

Dear Parents and Carers,

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL

Happy New Year Everyone. Welcome back after the holidays. I hope you have all had a good break.

The last day of this term is Friday 18th February 2022. We start back on Monday 28th February.



Nurture, Inspire, Achieve

What's Happening

Dates for the Diary

Nb all in-school meetings are subject to cancellation if Covid guidance changes.

January

Application deadline for YR places for September 2022 – 14.1.22

YR Space Dome 13.1.22

Y6 Girls' football against Broomhill Juniors 12.1.22

Y6 Boys' football starts at South Bristol Sports' Centre 13.1.22

Y6 Girls' football starts at South Bristol Sports' Centre 3.2.22

New, KS2 Dance Club starts 17.1.22

Y2 Parents' SAT's Meeting 27.1.22 at 3.25pm

SARI anti- racism workshops, Y4- 20.1.22 and Y6- 25.1.22

Y3 RE workshops, 18/27.1.22

February

Safer internet day 8th Feb on Respect and Relationships online

Y6 SATs Meeting 9th Feb, 3.20pm Upper Hall



Covid updates.

Following announcements by the government over the holidays, we have updated our Covid 19 Risk Assessment and sent it to you as an attachment with this newsletter. It is also

available on the home page of our website.

One of the changes reflects the guidance to wear face coverings in communal areas.

Parents/carers/visitors already do this indoors.

However, as the playground is a busy place too, we ask parents and carers and anyone over primary school age to wear face coverings on the playground unless you are exempt eg at drop off and pick up times. Thank you for showing your consideration to others.

Please wear a face mask in all busy areas both indoors and outside.

Please also note the changes to the self-isolation period (from 10 to 7 days- dependent on testing).



Spare Clothes- we are very short of girls' socks and tights and larger size trousers for changing children. If you have spare clothing suitable for changing children when they have accidents, please send them to the office. If your child is changed in school, please wash and return any borrowed clothing.
Thank you.



Y6 Croft Farm Camp

Please can we remind the parents of those children who are attending the Year 6 camp on

April 25th 2022 that the next instalment of £87.00 must be paid by 28th February 2022. **We do have a few parents that are yet to pay the first instalment. As school has already been charged an interim payment, it is imperative that this first instalment is paid. Please ensure this payment has been made.**

Many Thanks.



In Term 3, pupils in Year 4 and Year 6 will have the opportunity to take part in workshops run by SARI, the Bristol based charity that looks to build a greater understanding and respect for diversity and difference within our community. These workshops will explore issues relating to racism and inequality and how they impact on both individuals and communities. In the past pupils have benefited greatly from these workshops and have welcomed the opportunity to ask questions and discuss these issues in depth. Our work with SARI forms an important part of our PSHC Curriculum and our work as a United Nations Rights Respecting School. The dates for these workshops are as follows: Year 4 Thursday 20th January and Year 6 Tuesday 25th January



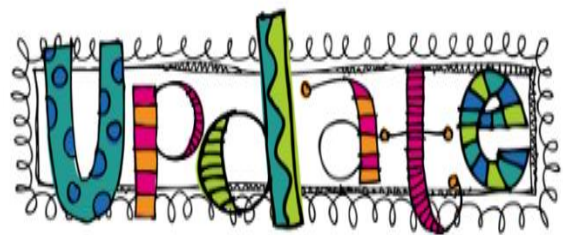
Holidays in term time. It is very unlikely holidays will be authorised as circumstances have to be really exceptional. AS A GUIDELINE PARENTS SHOULD ASSUME APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR A HOLIDAY WILL NOT BE AUTHORISED AND YOU ARE LIKELY TO BE FINED FOR ANY UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE OVER 4 DAYS (8 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 CHILD OUT. YOU CAN STILL BE FINED IF YOU DON'T FILL OUT A FORM.



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.



Covid update

Children will be sent home if they have symptoms of Covid-19 and you will be asked to get a PCR test for your child. Currently schools are no longer expected to close classes if there are a few positive cases. However, we will keep this under review and follow PHE advice if cases keep rising.

If you are in any doubt about what to do please ring the office 01179030377 or 01173772381 for advice.



Staff News

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Thomas back from maternity leave this January. Mrs Thomas will be working across both KS1 and KS2 sites.

Sadly, we are saying good bye to Mrs Buckley, who is retiring after 32 years' service to Holymead. We wish Mrs Buckley a very happy retirement, although we will still see her occasionally as she has kindly agreed to continue organising the Hub for us.

We will also be saying good bye to Mrs Palmer after 17 years at the school. We wish Mrs Palmer good luck in her new job.

Thank you to Mrs Buckley and Mrs Palmer for their long service to the community of Holymead!

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.



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.



Outdoor Equipment!

Please note the outdoor equipment on both sites is for use during school time only and children should not be playing on it before or after school. The equipment is designed for children specific to the site (either infant or junior) and is not suitable to be used by children older or younger than that specific site.

We therefore ask that parents keep their children off the equipment completely as it is very difficult to explain to a child, you can go on that one because you are that age and you can't go on that one because that's not for your age group. We also don't have staff to supervise this equipment before or after school, to be able to keep children safe, so we ask that parents and carers keep their children off the equipment. Thank you.



Holymead Primary School has a vacancy

for a part time 3 days a week, Health and Safety Administrator. We are looking for someone with Health and Safety experience who can manage contracts and liaise

with external agencies and manage the school premises.

If you are interested in the vacancy please ask for details and an application form from Mrs Buckley, via the school office. Thank you



NB. CHANGES IN RED

Term Dates 2021-2022

Term 2

Closed for INSET on Mon 1st November

Re-opens Tues 2nd November- 17th December.

Term 3

Closed for INSET on Tues 4th January 2022

Re-opens Wed 5th January-18th Feb 2022

Term 4

Mon 28th Feb- 8th April 2022

Term 5

Mon 25th April- 27th May 2022

Term 6

Closed for INSET Mon 6th June 2022

Re-opens Tues 7th June- **Wed 20th July 2022.**

Closed for INSET Thursday 21st July 2021.

Additional school holiday to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee - Friday 22nd July 2022



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 teacher present.

Thank you.

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

Reminder

Toys, games, cards, 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. Where parents and carers agree to their child bringing in a mobile phone, they must sign the mobile phone agreement before letting their child bring it in.

Please note the school does not accept any liability for ANY items brought in from home including mobile phones, watches and bikes. All items brought into school are brought in at the owner's risk.



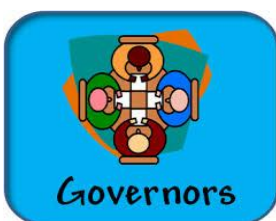
Bikes and scooters and any other wheeled transport may not be ridden in the school grounds. All bikes and scooters, including electric scooters, must be dismounted on entering the school grounds. Scooters must be taken home, not left in school, as we do not have the capacity to store them. Children in 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.

Please note the school prospectus and uniform policy, which are 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 website or talk to the head teacher. **The School Uniform Policy** is attached at the end of this newsletter.



School Prospectus

Thank you.



Governors' Corner

We are pleased to be able to inform you that we have a new governor, Mrs Cheryl Douglass, as a co-opted governor. Mrs Douglass visited the junior site early this term with our Bristol Education Partner (BEP) who supports the school in making improvements. We were particularly focussing on the teaching of maths, which was found to be very positive across KS2.

Police Scheme. We have signed up to the new police scheme to try and stop dangerous driving and parking. Please continue to report dangerous parking to: <https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/report/>

Where a car is parked dangerously, if parents/carers send photos to the school office of the car's number plate (not the drivers) then we will send these on to the police. (Obviously it saves on school time if you send photos directly to the above address). Please include the date, time and place that you took the photo. The school will not get involved in disputes that arise between parents over parking, as parking is a highways and police matter and not the school's responsibility. It is a matter for the police whether they decide to take action or not over any photos forwarded to them.

The school will not tolerate any abuse or threatening behaviour from parents and carers towards staff or others and will report this to security who may take action to ban parents/carers from the school sites, or where appropriate we will report this to the police.

Please park legally and safely.



Yours sincerely
Ms Kate Slatcher



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

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RRS winning

Logos



Holymead Primary School
School Uniform Policy
2021

Rationale

The school policy is that all children wear school uniform when attending school or when participating in a school-organised activity such as school trips. The Governing Body, following guidance from the Department of Education, have set the School Uniform Policy to help promote good behaviour and discipline as well as contributing to the ethos of the school and setting an appropriate standard.

The Policy is based on the belief that a school uniform:

- Promotes a sense of pride in the school
- Engenders a sense of community and belonging towards the school
- Is practical, comfortable and smart
- Identifies the children with the school
- Prevents children from coming to school in clothes that may be distracting in class
- Makes children feel equal with their peers in terms of appearance
- Is regarded as suitable wear for school and good value for money by most parents
- Is designed with health and safety in mind.

General Uniform

The school uniform at Holymead Primary School is:

Black or dark grey trousers, skirt, pinafore. No jeans or denim.

White or dark purple polo-shirt; with or without school logo

Dark purple sweatshirt or cardigan; with or without school logo.

Ideally, black, grey or white socks

Black school shoes

In summer, pupils are permitted to wear checked summer dresses in purple or blue or smart black or dark grey school shorts; not casual shorts unless they are for PE.

In summer, sandals that hold feet firmly may be worn. They can be black, white or purple.

PE Kit:

Dark purple T-Shirt with or without the school logo, or plain white T-shirt.

Black Shorts

Black daps or black trainers

Black leggings or jogging bottoms for outdoor PE, in cold weather.

Swimming kit for KS2 – close fitting swim shorts that come above the knee / one piece swimming costume.

BAALPE Guidance from 2016 Safe Practice in Physical Education, School Sport and

Physical Activity- Clothing for PE:

1. Children should wear clothing that is fit for purpose according to the activity, environment and weather conditions
2. Loose clothing in gymnastics may catch on equipment and cause injury. Any item, including any of cultural significance, need to be relatively close fitting or removed for reasons of safety to the individual. The fabric of clothing

for gymnastics needs to be such that it will not cause slipping from equipment, particularly when individuals are working at height or in an inverted position.

3. Students should wear sufficient and appropriate clothing according to the weather conditions in order to minimise the likelihood of injury in cold conditions or illness in very hot conditions.

4. Loose clothing for swimming is not advised, other than during skills tests in controlled conditions, due to the drag created, which may adversely affect the confidence of weaker swimmers.

5. Teachers must ensure that children are wearing the correct clothing or apply strategies to make their inclusion safe, or limit the extent of their participation.

(see Appendix 1 for further guidance)

Jewellery in School

Pupils may not wear jewellery to school, with the exception of a watch or jewellery which is of a religious significance. If ears are pierced children may wear studs or very small hoops, maximum 8mm. These should not be worn to school on PE or swimming days. If they are worn the child must remove them for PE, swimming and certain technologies. Staff will not do this for them. Earrings can be taped.

The school will not take any responsibility for any jewellery that is lost at school, nor for any accidents that occur due to jewellery being worn.

BAALPE Guidance for safe practice in PE - Jewellery

1. Personal effects such as jewellery, religious artefacts, watches, hair slides, sensory aids and so forth, should ideally, always be removed to establish a safe working environment.

2. Staff have a duty of care to ensure that children are able to actively participate without unnecessarily endangering themselves or those working around them. Systems and procedures need to be in place within the changing area to check children fulfil this obligation prior to participation.

3. Recent developments in the manufacture of medical-aid wristbands have resulted in products with an acceptably low risk factor (soft materials, Velcro fastenings). Such items should be acceptable for physical participation in most activities, largely avoiding the need for removal, providing there are no hard or sharp edges that may cause injury.

4. Religious bracelets can be covered with a sweat band.

5. Ideally children should not wear jewellery to school on PE days but all must be removed for PE, swimming and some technologies. If removal of earrings is not possible due to recent piercing, the child must come to school with earrings pre-taped. Tape can be given in school but the teacher is not required to apply or remove the tape. The tape must be sufficiently padded so the post of the earring cannot penetrate.

Make-Up

No make-up should be worn in school. False nail extensions are not permitted.

Hair

Hair should be neat and tidy and conducive to learning. Pupils should not have unnatural, dyed hair colours or shocking styles, including no shaved patterns in hair. Long hair should be tied back especially during PE activities for safety.

Accessories should be unobtrusive and functional rather than decorative and distracting. No large bows or glittery accessories. They need to be in the school colours of purple, black or white.

Equalities

Recognising that the school is a diverse community and some religions and beliefs require pupils to follow a particular dress code, the school will make any necessary amendments to this policy to allow this to happen. Reasonable requests to vary the School Uniform Policy to meet the needs of individual pupils to accommodate their religion or belief, ethnicity, disability or other special considerations should be discussed with the Headteacher.

Purchasing School Uniform

School sweatshirts, cardigans, polo-shirts and T-Shirts can be ordered from the school website from Price and Buckland along with school-logo book bags. All other items of the school uniform are readily available at supermarkets and other high street stores. The uniform is simple to avoid unnecessary expense for parents.

The school keeps a stock of second hand uniform which parents and carers can enquire about at the office. The Friends' Group also holds second hand uniform sales throughout the year where uniform can be purchased for a nominal amount.

All items of school uniform should be clearly labelled with your child's name.

The Role of Parents/Carers

Parents and carers are expected to be fully supportive of this policy. We request that parents and carers inform the school if their child is unable to wear any of the uniform at any time. If children come to school in inappropriate clothing they will be spoken to by staff and provided with uniform where possible. Parents and carers will be involved at the earliest opportunity if pupils are not following the uniform policy.

Appendix 1

Procedure to be applied at the beginning of every PE and swimming lesson:-

1. All personal effects worn by children and staff should be removed. Staff should always give a verbal reminder to children and, where necessary, visually monitor the group and/or individuals.
2. Long hair worn by both staff and children should always be tied back with a suitably soft item to prevent entanglement in apparatus and to prevent it obscuring vision. Nails need to be sufficiently short to prevent injury to self and others.
3. Failure to bring kit (BAALPE guidance). Staff must assess if footwear is appropriate for the activities planned. Children with incorrect kit may be given spare kit from school supply. Where this is not possible the teacher must allow the children to join in with appropriate sections of the lesson e.g. the instructions, designing, planning, activities involving only small amounts of movement and evaluating. Outdoor games can be completed in school clothes if they are not excessively loose. This would not be a solution in gym work involving equipment as slipping is a risk. Staff take the final decision based on safe participation in their planned activity.
4. In seeking to maximise safe and meaningful participation, staff should ensure the following in relation to clothing and religious artefacts:
 - Any clothing worn to comply with a faith commitment is appropriate to the activity being taught. It should be comfortable and allow for freedom of movement. Loose or free-flowing clothing is generally not suitable for most physical activities and may compromise both the safety of the wearer (e.g. in gymnastics) and others in close proximity (e.g. in invasion games). It should be remembered that a tracksuit is considered perfectly acceptable clothing for students relating to modesty and decency.
 - Headscarves, where worn, are tight, secured in a safe manner, particularly at the side of the face, and unlikely to obscure vision or catch on anything that may put the wearer at risk.
 - Any religious artefacts are removed or made safe. Wherever removal is expressly forbidden, and the activity cannot be made acceptable safe by taping, padding or covering, the activity and the involvement of the wearer must be suitable modified to mitigate undue risk.