

# Battledown Centre for Children & Families



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

Term 1 has come to an end. We have warmly welcomed new children and staff who have all settled in well to life at Battledown and it is lovely to see the school buzzing with activity. The summer holidays were busy with the development of Owls, Rabbits and Foxes classrooms. We also upgraded windows in some areas, outdoor surfaces and some exciting new swing equipment in the playground.



It has been great to see the children busy with this term's topic of 'People Who Help Us', with visits by the emergency services and transport vehicles which the children have truly enjoyed. It has been a term with lots of illness and bugs for both staff and children. Thank you for your understanding with class closures and, fingers crossed, we will be blessed with everyone being well next term!



We are very much looking forward to seeing you at parents' evening next term, and to putting on some Christmas performances which we will invite you to come and enjoy. Have a good half term!



## The Cheltenham Literature Festival

Some pupils from Badgers, Foxes and Squirrels classes enjoyed a trip this month to the Literature Festival.

They enjoyed having a picnic lunch and then had a short

walk to spot some storybook characters before they then stepped inside the 'One Stop Story Shop'.

All the children enjoyed the interactive story and learned a lovely Under the Sea song which they joined in with using lots of lovely props. A fun-filled experience for them all!



## A Special Outing to the Circus!

What a fabulous time we had at Giffords Circus! We danced, laughed and cheered as we watched the acrobats, miniature ponies and clowns perform. Tweedy was a real favourite with everyone, especially when his trousers fell down!!!!

We enjoyed popcorn and candyfloss during the second half after eating our picnic in a tent. On our way back to school we chatted and vocalised about our Circus adventure.

Thank you Giffords for inviting us!



# Battledown Centre for Children & Families



**Children in Need**  
**Fri, 17 Nov**  
 (wear spots, pyjamas or something yellow!)  
**School Photos**  
**Wed, 22 Nov**

Parents Evening

Wed, 22 Nov



**PLEASE REMEMBER**  
**WE ARE A NUT**  
**FREE SCHOOL**



## TERM DATES 2023-2024

Term 2: Mon, 6 Nov - Fri, 22 Dec 2023

Term 3: Mon 8 Jan - Thu, 8 Feb 2024

Inset: Fri, 9 Feb 2024

Term 4: Mon 19 Feb - Fri, 22 Mar 2024\*

\*Inset: Wed, 6 Mar 2024

Term 5: Mon 8 Apr - Fri, 24 May 2024\*

\*Bank Holiday: Mon, 6 May 2024

\*Inset: Tue, 7 May 2024

Term 6: Mon 3 Jun - Fri, 19 Jul 2024

Inset: Mon, 22 Jul 2024



## Team Olaf to the Rescue!

Olaf, our Pets as Therapy dog, put in a special guest appearance at the recent

Cheltenham Literature Festival, promoting his new book, "Team Olaf to the Rescue". Olaf and his canine friends save the day to give the children a Christmas party to remember. With all proceeds going to Pets as Therapy, the book costs £8.99 and can be ordered via the following link: <https://petsastherapy.org/information/support-us/tails-of-mr-olaf-book>



The Chamwell Centre Charity  
 Overcoming disability in Gloucestershire

## Hydro Pool



Our fantastic pool at The Chamwell Centre Charity is a hydrotherapy pool. It's a warm water pool heated at 34 degrees. It is a 15 metre pool with a maximum depth of 1.35 metres and is fully accessible.

The warmth of the water allows your muscles to relax and eases the pain in your joints, helping you to gently exercise. The water supports your weight, which helps to relieve pain and increase the range of movement in your joints. The water can be used to provide resistance to moving your joints.

There are many benefits especially for children and adults with a disability, those recovering from injury or have a mobility or movement issue.

£7 for 45 minutes in the pool

This is you doing your own thing. It is NOT with by a therapist or swim instructor. This is not a private session.

Membership is required. It is £5 a year individual/£10 family - this is an annual admin cost. Health details will be required for membership to be permitted. This is for your safety.

We have instructor run sessions too like our Adult Water Confidence Group.

Please contact us to enquire: [Bookings@chamwellcentre.org.uk](mailto:Bookings@chamwellcentre.org.uk) or call 01452 767700



The Chamwell Centre Charity, Longford lane, Longford, Gloucester GL2 9EU 01452 767700

## Christmas Concerts

More details to follow but these will take place for each class as follows:



Mon, 11th Dec: Rabbits & Woodpeckers

Tue, 12th December: Owls & Otters

Wed, 13th December: Squirrels & Foxes

Thu, 14th December: Hedgehogs & Badgers

Congratulations to this year's Student Council representatives:



Foxes: Ryan

Otters: Leandro

Hedgehogs: Reyansh

Woodpeckers: Olivia

Owls: Annie

Badgers: Henry

Rabbits: Nevaeh

Squirrels: Theo



# Battledown Centre for Children & Families

SAND  
ACADEMIES TRUST



 The **Chamwell Centre** Charity  
Overcoming disability in Gloucestershire

**HALF TERM - FRIENDLY ACCESSIBLE FUN!**  
for children & young people with disabilities & their families



**THU NOV 2ND** **FUN & FANCY DRESS**  
Lots of accessible fun, games & fancy dress for Halloween.  
Tin Can Alley, Giant Connect 4, Bow & Arrows, Ball games & lots more from 'Goals Beyond Grass'

**11 AM - 3 PM - FREE!**

**FRI NOV 3RD** **BALL FUN & GAMES**  
'With The Ball Coaching' are bringing lots of fun and ball games - fully accessible!

**10 AM - 1 PM - FREE!**

**BOOKING IS REQUIRED FOR ALL EVENTS AS SPACES ARE NUMBERED. CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED AT ALL TIMES**  
Email Bookings@chamwellcentre.org.uk or call 01452 767700


**OUR CAFE WILL BE OPEN DURING THE WEEK WITH HALLOWEEN TREATS TOO!**



**FAMILY SUPPORT**  
We will be sending out a questionnaire to better understand what support and information we can offer our families. Please complete the forms so that we can plan sessions and events that best to suit your needs. Thank you.

 Don't forget to label clothing & personal items.

If your child is unwell, you must call in or message the team on Class Dojo before 9am daily to report any absences.





As the weather turns colder, please ensure your child has a coat, hat and gloves in school for outdoor play and learning.

**Meet Joe Page**

Hi, I'm Joe, Acting Assistant Headteacher covering Leah's maternity leave. I have been teaching in SEN settings for 13 years and have taught across all ages (4-16) and love seeing the pupils make progress with both their academic and social skills. I have a passion for PE and Sport - so try to include this passion into my teaching where I can!



  **GOODBYE**

We sadly bid a very fond farewell to Otters class teacher, **Ellie Walsh**, who is moving across SAND Academy Trust to Belmont School, and to **Pauline Phillips** who is leaving us after an incredible 17 years as a Learning Partner and HLLP. A huge thank you to you both for everything you have done during your time at Battledown, we will miss you!

**W e l c o m e**

A very warm welcome to Jake in Badgers, Elsie-Mae in Owls, Jack in Woodpeckers & Florence, Leighton & Danny-Lee in Otters.

---

Joe Page, Acting Assistant Headteacher  
Alycia Orr, Class Teacher  
Rebecca Sefton, Class Teacher  
Abi Hales, Learning Partner  
Louise Howchin, Learning Partner  
Jacob Thomson, Learning Partner  
Safaa Thomson, Learning Partner  
Michelle Owino, Midday Supervisor

**Donations required!**

We will soon be asking for donations of items for the hampers being made up to raise money for the BFG.

Donations could include bottles (alcoholic & non-alcoholic), biscuits, sweets, chocolates, savoury/sweet snacks, & general festive food. Also pamper items, e.g. unused toiletries, face packs, shower puffs, mani-pedi & general beauty items (not make-up).

