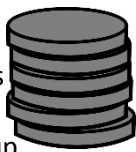


Thursday 9th June 2016 Number 1, Term 6

Dear Parents/Carers

10th June am Coin Line- please send all coins into school TOMORROW morning. We will lay out the coins in class lines. The year group with the longest line will be the winners. All the money raised will go to the Friends' group to spend on the school.



We will also hold the 'Street Party' (in the playgrounds) for the Queen's 90th Birthday in the afternoon. Please remember to send your food donations in the morning too!

Many thanks for your generous donations!



Class Assemblies:

Infant site

Thursday 16th June 9.10am- Rabbit Class

Thursday 30th June 9.10am- Red Panda Class

Please note assemblies are NOT suitable for pre-schoolers as we want the children performing to be heard. We do run a crèche with school staff and are always on the lookout for volunteers to help in crèche. Thanks.

Phonics

The Year 1 Phonics Check will be administered in the week beginning 13th June. It is therefore essential that Year 1 and Year 2 re-take children are in school during these weeks so any requests for holiday/leave of absence during this week will not be authorised. If you need to attend a funeral or have an unexpected emergency during this week please see me or ring school immediately.
Thank you.



Nurture, Inspire, Achieve

YR Tyntesfield Visit

Y1 Planetarium Visit

Y4 Camp

Y6 Camp

13th June pm- 1.45-2.45pm Reception

Grandparents' visit.

Measuring Monday **20th June**-all

RE day **22nd June**-all

8th July- Y3 –recorder concert in middle hall.

12th July- Open Day

19th July- Y6 performance

21st July- Y2- Moving Up Assembly, 9.10am

22nd July- Y6- Leavers' Assembly, 9.20am



Sports' Days. We will be holding separate infant and junior sports' days as organising over 600 primary pupils on one day would be difficult and you may miss watching an infant child if a junior event was taking place at the same time and vice versa.

KS1 Sports' Day (YR-Y2) 24th June 2016

KS2 Sports' Day (Y3-Y6) 17th June 2016

Are you a top turnip or a rotten raspberry? Our school target for attendance is 95%.

The best class attendance on the KS2 site for the week commencing 23rd May 2016 was Springbok class with 98.7% who won themselves a large bowl of fruit for this achievement! Please remember to arrive on time for school every day. The playground gates are open at 8:40am.



Miss School, Miss Out!



Staff moving classes. For those of you who know the school you will know that teachers and LSAs are employed to work throughout the whole age range and regularly move about through different year groups. Staff are expected to move around the age ranges to become competent at teaching all ages. I am keen to dispel the myth that staff who move from Reception to Y6 are getting promoted and those who move from Y6 to reception are getting demoted!! As staff will be moving around (in September) I think they would be dismayed to think parents considered a change of age range as a promotion or demotion. It is not. This is simply part of the cycle of moving around and keeping staff up to date with ways of teaching in all the age ranges.



Holymead Summer Fayre – 2nd July, 12pm-2pm.

This will be held on the larger junior site where of course everyone is welcome. We are planning lots of fun activities and stalls so please come along.

The photographer has been into school so we will send home the photos as soon as we receive them.



Friends' Meeting

June 17th 9am in the infant staff room. Everyone who wants to get involved in helping with fundraising events is welcome-bring pre-schoolers. We need volunteers for the Summer Fayre. This includes preparation beforehand and /or help on the day. The event can only run if lots of people get involved even if you can only spare an hour. Thanks.



Caterlink- following a tendering process our new providers for school dinners are Caterlink. Please note we are moving to a new cashless system for school dinners which will mean in future all payments must be made online and paid IN ADVANCE. No child will be able to have a dinner unless it is already paid for so please **MAKE SURE YOUR ACCOUNT REMAINS IN CREDIT.** The new system starts in September.



INFANT SPORTS' DAY 24th June:

We are looking for volunteers to help on **Infant Sports' Day**. Please let your class teacher know if you are able to help. Children will need to have their PE kit in school on that day. Parents are invited to watch their children in the main playground at the following times:
 9.15-10.15 Year 1 (Octopus, Otter, Owl)
 10.30-11.30 Year 2 (Toucan, Tiger, Tamarin)
 1.15-2.15 Reception (Robin, Rabbit, Red Panda)
 As space is limited please clear the playground quickly when your class finishes so other year groups may come and watch. Arrangements are weather dependent!

Our next school swimming gala will be the BANES Swimming Gala on 1st July 2016 and the swimming team are busy preparing for this.



Summer Concert

Our musicians and choir invite you to their Summer Concert in the Upper Hall on 14th and 15th June at 6.30pm. We are running the same programme over 2 evenings to fit everyone in. That means we need ALL performers to attend BOTH nights not just the one their parents have tickets for! Thank you.

IMPORTANT CLOSURE CHANGES.

You have no doubt heard the government is calling a referendum on the EU on 23rd June. We have once again been commandeered to be a polling station. Unfortunately I am unable to prevent this from happening as we are a local authority building. Rather than close the school for an additional day I have decided to move our final INSET date (22nd July) and take it on 23rd June instead. **Therefore the WHOLE school will be CLOSED on 23rd June (for INSET and polling) but OPEN on Friday 22nd July to all pupils as the last day of term.**

Any parents who have already booked holidays (before the end of this week) to start on Friday 22nd July please show me your booking forms and I will authorise the absence for Friday 22nd July as it is not your fault.

I am very sorry for any inconvenience but having looked at several options I feel this one has the least impact.



Summer Uniform- summer dresses for girls are **purple or blue** check. NO pink, yellow or any other colour.

Boys may wear **black or grey** school shorts. Casual/sports shorts are **not** suitable for school. Sensible sandals that hold a child's feet securely may be worn in fine weather. Sandals should be black, navy, dark purple or white- again **no** pink or other colours. **Leggings, jeans, baseball caps, hooded tops and bright, colourful trainers are NOT part of school uniform and should not be worn.** Pupils should wear black or grey school trousers, skirts or pinafores. We need parents' support in making sure pupils are dressed suitably for school. We are happy to support parents and back you up, for instance if your child is refusing to wear the uniform you have bought for them, please come and see Mr Jones, Mr Hough or myself.



School Vacancy



We currently have a vacancy for a School Meals Supervisory Assistant, in order to help supervise the children during the lunchtime break. If you are interested in applying, please pick up an application form from the school office on either site.

Friends' Activities

Coin Line Friday 10th June am



This year we are asking parents to help raise money for school funds by organising a Coin line. This is in response to suggestions following our previous copper and silver lines. We are, therefore, requesting that children collect silver and/or copper coins. All legal tender coins welcome! Thanks.

Friends' Face Painting –The infants will hold a face painting day on 1st July.



Staff are starting to prepare new class lists for next year as ALL the classes will be mixed up. We try to put children with a friend and split up those who don't

work well together. This is a complex task as classes also need to remain balanced with even numbers of girls and boys of different abilities. Staff ask the children to name a couple of friends that they TRY to put them with **BUT IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO GUARANTEE THAT YOUR CHILD WILL BE WITH THEIR FRIENDS.** If you want to speak to teachers it is best to approach them now rather than later. I realise this can be an anxious time, usually more so for parents than children! We find the children are actually very adaptable and make new friends quickly in September so please don't worry. Making new friends is an important life skill and we find moving the children round can balance friendship groups better.

SCHOOL Attendance

The law has changed on holidays taken in term time. It is very unlikely holidays will be authorised as circumstances have to be really exceptional. **AS A GUIDELINE PARENTS SHOULD ASSUME APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE WILL NOT BE AUTHORISED AND YOU ARE LIKELY TO BE FINED FOR ANY UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE OF 4 OR MORE DAYS (8 SESSIONS).** Any suspicious absence will be investigated.

Term Dates

Term Dates 2015-2016

Term 6

Mon 6th June to Fri 22nd July 2016- **NEW DATE (23rd June now an INSET day due to changes with EU election in June)**

School will close for all BANK Holidays as normal.

Term Dates 2016-2017

Term 1

(Thurs 1st Sept closed for INSET).

Friday 2nd Sept 2016 KS1 and KS2 start

Monday 5th Sept 2016 new Reception start
to Friday 21st October 2016 inclusive

Term 2

(Monday 31st October closed for INSET)

Tues 1st November to Friday 16th December

Term 3

Tues 3rd January 2017 to Thurs 9th February 2017

(Friday 10th school closed for INSET)

Term 4

Mon 20th February 2017 to Friday 7th April 2017

Term 5

Mon 24th April 2017 to Friday 26th May 2017

Term 6

Tuesday 6th June 2017 to Thursday 20th July 2017

(Monday 5th June and Friday 21st July closed- INSET)

The Windmill Hill Junior Parkrun takes place every Sunday at 9am in Victoria Park and the inter-school challenge run takes place once a month. The weekly Parkrun itself is a really great event and promotes healthy activity in a really fun and non-competitive way. For further information please speak to Melanie Rogers or visit <http://www.parkrun.org.uk/windmillhill-juniors/news>



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 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 with this school.



Home-Start Bristol needs volunteers

Are you a parent or grandparent? Can you offer 2-3 hours a week to visit a family?

We support families with young children who are struggling to cope. Our volunteers visit a family every week, working alongside them to find solutions to their problems so that they can start to enjoy family life again.

One family said: 'It's just wonderful! Having a set time each week and a reliable volunteer worked for me.'

We offer our volunteers accredited training, ongoing support and opportunities to meet with other volunteers.

Call us on 0117 9501170 or visit our website [.homestartbristol.org.uk](http://homestartbristol.org.uk)



Volunteering is dependent on an enhanced DBS check



Please can we remind our year 6 parents of those children who are attending Red Ridge camp in July, that the total balance is due to be paid by **Friday 24th June**. The total cost is £273.00. Thank you.



Well done to Mollie in KS2 who entered Bristol Post's 'Cheesy Bake Off Competition', in order to find Bristol's best children's chef! Mollie was successful in getting her recipe included in the top three submissions and she was invited along to the final this week. We are very proud to say that Mollie's recipe for cheesy muffins came first and she has won prizes for both herself and the school! Mollie is our very own 'Mary Berry'!



Open Day Tuesday 12th July – the school invites current and prospective parents to look round both sites. This will be an opportunity to meet the teachers and look at the classrooms your child will be moving to in September.



The infant site will be open at 9.10- 10.00am, 1.00-2.00pm and 3.20-4.20pm. Parents who have children currently in Key Stage 1 will be shown around by their children (please make sure they are registered first). I will be doing conducted tours for prospective parents.

The junior site will be open at 10.00-11.00am, 2.00-3.00pm and 3.20-4.20pm. Y6 ambassadors will be showing current parents round. Pupils in Key Stage 2 will need to stay in class (as Key Stage 2 learning is more structured and less fluid than learning in Key Stage 1).

If you are concerned and wish to discuss your child's report (which you will have by then) then the OPEN EVENING session from 3.20-4.20pm is a good time to do this. (Please ring the office to make an appointment with the class teacher).

Choosing Secondary Schools

Choosing the right secondary education for your child can be a difficult process and of course you want what is right for your child. I thought parents may be interested to see the final destinations of our current Year Sixes. Our pupils are going off to 13 different destinations at the time of writing. What I'd like parents to take from this information is that you have an extremely wide choice of schools to choose from if your child attends Holymead Primary School.

Here are the schools and numbers of children anticipating going there: Hayesfield Girls' School, Bath (6), Broadlands (7), St Mary Redcliffe and Temple CE (6), Oasis John Williams (2), Bristol Cathedral Choir School (2), Oasis Brislington (43), John Cabot Academy (2), Oldfield, Bath (3), St Bernadette's Catholic Secondary (1), Ashton Park School (1), Bristol Brunel Academy (1), Bristol Free School (1) and Colston Girl's School (1).

We wish our pupils good luck wherever they are going to secondary school!



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

Yours sincerely
Ms Kate Slatcher



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