

Inspiring Dementia Action



in Bristol Schools January 2025



We hope that you all had a lovely Christmas break and that the new year has started well for you. Terms 1 and 2 consisted of some quite different pieces of work – read on to find out more! Terms 3 and 4 have many bookings already, including a number of new schools and 6th forms. We look forward to working with you all. We continue to be interested in working with more parents, Secondary schools and schools in East Central Bristol. Please contact me if you are interested in exploring what will be most appropriate for your school community: sally.townsend@alzheimers.org.uk.

Awards

We are proud to have been involved in a number of awards during Terms 1 and 2.

Congratulations to Stoke Bishop Primary School and Oasis Academy Brislington for attaining awards at Bristol Dementia Action Alliance's award ceremony in recognition of their many Dementia Friendly efforts. Stoke Bishop Primary received the 'Barbara award', which led to an interview on Radio Bristol. Oasis Academy Brislington received a Highly Commended award.



The strand of our offer of taking people who are living with dementia into schools to share their experiences led us to being a finalist in Alzheimer's Society's Service User Involvement Awards. This was a fabulous event which took place at The Cumberland Hotel in London, enjoyed by our expert service user John and his wife. John was also a worthy runner up in Alzheimer's Society's People Awards, in recognition of all he offers to our work in schools.

Finally our Community Development team were winners of the Together Award at the Devon Partnership Awards (NHS) held at Exeter Racecourse. What a lot of fabulous celebrations!

School Engagement

Terms 1 and 2 saw engagement with pupils in Primary and Secondary schools, as well as parents and staff. Thank you to the following schools in particular;

Elmlea Junior
Oasis Academy Brislington
Stoke Bishop C of E Primary
Wansdyke Primary
Westbury-On-Trym Academy

Thank you for all your outstanding feedback!

Opportunity

We are currently working with the Bristol charity Alive to create a few short videos which will support intergenerational work. An example of this work is some pupils being filmed giving a tour of their school, which will be shared with elder people to demonstrate what schools are like nowadays. A film-making crew are also involved, so if you are interested in taking part as an enrichment project, please let me know.

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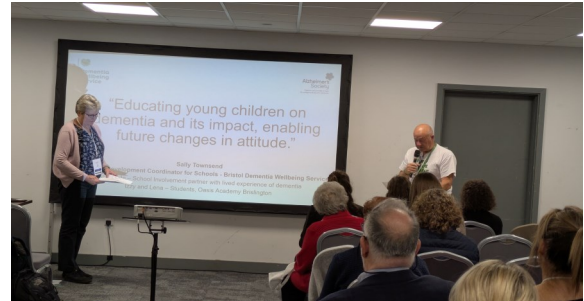


UK National Dementia Congress

It was a privilege to have a proposal accepted at the prestigious UK National Dementia Congress this year, allowing the opportunity to showcase our work in Bristol schools.

The event took place in the Building Society Arena in Coventry. My sincere thanks to Oasis Academy Brislington and John, one of our lived experience experts, for bringing the presentation to life by sharing their own experiences of working together and its impact. Those who attended the session really valued their input and the students ably answered an impromptu question about reducing the stigma in school communities which is often associated with dementia. As the lead teacher from Oasis Academy Brislington said;

“The day was brilliant, the girls loved it, and it was a fantastic experience. A really thought-provoking day, and both the girls have said how they want to continue their work in future years.” Truly memorable!



Fundraising opportunities

Thank you to Westbury-On-Trym C of E Primary for taking part in Elf Day for the 4th year, having now raised approximately £1000! Every penny will provide help and hope for people living with dementia.

If you would like to organise an event as the new year starts, there are lots of ideas and support here; <https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/get-involved/events-and-fundraising/organise-your-own-fundraising>.

Examples could include;

Hosting a bake sale

One of our tastiest fundraising ideas is a bake sale. Go traditional selling cakes and biscuits, or switch it up and make savories like pizza, pasties, or quiche! Every £6.30 raised enables one call to be answered on our Telephone Support Helpline.

Wear blue day

Instead of the usual non uniform day, why not mix it up and wear blue (the colour of our logo) for the day. Go one step further and accessorize with blue headwear, shoes and even glasses. Every £2.40 raised enables 3 people newly diagnosed with dementia to receive a copy of Alzheimer's Society's Dementia Guide.

Let's get quizzical

Everyone loves a quiz and why not theme it around an event next year such as Easter? Get everyone to pay £1 to enter and offer a prize for the winning team. We can even provide you with quiz sheets to make taking part in this fundraiser super simple.

Looking for more ideas and inspiration? Get in touch with your local Fundraiser Zena.jones@alzheimers.org.uk

Dates

February 1st : Time to Talk Day

February 16th : Care Day

February 17th : Random Acts of Kindness Day

March 17th—31st : Neurodiversity Celebration Week

