

Inspiring Dementia Action

in Bristol Schools

April 2024



Thank you all for another busy few months during Terms 3 and 4 in Bristol schools. An amazing 2,750 pupil interactions took place, mostly in Primary schools in North and South Bristol. During Terms 5 and 6, we are pleased to be visiting more schools citywide, including Secondary schools, which will raise dementia awareness more equitably.

Dementia Action week takes place in May. The week brings a great opportunity to revisit conversations about Dementia amongst your school communities, as well as start new ones. Please read on for further information and support.

This will be the last newsletter for this school year. Availability remains for a few sessions before the school year ends, so if you would like to make a booking, please email me at; sally.townsend@alzheimers.org.uk. Equally, if you like to plan ahead for the next academic year in Term 6, please do get in touch.

School Engagement

Our thanks to the following schools in particular for their engagement during Terms 3 and 4;

St Bede's Catholic College 6th Form
West Town Lane Academy*
Westbury Park
Stoke Bishop C of E Primary
Westbury-On-Trym C of E Academy
Waycroft Academy*
Ashton Gate Primary

As well as those who re engaged, it was great to work with some new schools*. Thank you to you all. More than 30 sessions were delivered, ranging from story times, assemblies, Dementia Friends sessions, meeting people living with dementia, presentations, and sessions for parents- all resulting in over 2,800 pupil and parent interactions. A special thank you to the students at St Bede's 6th Form who have applied to volunteer as Companion Callers.



Dementia Action Week 2024

Dementia Action week is taking place between May 13th and 19th this year. This year, the campaign is based around the idea of 'anticipatory grief', which is commonly associated with dementia. The campaign reflects the way that dementia can bring grief again and again, but also how Alzheimer's Society provides help at every stage of the journey.

Whilst highlighting the harsher reality for some will be challenging, it is also vital in striving towards making dementia a higher priority at all levels in society, providing hope as well as help for those living with the condition. More information on the campaign, can be read over the page.

Please remember that help is available through a range of ways;

Website; <http://www.alzheimers.org.uk>

Dementia Support line; [0333 150 3456](tel:03331503456)

Dementia Support Forum; <https://forum.alzheimers.org.uk>

As part of the Forget me Not appeal, Morrisons supermarkets are supporting Alzheimer's Society during the week, so keep an eye out if you are shopping there!

Bristol Dementia Action Alliance Awards

The Barbara Award was started in 2023, named in memory of Barbara Hall, late wife of BDAA's Founder, Tony Hall. Barbara was a nursery nurse who dedicated her life to families, children and young people. This award will be given to the children's group or school that has done most to increase dementia awareness in their group and community. Examples are included in the following link. This award is open to any group/school that works with children of school age i.e. 4 – 18 years. Nominations should be made and sent to office@bdaa.org.uk by 31st July, using the attached [nomination form](#).

The actual award will be presented on 25th September from 3pm – 5pm at the BDAA Awards Ceremony. Well done to Oasis Academy Brislington, who won the first Barbara Award in 2023 for working as a team to raise dementia awareness within their school and community.

Dates

May 8th-14th Dying Matters week
May 13th-19th Dementia Action Week
May 20th-24th Glad to Care week
June 10th-16th Carers week
June 10th-16th Loneliness Awareness week
July 1st– 31st Good care month



The following information is being shared through a range of media during Dementia Action Week, as part of Alzheimer's Society's current campaign.

At Alzheimer's Society, we'll be there for you again, and again, and again.

Why do we need to be there again, and again, and again?

One in three of us born in the UK today will develop dementia.

It's the biggest health and social care crisis we face.

Dementia is devastating the lives of people across the UK, with 1.6 million people expected to be living with the disease in 2040.

For many, dementia feels like living through the long goodbye – the heartbreaking way in which it brings grief again and again to those affected. Through the breadth of symptoms experienced, the relationships it touches, and the parts of a person's self it takes away.

This sense of 'anticipatory grief' is so commonly associated with dementia and highlights just how devastating its impact can be.

How are we there for people again and again and again?

Our vision is a world where dementia no longer devastates lives.

Through our strength, our compassion, our determination and our expertise, we're committed to be there for every part of the struggle.

We're visionary leaders who are supporting people at every step of their journeys with dementia journey through our vital services.

We're relentlessly calling for change in systems to make dementia the priority it should be, providing expert guidance and holding people to account.

And we're investing in science to push the pace of breakthroughs and know where this investment is most needed to drive research, diagnosis and treatment.

Because we know it takes a society to end the devastation of dementia.

