



Backwell School

An Ofsted Outstanding School
A National Teaching School

Station Road, Backwell,
Bristol BS48 3BX
Tel: 01275 463371
mailbox@backwellschool.net
www.backwellschool.net

Headteacher: Jon Nunes MA

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Dear Parent/Carer

Backwell School Association

I am writing to you about the future of the Backwell School Association (BSA). The BSA, formerly known as the PTA, has existed for over 40 years supporting the school and its students. However in recent years a decreasing number of members has meant that the responsibility of running the Association, supporting the school through presence at events and raising money has fallen to fewer people. It is a huge testimony to work of this small group, that the BSA has continued to put on fantastic events, like the Christmas Fair and the Ceilidh as well as providing a fantastic bar service at many school events, especially the 'Live Lounge' musical events in the theatre. However some of these stalwart BSA members are reaching the end of their tenure; their children have left Backwell or are about to leave.

As a school we value the BSA very highly. Over the years it has enriched the life of the school by providing funding for fantastic projects such as minibuses, the audio visual system in the Theatre and outdoor seating for student use. Just last year the BSA secured for the Music Department a baritone saxophone, a wonderful way to broaden the instrumentation available to our fantastically talented musicians. There is currently around £15,000 in the BSA bank account which has been raised in recent years and exciting projects are under consideration both for how to spend this money to help Backwell students and how to raise more funds with imaginative and enjoyable events. Current plans include further supporting the Music Department in the purchase of a grand piano and buying modern fitness equipment to help equip our soon-to-be-updated fitness suite in the Sports Hall.

So, the BSA makes a huge difference to the lives of your children in many different ways, but it desperately needs new members, whether in a formal committee role or as parents who wish to support the school from time to time by helping out at events. I hope you will consider joining the BSA to ensure its future and the ongoing support of your children in the school especially in this era of significantly reduced government funding.

New parents of Year 7 students have already been invited to the **BSA Year 7 Barbecue on Saturday 22 September from 12.30 to 2.00 pm**. This will also give you an opportunity to meet BSA members, talk about their work and, we hope, sign up. All parents, governors and staff are invited to **the Annual General Meeting of the BSA on Monday 15 October at 7.00 pm** in the School Library to discuss the future of the BSA. I do hope the outcome of that meeting is a revitalised BSA that will continue to work with the school for years to come.

If you have any further queries about the BSA in the meantime please feel free to contact Claire Domaille through the school email: mailbox@backwellschool.net.

Yours sincerely

Jon Nunes
Headteacher