



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back everyone and a warm welcome to our new parents, carers and children who joining us for the first time this year. We hope you had a great summer and feel ready for the new term ahead.

Please take time to read the school newsletters each fortnight as they contain important information which you may not receive in other formats.



PE kit

This year we will continue with pupils wearing PE kit to school on the days they have PE. Your child will need the following PE kit:

- Dark purple tee shirt (school logo or plain)
- Plain black shorts. In cold weather- black or dark grey leggings, tracksuit or jogging bottoms. No camouflage, no patterns, no stripes, no logos
- School sweat shirt (no other tops)
- Plain black daps or trainers (no coloured trainers)

As white and purple polo shirts are already part of school uniform these can also be worn on PE days.

No football shirts or other team kits unless they are the school team kits.

Reminder:

When you're getting children ready for the start of the new year please note: Hair styles and accessories should be sensible and conducive to learning. No unnatural coloured hair or shocking styles. Small bows are acceptable, large sparkly ones get in the way and distract others from their learning. No jewellery (except small pierced ear-rings) unless prior permission has been granted by the Head teacher for specific reasons.



New £1 bus fare for children,

The mayor of the South West of England, Dan Norris, visited Holymead today to help to raise awareness of the new £1 bus fare for children which is coming soon. Look out for photos of our pupils appearing in the press to promote this and enjoy the cheaper bus travel!



WAS YOUR CHILD BORN BETWEEN 1ST SEPTEMBER 2018 AND 31ST AUGUST 2019?

If they were, you need to be applying for a school place for September 2023. If you know of friends with nursery age children, please check they have applied online to the local authority. Even if you have older children at this school you must still apply for a reception place using the online Bristol form.

Starting School 2023

There will be tours of the infant site for prospective parents looking for a Reception place for **September 2023 on 13.9.22 and 5.10.22 at 9.10am and 10.00am on both dates.**

Tours must be booked by phoning the office on 01173772381.

Please leave your name and contact number.

If you do not wish to look round in person then please see the Head teacher's virtual tour and FAQs on the school website

<http://www.holymeadp.bristol.sch.uk/web>

We look forward to hearing from you.



Staff News

We would like to welcome the following new staff this year. We have Miss Robbins in YR, Miss Robb in Y3 and Miss Thompson in Y5. Mrs Trowbridge is our new smsa in KS1. I'm sure you will give them a warm Holymead welcome.

Congratulations to Mrs Milton, LSA, on the safe arrival of her baby during the summer holidays. We hope Mrs Milton has a lovely maternity leave with her family.

Mrs Bell will be leaving at the end of September to start her maternity leave.

What's Happening

Dates for the Diary

New Reception Parent/Carer Curriculum Meeting 21st September. We will be holding a curriculum meeting at 5.00pm in the infant hall for parents/carers to come and find out more about what your children will be learning this year. There will be NO crèche.

Y2 Reading Meeting 22nd September 5.00pm in the hall. There will be NO crèche.

Y1 Phonics Meeting 29th September 5.00pm in the hall. There will be NO crèche.

October

Black History Month celebrating diversity and inclusion.

EYFS/KS1 (YR-Y2) Parents' Evenings -6th and 11th October- details to follow

NextGen individual photos- October 10th (juniors) and 11th (infants and families)

Colour Photo- photographers in school to update photo boards in entrance halls

12.10.22 **Harvest.** We will ask for donations later.



Developing our School Curriculum

Black History Month

A diverse and representative school curriculum will recognise the contribution of people from different cultures and nations throughout the world.

We therefore feel it is important that Black History Month is a focus for our pupils as it provides pupils with the opportunity to share, celebrate and understand the impact and contribution of black heritage and culture.

During Black History Month this October, we will explore and celebrate the impact and contribution of people from African and Caribbean backgrounds, as well as people from various cultures and nations including Asia, the Americas, the Middle East and Australasia.

Black History Month is part of our vision to deliver a diverse and representative curriculum throughout the school year and supports our work in addressing issues relating to inclusion, equality and diversity.

Roads around school sites.

Parents please think about the safety of our children when driving and parking around school.



Please don't park on the zig zags.

We have put out parking signs and we've rung the police to come and monitor dangerous driving and parking around school. If you see dangerous driving and parking, please report it to:

<https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/report/>

The more parents who report dangerous driving the more likely police and highways agencies are likely to listen.



The Bristol Post usually come early to take a photo of **new reception** children so please make sure you have filled in your slip saying whether you give permission or not for your child to appear in the paper. Pupils are not named on this occasion.



Curriculum Overview

Parents and carers will be concerned about the work missed over lockdowns. To reassure you, staff

have met regularly to discuss missed learning and as a consequence, together with good catch up tuition, Holymead has managed to keep lost learning to a minimum as reflected in our great results in the Y1 phonic check, Y2 SATs and Y6 SATs.

We also have a thorough programme of Personal, Health, Social and Citizenship (PSHC) education in place to ensure children have the time they need to reflect on and discuss their concerns.

We have updated our Curriculum Overview which is on the website and covers a broad range of subjects which has always been the case at Holymead.



Cakes, Sweets and Biscuit treats

Please do not send cakes, sweets or biscuits to celebrate birthdays or special occasions in school. As many children have special diets for varying reasons, we ask that parents don't send ANY treats for consumption in school. We have in the past allowed biscuits but with increasing numbers of children with allergies we feel the best solution is not to send any treats into school at all. Thank you.



School Uniform.

For the start of the new school year, we want all pupils to be in full school uniform.

All uniform needs to be ordered online (with logo) or bought from any shop (without logo). We stock

different sizes of sweat shirts etc so you can try on a sample to get the right size before ordering. If you don't have internet access our office staff are happy to help you with ordering uniform.

If you have any problems with uniform, eg both sweat shirts are in the wash on one day or you're waiting for new trousers to arrive, please explain your circumstances to a member of staff.

Polo Shirts: These can either be plain white or dark purple in colour.

Shoes: Children need to have black school shoes for school.

Please note black jeans, leggings (unless for PE) and hooded tops must not be worn in school.

ALL UNIFORM, INCLUDING PE KITS MUST BE LABELLED CLEARLY.

Back Packs are not allowed on the infant site as space is very limited.



Holidays in term time. It is very unlikely holidays will be authorised as circumstances have to be really exceptional. However, it is still important that applications are made so there is a record in school.

AS A GUIDELINE PARENTS SHOULD ASSUME APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR A HOLIDAY WILL NOT BE AUTHORISED AND YOU ARE LIKELY TO BE FINED FOR ANY UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE OVER 4 DAYS (8 SESSIONS).

Fines start at £60 per child, per responsible adult. For example, if you have 2 children in school and there are mum and dad sharing responsibility for the children then you will be fined £240. Fines rise if they are not paid on time. Please fill in a leave of absence form in advance of taking your children out. Note, you can still be fined if you take an unauthorised holiday but don't fill out a form.



Term Dates 2022-2023

Term 1

Closed for INSET 1st and 2nd September 2022

Pupils start Monday 5th September- 21st October

Term 2

Closed for INSET Monday 31st October 2022

Re-opens Tues 1st November- 16th December 2022

Term 3

Closed for INSET Tues 3rd Jan 2023

Re-opens Wed 4th Jan-10th Feb 2023

Term 4

Mon 20th Feb- 31st March 2023

Term 5

Mon 17th April-26th May 2023

Term 6

Mon 5th June-Thurs 20th July 2023

Closed for INSET Fri 21st July 2023

Schools are closed for Bank Holidays.



Governors' Corner

Our new governors Sam, Kaylene and Michael will be introducing themselves later in this newsletter.

Unfortunately, we are sad to be saying good-bye this year to Sue Burns, our clerk to governors, who has done a brilliant job clerking meetings. We, therefore, have a vacancy for a clerk to governors coming up. If you are interested in finding out what this paid job entails, please email Jessica Coggins, chair of governors, via office@holymeadprimary.co.uk.

Rules and Safety



Bikes and scooters and any other wheeled transport may not be ridden in the school grounds. All bikes and scooters, including electric scooters, must be dismantled on entering the school grounds. Scooters must be taken home, not left in school, as we do not have the capacity to store them. Children in Upper KS2 (Y5 and 6) may park bikes in the bike sheds if parents fill in the cycling to school agreement. Bikes are left at their owner's risk and the school accepts no liability for bikes brought onto the school premises.

Climbing Equipment is out of bounds before and after school. It is not to be used by children before or after school hours on either site.

No smoking, including vaping, on the school premises

Dogs are not allowed on the school premises at all (except guide/working dogs). Even if you know they are gentle pets a small child can still find them threatening.



The white lines on the infant site are painted round the playground to keep your children safe. Please remind your children they are not allowed to go up the grass banks or the new path or the concrete slopes before or after school. This includes pre-schoolers, as playing in these areas can be dangerous.

Drains and drain covers - There are many drains and drain covers around school which mean there are many holes so please be careful if you wear stilettos or narrow heeled footwear as narrow heels can go through the holes.



Toys, games, pencil cases, mobile phones etc are banned in school as they can cause arguments and lead to problems. Pupils will be provided with all the stationery they need in school. The exception to this is Y6 where pupils can bring their own stationery as they prepare for secondary school. Please note the school does not accept any liability for items brought in from home including mobile phones. All items brought into school are brought in at the owner's risk. Parents and carers must sign the mobile phone agreement before letting their child bring a phone to school.

Contact INFORMATION

Up to date Data, held by the school.

Please can we ask all parents/carers to keep the school updated with their current telephone numbers (mobile, work, home), addresses and any other relevant information (such as emergency contacts, dietary needs of children and medical needs that staff should be aware of). Date sheets have been sent home this week for checking. Please ensure they are returned when there are important amendments to be made.

It is important that the school holds this information and that it is current and up to date, as should there be an emergency in school we will be able to make contact with the relevant person as quickly as possible. We also prefer to send letters/correspondence via email (ParentMail) where possible.

Parents often ask me how they can help their child at home. Here are a couple of really important things you can do at home.



Spellings

Please make sure your child practises their year group spellings. If they struggle, then limit your child to one or two sections to go over and over. If they know them all then your child can learn the next year's list.



Times tables are also important to practise and learn off by heart. Keep returning to this regularly and testing your child. Either working on TTRS or writing out tables

repeatedly and learning them will work. I can't emphasise enough the difference knowing your times tables makes. It is those children who have learnt them that speed through their maths work in class.

**PLEASE!!
NOTE**

Please note the school tries to pass on information it considers may be helpful or of interest to parents in this newsletter. We do not necessarily endorse or check the security and safety of the services on offer. Parents and carers need to satisfy themselves that they are happy to leave their children at any of the clubs and services advertised which are not based on the Holymead School sites. Holymead School carries out DBS checks on clubs who have hire agreements to run children's clubs with this school.



Friends' News- The Friends always do a great job organising events and fund-raising. They will be looking for new members in September to be able to continue this important role. This includes volunteers taking up positions in the group to ensure it runs smoothly. Support is always on hand. Meetings are held during school time or on zoom and pre-schoolers are welcome. If you would like further information please email holymeadfriends@gmail.com
Thank you.

Yours sincerely
Ms Kate Slatcher



Rights Respecting Schools Article 13: Children have the right to act and to share information

Holymead Primary (Infant Site)
Hollywood Road, Brislington, Bristol BS4 4LE.
T: 0117 3772381—F: 0117 3772382
E: office@holymeadprimary.co.uk
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Holymead Primary (Junior Site)
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T: 0117 9030377-F: 0117 9030378
E: office@holymeadprimary.co.uk
www.holymeadp.bristol.sch.uk

RRS winning
Logos



*"We are what we repeatedly do.
Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit."
(Aristotle)*

Open Events 2022

• Open Evening:

Thursday 29 September 2022, 6pm-8pm
Principal Presentation at 6pm and 7pm

• Open Mornings:

Tue 4, Wed 5 and Thu 6 October 2022, 9am-12pm
By appointment only - please contact Main Reception on
0117 9864791 to book a convenient time