

Inspiring Dementia Action



in Bristol Schools

April 2026



We hope that you all had a restful and enjoyable Easter break and are embracing the Summer terms. Terms 3 and 4 been very busy, with 50% more pupil interactions compared to terms 1 and 2, working with all years groups from Year R –13 in schools and colleges citywide. This has consisted of a variety of projects as well as our core offer, including story time as part of a 'People who help us' Year 1 project, a Year 6 project led by someone living with dementia in Neuro-Diversity week, a 6 week Enrichment Year 8 project, and a Year 10/11 session as part of Careers week. Terms 5 and 6 are very busy, although there are still a few remaining spaces for those of you have not yet booked and would still like to. Please contact sally.townsend@alzheimers.org.uk for further information.

Finally, we are delighted to share that we are finalists in the inter-generational category at the UK National Dementia awards. This is such an accolade and would not be possible without your engagement and support. Our sincere thanks to you all.

Redland Green School

Following on from an assembly, a group of Year 8 students and class teacher from Redland Green School chose to participate in a 6 week Enrichment project, titled 'Dementia into Action – Inspiring Positive change'. People living with dementia were also selected to be part of the project. Highly successful collaborative activities with true connections produced some great outcomes as follows:

Photography in nature



Local poetry



Making games



The lead teacher shared that:

“The students have learnt lots of things and skills over the weeks. Having the visitors into the school has been really good learning and really valuable. People with dementia are still able to share their skills with others. The students were so engaged in their projects and activities. The visitors’ reactions made it so worthwhile.”

Thank you to you all!

School Engagement

More than 1650 pupils and staff in Primary, Secondary and Post 16 settings engaged during Terms 3 and 4. Thank you to the following settings:

Bristol City College
Brunel Field Primary
Collegiate Secondary
Collegiate Post 16
Redland Green Secondary
St Bernadettes Secondary
Sea Mills Primary
Westbury-On-Trym Academy
Westbury Park Primary

Working with Families

An important part of our offer includes working with parents, carers and family members. This can include educating families about dementia, providing support for those affected by dementia and helping parents and carers to support their children’s learning. This is typically achieved through delivering adult Dementia Friends sessions, information sessions at coffee mornings, information stands at Parents evenings, or involvement in assemblies.

It was an absolute joy to be part of a Year 5 assembly at Westbury-on-Trym Academy where pupils educated the whole school and parents about dementia. Pupils spoke with such knowledge, skill and confidence, and the impact of the work was clear from family and community responses. Well done to you all!



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Networks

We are always keen to work alongside other charities who are also striving to make a positive difference to lives. The following resources may be of interest to you.

There are a number of pupils in Bristol who are supporting parents, grandparents and family members living with dementia. Did you know that Dementia UK have a Consultant Admiral nurse for children and young people? This podcast explores young carers, school support, stigma, grief and the small, practical ways to help children feel safer and less alone. [Listen to the podcast here](#).

Marmalade Trust are a brilliant charity who are working hard to combat loneliness. During Loneliness Awareness Week, schools across the UK are invited to take part in a shared moment of connection, sharing an orange. Inspired by the power of half-time connection linked to the World Cup, this simple collective action creates a visible reminder that connection matters, and that schools, charities, and communities can be part of something together. Find out more: [Resources for schools | Loneliness Awareness Week](#)

During the last year, we have worked alongside Alive as part of the "STANd" project, resulting in the creation of short films which share life in schools and care homes. Films can be viewed here:

<https://www.youtube.com/@BridgingtheGapIG>

The channel is designed to be a space of sharing and connecting with each other. If you are interested in submitting your own film to be uploaded to this channel, please email bridgethegap@aliveactivities.org.

Dementia Action week and taking action

Dementia Action Week (May 18th– 24th) is an awareness campaign, bringing people and organisations together to take action to support those living with dementia. This year, we're encouraging everyone to [join the Forget Me Not Appeal](#) by wearing a Forget me Not badge to remember and support others.

There is also the opportunity to hold a Forget Me Not Tea Party in June. You can host your Forget Me Not Tea Party however and wherever you like, from a small gathering at home to a bustling bake sale in your school or local community. For more information: [Host a Forget Me Not Tea Party | Alzheimer's Society](#)

There are also a great couple of active fundraising opportunities coming up in the summer and autumn, Trek 26 and Memory Walk. These both include walks of various distances in a number of locations. Please see below for further information and support. There are also volunteering opportunities at both events.

[Trek26 | Alzheimer's Society](#)



[Memory Walk 2026](#)



Having walked and volunteered at these events, they come highly recommended!

Dates



Mental Health Awareness Week:

May 11th-17th

International Day of Families: May 15th

Dementia Action Week: May 18th-24th

Loneliness Week: June 15th-21st

World Brain Day: July 22nd

It will take a Society to beat dementia



Please contact sally.townsend@alzheimers.org.uk for further Information about our free offer to Bristol schools.