening Presentation

Please click on the link below to view the presentation following the recent Year 9 meeting.

[Year 9 Options Presentation - January 2026](#)

All Year 9 Parents and Carers will have received an email with a link to complete with their child to select their KS4 GCSE options.

The deadline for submitting forms is Wednesday, 25 February 2026.

Please email any queries to: mailbox@backwellschool.net

Clubs – Spring/Summer (Terms 4, 5 & 6)

The Clubs booklet has been refreshed to show the clubs schedules for after February Half term. **There are several fee-paying clubs which will go live on ParentPay on Wednesday 11 February at midday.** Booklet copies will be available in tutor time early next week and in the meantime a copy of the booklet can be found [here](#).

Pupil Premium – if you are in receipt of Pupil Premium/Free School Meals please get in touch with Student Services about reserving a place on a paid/limited spaces club.

Clubs notices:

Free Clubs

Y7 Table Tennis – please register your interest with Student Services.

Fee Paying Clubs – spaces open on ParentPay on Wednesday 11 February at midday

Y7-9 Photography for Term 4 - new intake, see ParentPay to pay and sign-up. The club is popular – if you don't get a space there will be other opportunities in Terms 5 and 6.

Y7-9 Graffiti Club Term 5 – see ParentPay to pay and sign up.

Y7-9 Clay Club Term 4 – new intake, see ParentPay to pay and sign-up.

Fishing Club – please register your interest with Student Services. Limited spaces.

Skateboarding Term 4 – 27 Feb to 27 March (5 sessions), Fridays 3.15-4.15pm, Max 12 students, £8/session. Open to all year groups. Booking is via external company Campus Skateboarding – see the accompanying flyer which has a link to book/fill in waiver. The sessions will take place on the Courts. If the weather is unsuitable on the day, we will get in touch to reschedule the session. Please note there is no late bus on Fridays so you will need to organise your child's safe return home after the club. All equipment will be provided, please do not bring skateboards into school.



SKATE AFTER SCHOOL

WITH
CAMPUS SKATEBOARDING



- STARTING FRIDAY 27 FEB
- SKATEBOARD TUITION
- 5 WEEKS
- 4.15 PICK UP
- ONLY 12 SPACES AVAILABLE
- £8 PER SESSION
- EQUIPMENT CAN BE PROVIDED

What we cover:
Basic skateboard control,
pushing and turning,
key terminology,
flat ground tricks

[TO BOOK A SPACE CLICK HERE OR HEAD TO
CAMPUSSKATEBOARDING.COM](#)



[TO BOOK A SPACE - CLICK HERE](#)



LSP Newsletter – The Beacon - Parents Edition

As you may be aware, our school is part of the Lighthouse Schools Partnership (LSP) – a Trust of 34 schools in the local area. The LSP has a parent/carer newsletter, called The Beacon, which is for anyone with children within a LSP school.

Please [click here](#) to read the latest version of this newsletter which includes lots of exciting news and updates from across the trust.

We hope you enjoy reading about the exciting things that have been happening across LSP.

Quick Links

- [School Uniform and Equipment Guidance](#)
- [Financial Support](#)
- [Careers Bulletin - 06 February 2026](#)
- [Sixth Form Bulletin - Friday 06 February 2026](#)

Letters Home This Week

- [Year 11 Parents' Information Evening - Preparation for Exams](#)
- [Years 7, 8 and 11 Short Reports](#)

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 10 – Friday 13 February 2026	School Production 'Oliver' Performance in DTH 19:00-22:00
Thursday 12 February	Year 11 Parents' Information Evening – Preparation for Exams 18:00-18:45
Friday 13 February	Inset Day 5 – School closed to pupils End of Term 3
Thursday 26 February	Year 11 Parents' & Carers' Evening (online) 16:00-18:45
Tuesday 03 March	Backwell School Careers Fair: 12:50 – 16:00 (New Sports Hall)
Thursday 19 March	Year 7 Parents' and Carers' Evening (online 16:00-18:45)



CAREERS FAIR

TUESDAY 3RD MARCH

12:50PM - 4:00PM, NEW SPORTS HALL

Discover your career possibilities, and get connected with top employers.

Ideal for work experience, post 16, post 18 options and future careers.



Over 40 Employers



Nationwide Universities and Colleges



Local Training Providers

All students can attend at lunch and after 3:10pm.

Year 9 and 11 will be visiting during scheduled lessons.

Sixth Form Students Welcome Anytime.

Parents and Carers welcome after 3:10pm.





Codingbug

INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION OF CODERS & MAKERS

Python Club

Learn to code in Python while building **games, apps, and simulations**. Develop problem-solving skills that boost creativity and confidence. Explore **machine learning**, and discover how to work with data and visualise it.

Python opens a door to many career opportunities.

Suitable for students in **Years 7-11**.

IN PERSON

5-6pm
WEDNESDAYS

Hangstones Pavilion
Stowey Road, Yatton,
BS49 4HS

HOW TO JOIN →

Scan the QR code to book
Limited spaces available

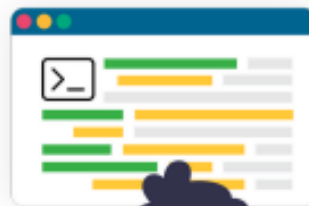


ONLINE

5-6pm
MONDAYS after school

HOW TO JOIN →

Scan the QR code to book




Python



VISIT OUR WEBSITE
codingbug.co.uk



 info@codingbug.co.uk

 07909 226520

**Life
Cycle**



**Backwell School
February half term
Bikeability
Level 3**

Bikeability Holiday Courses

Unlock your child's cycling potential!

Cycling confidence, road safety, and planning skills -
taught by Life Cycle's qualified, DBS-checked instructors.

Scan to
book



Book now!

<https://bit.ly/48Ai378>

Registered Charity Number: 1077575

Candlelight
to **Dancefloor**



Friday 20th March 2026

Charity Fundraising Concert

- Orchestra performing 90s-00s dance classics
- Premium drinks and cocktails
- Red carpet, glitter ball and glow sticks
- Charity raffle with great prizes

Sit • Sip • Dance

7pm-11pm
St Andrew's Church
Backwell, BS48 3JJ

For more info/tickets
scan QR code:

