Futura Learning Partnership

Community Newsletter

Issue 9: July 2024

Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is with mixed feelings that I write to you as the end of the school year draws near. Like everyone, I am looking forward to the summer break, but I also feel some sadness that I will not be returning to my role in September. I'm retiring this summer after a career in education of 41 years, during which time I have had the privilege of getting to know thousands of young people and their families. It has been such an honour to work alongside my wonderful colleagues to set children on the road to a bright future and I love to hear of and celebrate individual achievements.

Following last week's general election, I have seen a number of successful candidates reflecting on their schooling and the teachers and others who influenced them. One of the great things about working in schools is that every day you have the chance to make a positive impact on someone's life, even though you might not know about it until years later.

I have been fortunate to have enjoyed all the roles I have had, which include being a history teacher and local authority adviser, a headteacher at three different schools and the founder and leader of our strong multi-academy trust. I am very proud to have been recognised in this year's National Teaching Awards with a Silver Lifetime Achievement Award.

Over the past two terms, I have tried to meet as many of our pupils, staff, volunteers and families as possible. I wanted to say farewell in person and to thank them for all that they do. It is important to me that each of our schools is at the heart of its community and serves the children, families and neighbours within it.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you, as parents and carers, for the support you give to our schools in so many ways. This partnership between schools and families is the key to success; it is the best way to ensure that all children can flourish. We greatly appreciate those who are able to give their time to PTA fundraising, as governors, or as volunteers in classrooms and on trips and extra-curricular activities. We are equally grateful to those who support their children's attendance, learning, behaviour and attitudes and reinforce our trust values of respect, opportunity, collaboration and aspiration. In an uncertain world, schools and parents working together provide valuable stability.

All good things must come to an end and the time is right for me to move into the next phase of my life. I am delighted to be handing over to Futura's new Chief Executive, Gary Schlick. As our Deputy Chief Executive, he has been instrumental in establishing the strong foundations of our expanded trust, which Ofsted has consistently praised for adding value to our schools throughout the past year.

We have this week launched our Strategy to 2030, which sets out how we will ensure all our schools continue to provide high quality and inclusive education. It is underpinned by our new mission statement: **Building the brightest future for all, enabling every individual to flourish**.

I am very proud of all we have achieved at Futura and look forward to seeing the trust go from strength to strength. Thank you for your support throughout the year and I wish you and your family all the very best for the future.

With thanks and best wishes,

Andrea Arlidge

Andrea Arlidge
Chief Executive

Futura welcomes Bishop Michael

Andrea Arlidge and Bishop Michael with headteacher Matt Filer and children at the unveiling at Two Rivers Church of England Primary School in Keynsham

Children and staff at Two Rivers CofE Primary School welcomed the Bishop of Bath and Wells to their environmentally-friendly school building in Keynsham.

The Rt Rev Michael Beasley was shown around the award-winning building and took part in an assembly with pupils before a plaque was unveiled to mark the official opening. The Chair of Bath & North East Somerset Council, Councillor Karen Walker, was also in attendance.

Two Rivers School was opened by Futura Learning Partnership in 2020 to serve the growing Hygge Park estate in East Keynsham. Two years later, staff and pupils moved into their eco-buildings.

Futura worked in partnership with B&NES Council to develop the school to the highest Passivhaus environmental standards.

Futura Chief Executive Andrea Arlidge said: “Educating children to live well and be the next guardians of our planet is of critical importance and the philosophy of Two Rivers, and its innovative building, is leading the way in showing what is possible. It is a national example of how great architecture and design can provide an educational environment that promotes sustainability.”

The school’s name was chosen to link old and new, reflecting the town’s development around Keynsham Abbey at the confluence of the rivers Chew and Avon about 1,000 years ago.

Two Rivers is one of Futura’s six Bath & Wells Diocese Church of England schools. The school was rated Outstanding in its first inspection by Ofsted last year.

Ofsted praises ‘inclusive’ and ‘ambitious’ Clevedon School

WE ARE BLACK AND GOLD
WE ARE TEAM CLEVEDON
Be Kind Be Brilliant

Clevedon School has been rated Good in all areas by Ofsted with the personal development of students judged to be Outstanding.

Inspectors who visited the school at the end of April said pupils achieve well and go on to reach meaningful destinations. They praised the “calm and purposeful learning environment”.

The report said: “Pupils are friendly and welcoming at this inclusive school. They have strong relationships with staff and feel safe. Sixth-form students are positive role models and support younger pupils well.

Read more >>>

Oracy skills provide many benefits

WELCOME TO
SBL ACADEMY
RECEPTION

SBL Academy understands that oracy isn't just about doing well academically; it's a crucial skill for life. Effective communication is essential in today's world, whether at work, in communities, or in personal relationships. By improving oracy skills, the school is giving students an advantage in an ever-changing society.

Read more >>>

Performance opportunities boost pupils' confidence

HIGHBRIDGE

Westover Green Performers embarked on a new venture by taking The Little Mermaid to the Highbridge Festival.

Performers consists of three separate clubs: Show Choir, Dance Club, and Drama Club. The children come from a range of abilities, needs, and backgrounds and reflect the diversity of the school.

Read more >>>

Leadership opportunities empower pupils

Wansdyke School believes in nurturing every child's potential, and its leadership programmes provide invaluable opportunities for pupils to grow, learn, and lead. They empower children to take ownership of their learning environment and make meaningful contributions to the school community.

Read more >>>

New outdoor play scheme is a hit

Woolavington Primary School has launched OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning). The school has fantastic grounds and outdoor spaces, which are now fully utilised by children across the school at play and lunchtimes. OPAL was introduced firstly to meet children's play needs and to support a reduction in playtime and post-playtime behaviour and friendship issues.

Read more >>>

Bridgwater celebrates new astroturf

Bridgwater's mayor officially opened Chilton Trinity School's new astroturf sports pitch. All the stakeholders involved in the project joined the celebrations, and students enjoyed showcasing the pitch.

The astroturf is available for hire and will benefit the whole Bridgwater community.

Thank you to Chilton Trinity teacher Bridget Hedaux for relentlessly campaigning for the new pitch and the BAM facilities manager Lee Granville for making this project a reality.

Community donation benefits Puriton pupils

Puriton Primary School received a £2,500 donation from the local community. Villagers raised the money to support local groups and awarded the school half the total amount raised.

The school has bought sound and lighting equipment for its pupil productions, including speakers, LED lights, spotlights and headset microphones.

Bedminster Down wins Beacon School status for Holocaust education

Watch on
YouTube

Bedminster Down students have created a 'fragility of freedom' themed digital memorial to mark Holocaust Memorial Day.

The school's Genocide Awareness Project Group delivered a whole-school assembly on the Holocaust. Afterwards, they asked students and staff to write a short message about what freedom means to them on a cardboard luggage tag.

Read more >>>

Students achieve success in national engineering competition

Underwater Hub
STEM
CHALLENGE
National Final
Thank you!
Global Underwater Hub

A team of students from Chilton Trinity School has achieved second place in a national science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) competition.

Read more >>>

Sir David Attenborough salutes eco initiatives

Watch on
YouTube
ECO SUMMIT 2024
Futura
Learning Partnership

More than 10,000 pupils from 26 primary and secondary schools took part in the Futura Eco Summit and took positive action to improve biodiversity in their schools' outdoor spaces.

The event was held in individual schools to reduce the summit's carbon footprint, with opportunities to collaborate virtually with pupils from other schools.

Tom Walmsley, Director of Nature Connection, Chair of Avon Schools Eco Network and National Lead for the Ministry of Eco Education, launched the conference with a live broadcast to all the schools.

Read more >>>

Inspirational Futura Chief Executive wins national teaching award

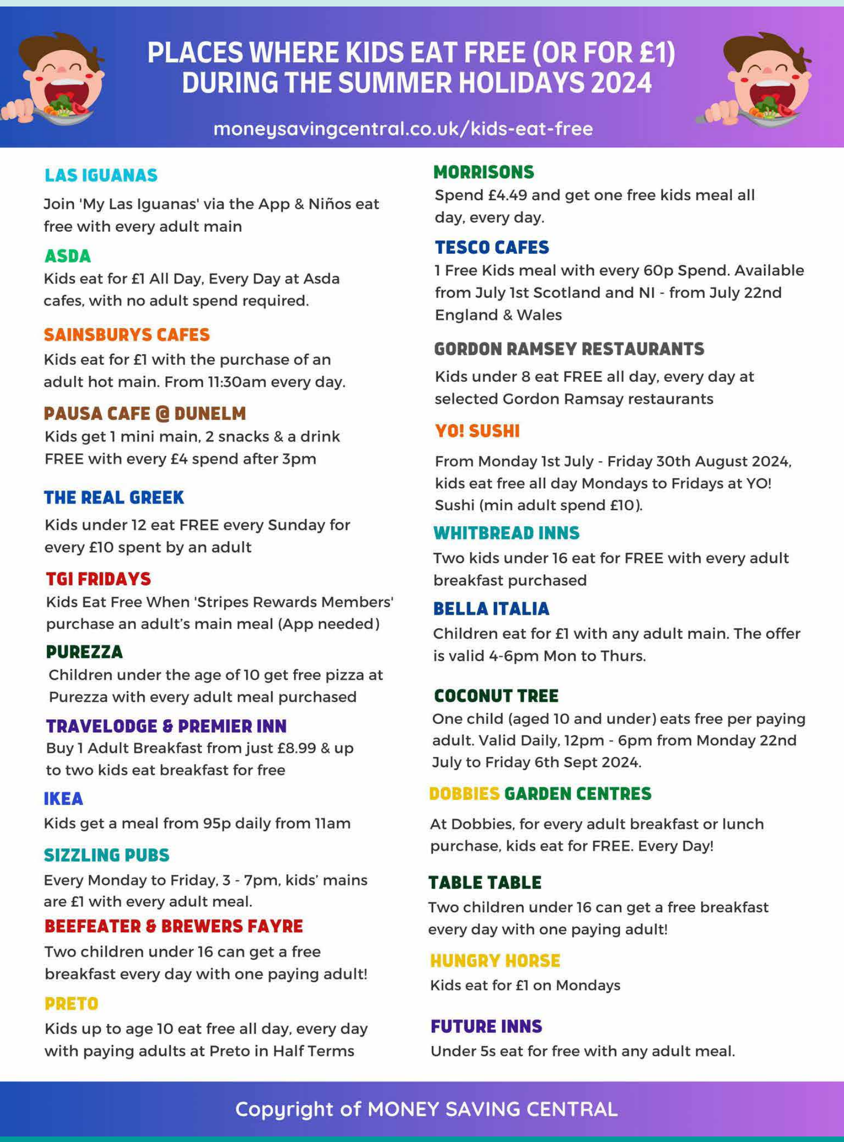
Futura's Chief Executive Andrea Arlidge has been honoured with a Silver Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Pearson National Teaching Awards.

The win highlights the remarkable impact she has had on shaping the lives of thousands of children and young people across Somerset and the West of England.

Mrs Arlidge, who will retire this summer after a varied 41-year career working with pupils across the 2-19 age range, has always had a passion for inclusion and a desire to improve life chances for children and young people.

She said: "My greatest memories are of the amazing things pupils can do when they are inspired and encouraged. A key role for schools is to give children opportunities and experiences they will remember for the rest of their lives."

Read more >>>



PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) DURING THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS 2024

moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free

LAS IGUANAS

Join 'My Las Iguanas' via the App & Niños eat free with every adult main

ASDA

Kids eat for £1 All Day, Every Day at Asda cafes, with no adult spend required.

SAINSBURYS CAFES

Kids eat for £1 with the purchase of an adult hot main. From 11:30am every day.

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids get 1 mini main, 2 snacks & a drink FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm

THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE every Sunday for every £10 spent by an adult

TGI FRIDAYS

Kids Eat Free When 'Stripes Rewards Members' purchase an adult's main meal (App needed)

PUREZZA

Children under the age of 10 get free pizza at Purezza with every adult meal purchased

TRAVELODGE & PREMIER INN

Buy 1 Adult Breakfast from just £8.99 & up to two kids eat breakfast for free

IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

SIZZLING PUBS

Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm, kids' mains are £1 with every adult meal.

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free all day, every day with paying adults at Preto in Half Terms

MORRISONS

Spend £4.49 and get one free kids meal all day, every day.

TESCO CAFES

1 Free Kids meal with every 60p Spend. Available from July 1st Scotland and NI - from July 22nd England & Wales

GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 8 eat FREE all day, every day at selected Gordon Ramsay restaurants

YO! SUSHI

From Monday 1st July - Friday 30th August 2024, kids eat free all day Mondays to Fridays at YO! Sushi (min adult spend £10).

WHITBREAD INNS

Two kids under 16 eat for FREE with every adult breakfast purchased

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat for £1 with any adult main. The offer is valid 4-6pm Mon to Thurs.

COCONUT TREE

One child (aged 10 and under) eats free per paying adult. Valid Daily, 12pm - 6pm from Monday 22nd July to Friday 6th Sept 2024.

DOBBIES GARDEN CENTRES

At Dobbies, for every adult breakfast or lunch purchase, kids eat for FREE. Every Day!

TABLE TABLE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

HUNGRY HORSE

Kids eat for £1 on Mondays

FUTURE INNS

Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal.

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