# Thursday 4th January 2018 Number 1, Term 3

# **Dear Parents/Carers**



Welcome back everyone and Happy New Year. This is a short term of 6 weeks so please note the term dates in your diaries.

The last day of Term 3 is Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February. (Friday 9<sup>th</sup> is INSET)

Term 4 starts on MONDAY 19th February.



Adverse Weather and possible School Closure In exceptional circumstances e.g. heavy snow or failure of

heating systems we may need to close the school. However, this is always the last resort so parent/ carers should always assume we will be OPEN unless we tell you otherwise. Ways we may be able to inform you of closure are through Parentmail, local radio, Bristol City Council website listing school closures, the school's own website (see address below). Any systems can be clogged up by a large amount of usage so please bear with us and remember we are trying to do our best. You can also try phoning the school if you are uncertain or coming from a long way away. In the event of partial closure we allow 30 children to attend for every



#### **Class Assemblies-**

<u>Turtle Class-Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2018- middle hall</u> <u>Tawny Owl- Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> Feb- middle hall</u> Salamander- Tues 6<sup>th</sup> Feb- upper hall

Please note class assemblies are NOT suitable for preschoolers 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.



Nurture, Inspire, Achieve



15<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> January- STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths) exhibition of children's work. Parents are invited to go along to Paintworks on the Bath Road to see the exhibition during the day or evening. There is a preview of work on display in the Middle Hall on Wed 10<sup>th</sup> and Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> Jan.

Y6 SATs Parents' Meeting, 22<sup>nd</sup> January- 3.30pm Y3 Times Table Meeting 1<sup>st</sup> February at 3.30pm Y2 SATs Parents' Meeting 25<sup>th</sup> January -3.30pm

Girls' football match 12<sup>th</sup> January Kids' Cup football tournament 17<sup>th</sup> January

#### School Uniform.

Children need to have BLACK
SCHOOL SHOES for school.
NO TRAINERS! PLEASE NOTE JEANS
AND HOODED TOPS ARE NOT SCHOOL UNIFORM
AND MUST NOT BE WORN IN SCHOOL.

**PE kit:** is a purple tee-shirt and black shorts in a purple dap bag. Black or white tee shirts and shorts are an acceptable alternative but no club football kits etc.

ALL UNIFORM, INCLUDING PE KITS MUST BE LABELLED CLEARLY.

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

**Pencil Cases:** pupils are NOT allowed to bring pencils and pencil cases to school. The only exception to this is in Y6 where pupils are getting ready for using their own pencil cases and equipment in secondary school.



# Term Dates 2017-2018

#### Term 3

Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2018 to Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> Feb (school closed on Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan and on Fri 9<sup>th</sup> Feb for INSET)

#### Term 4

Mon 19<sup>th</sup> Feb to Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> March

#### Term 5

Mon 9<sup>th</sup> April to Fri 25<sup>th</sup> May

#### Term 6

Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Jun to Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2018 (school closed Tues 24<sup>th</sup> July for INSET)

#### Term Dates 2018- 2019

#### Term 1

(Mon and Tues  $3^{rd}$  and  $4^{th}$  Sept 2018 CLOSED for INSET)

Open Wed 5<sup>th</sup> Sept 2018 for KS1 and KS2 Thurs 6<sup>th</sup> Sept 2018 for new Reception to Fri 26<sup>th</sup> October

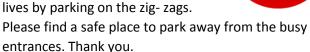
#### Term 2

Mon 5<sup>th</sup> Nov to Thurs 20<sup>th</sup> Dec 2018 (Fri 21<sup>st</sup> Dec CLOSED for INSET) School will close for all BANK Holidays as normal.

#### **Parking Reminder!**

Please don't park on the zig-zags outside either site. They are there to try and keep children safe.

Some parents are endangering lives by parking on the zig- zags.





School Prospectus

Please note the school prospectus, which is available on our website states: 'Make-up should not be worn and hairstyles should be sensible and appropriate for school e.g. not

unnatural colours or shocking styles'. Jewellery should not be worn in school (except small pierced earrings). There are some exceptions-please see the prospectus or talk to the head teacher. Thank you.



# Y6 SATs' Revision Workbooks:



In response to requests from parents we will be once again selling Y6 SATs revision workbooks for maths and English (Reading, Grammar,

Punctuation & spelling, Arithmetic and reasoning). These workbooks cover the Y6 curriculum and help children practise the skills that they have been taught over the year. They have proved very popular in the past and enable parents to support their children not only in preparing for the SATs tests, but securing the skills that children will need as they make the transition to secondary school.

These workbooks will be available from the school office soon and we will advise you when they arrive and their individual cost. Thank you.



#### Friends' Events:

The Christmas Fayre raised £1,171.80. All the money raised up to Christmas will go towards a new set of 16 i-pads and recharging trolley. We are aiming to raise £5,800!

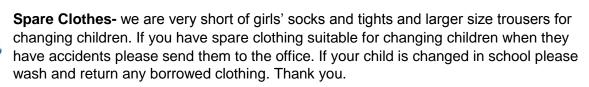
Next Friends' Meeting- 12<sup>th</sup> January after drop off on the infant site

Cake Sale 7<sup>th</sup> Feb on junior site. Please send donations from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> Feb. Thanks

**Sweets and treats.** We are a healthy eating school and we do NOT allow sweets in school. This includes for birthday treats as well. We prefer it if parents do not send cakes or sweet.



if parents do not send cakes or sweets at all on children's birthdays as there are many different dietary, religious and cultural observances in school. Please keep birthday treats to have at home. If you really feel you must bring something then please send BISCUITS only that can be given out as children leave the classroom for parents' to check. Any sweets will be handed back to parents.





Holidays 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 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. Fines are not only issued for children being taken on holiday but can be given out when children are kept off school for 4 days or more without the head teacher's authorisation. PLEASE FILL IN A LEAVE OF ABSENCE FORM IN ADVANCE OF TAKING YOUR CHILD OUT.



**E-Safety:** Keeping up to date with your children's use of technology can be a challenge, especially if you feel that your children may have better technical skills than you do. However, children still need support and guidance when it comes to

managing their lives online and using the internet positively and safely. A simple and effective way to get involved with your children and their lives online is through discussion.

# **Conversation starter ideas:**

Ask your children to tell you about the sites they like to visit and what they enjoy doing online.

- Ask them about how they stay safe online. What tips do they have for you, and where did they learn them? What is OK and not OK to share?
- Ask them if they know where to go for help, where to find the safety advice, privacy settings and how to report or block on the services they use.
- Encourage them to help. Perhaps they can show you how to do something better online or they might have a friend who would benefit from their help and support.
- Think about how you use the internet as a family. What could you do to get more out of the internet together and further enjoy your lives online?

Further information about these issues is available from ChildNet or Thinkuknow.co.uk



Can we remind parents that dinner money accounts (via ParentMail) and breakfast and afterschool club accounts (via Libarcura) must be in credit at all times. Please can we ask that you review your accounts regularly to ensure that you are not in arrears. Thank you.

With regards to the Year 4 Hillcrest PGL 2018 camp and Year 6 Red Ridge Camp 2018, please can we take this opportunity to remind you of the

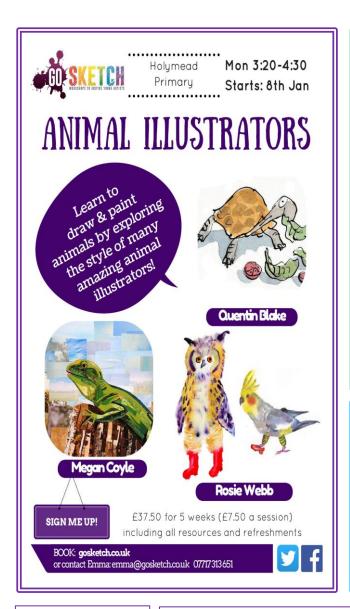
Payment agreements that ensure your child's place is secure:-

Year 4 Hillcrest PGL – The first £100 must be paid by 15.12.17 and the full balance (£202.50) to be paid by 30.04.18. Year 6 Red Ridge – The first £200 must be paid by 03.01.18 and the full balance (287.50) to be paid by 09.03.18. Please can parents ensure that all these payments are paid up to date, by reviewing your ParentMail account. Thank you.



**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.



# **Reward Systems**

**Praise Book-** on the infant site you may notice your child talking about the Praise Book or coming home with a Praise Book sticker. This is a



system to reward good work, effort or behaviour. Children's names are read out and they receive their sticker in assembly. This record of their achievement is also put up on display in the Link the following week for everyone to see.



**Star of the Week**- on the junior site, as the children get older, we introduce a Star of the Week

where children nominate and vote for a child they think deserves to be Star of the Week.

Whilst the children have more say in who is chosen this system is still overseen by the teacher to ensure fairness.

Vacancy:

#### CARETAKER



# We are currently looking to recruit a part time caretaker to

do manual jobs and locking up in the evenings on both

sites. The position requires a DBS (police check) and physical fitness. Please contact Mrs Buckley via the office for an informal chat and application form. Thank you.

# Yours sincerely Ms Kate Slatcher











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