

Dear Parents and Carers,



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.

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 school has signed up to be part of Safer Streets Bristol which aims to make areas safer for pedestrians and we will let you know when we hear anything.



It is important that parents/carers follow Covid-19 guidelines.

DO NOT send your child to school if **anyone in the household has Covid-19 symptoms.**

DO NOT send your child to school if **anyone in the household is waiting for the results of a Covid test.**

Further advice is available online.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

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



CHANGE to Shuffle Up.

We have had to move the date where children meet their new teachers due to staff being away on the re-arranged Y6 camp. We will now hold Shuffle Up on Thursday 8th July. This is when you will find out which class your child is in. Children cannot be moved after this date so please see teachers before if you have concerns.

Y2 transition to Y3. As part of our transition programme to get children ready for Y3 we will be taking Y2 to visit the junior site where they can see what it is like in Key Stage 2.

The Y2-Y3 parents' meeting in July has been cancelled due to Covid restrictions continuing. Y3 teachers will put a powerpoint of useful information on the school website instead shortly.



Friends' Meeting

If you would like to attend Friends' zoom meetings, please email holyeadfriends@gmail.com to request the meeting details.



Teacher News

Sadly, it is that time when we say good bye to colleagues who are off to undertake new adventures. Mr McSmythurs, Mrs May, Mrs Perry, Ms Anness, Mrs Page and Miss Lynds will be leaving us at the end of the year and we wish them all the best of luck for the future and thank them for their brilliant contributions to the school. Mrs Lewis will be going on maternity leave so we hope she has a lovely time with her family. We are fortunate to be able to welcome two new teachers. We have Miss Strang in KS1 and Miss McGhee in KS2. I'm sure you will give them a warm Holymead welcome.



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 might be interested to see the final destinations of our current Year Sixes. Our pupils are going off to many different destinations. 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 (1), Bristol Metropolitan Academy (1), Broadlands (4), Colston Girls' (1), St Mary Redcliffe and Temple CE (5), Bristol Cathedral Choir School (1), Oasis Brislington (51), John Cabot Academy (1), Oldfield, Bath (2), QEH (1), St Bernadette's Catholic Secondary (3), Bridge Learning Campus (1), Merchants Academy (1), City Academy (1) and Wellsway School (2)

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



Staff moving classes. For those of you who know the school well, you will know that teachers and LSAs are employed to work throughout the whole age range and regularly move

about through different year groups, across both sites. 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.



YR, Y1 and Y2 enjoyed their theatre visit in school on Monday. If you haven't yet sent your £2 donation, please send it in by next week. We can only re-book a visit for next year if we receive enough donations to off-set the cost. Thank you.

Governors' Corner



Governors' Corner

Hi, I'm Rob Ryan, one of the parent governors at Holymead and I currently have two children in the school, one on the infant site and one on the juniors. I'm the named governor for SEND (Special Educational Needs) and Looked After Children, and I'm also part of the Finance and Staffing Committee. So it's fair to say I have experienced the school from a variety of angles.

As a parent you want to know that your child is getting access to the best education possible - and I think many of us will have seen in the news about how many schools have struggled financially in recent years and that have been adversely impacted by COVID. One of the most positive things about being a governor at Holymead is to see how well run it is financially and that there is budget to meet its ongoing needs and goals. This can be seen in the level of investment that goes into facilities, such as the new entrances on both sites, as well as the great looking new 'cabin' on the infant site, which will be a fantastic space for the children to enjoy once it's finished.

It also extends to things you will not see. At the start of the COVID pandemic, the school and the governing board approved the budget for a special anti-bacterial 'fog' that was used to treat the classrooms in order to help keep staff and children safe - and the school as operational as possible. I have also spent time recently with the School SENCO team and I was heartened to see the excellent level of resources available to children with further educational needs within the school, which includes special classrooms and breakout spaces that help to support individuals.

We are also going to be part of a regional pilot project called 'PASS' that aims to further support children with social or emotional needs. The project was only accessible by a competitive submission process and will see us access new (and free!) resources, which is a brilliant achievement.

All of this is made possible by the level of planning, dedication, and hard work by the staff at Holymead - which is obvious to see at every governor meeting.



Our Year 5 had an amazing time on camp. They were so well behaved and had lots of fun! We are so pleased they were able to go after all the changes due to the pandemic. Thank you so much to all parents and carers who have been very supportive during this time.



No Scooters.

Please can we remind you that no scooters (including electric scooters) are to be used on school premises. Please ensure they are dismantled at the school gates and are pushed around, whilst on either school playground. Many thanks.



School Reports will be sent out in early July. Parents need to collect their reports in person or send a signed note naming a trusted adult to collect it on their behalf. Please can parents let the office know if a second copy needs to be sent elsewhere.

Reception Reports (Foundation Stage) - parents will receive their

children's diaries, which contain comprehensive details of your child's achievements over the year. A short summary report is sent home to highlight your child's strengths and areas for development, which you can help with at home.

Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 - parents will receive a report detailing their child's progress and achievements. There are targets which parents may be able to support their child with.

There will be a **feedback sheet** enclosed with the reports, which needs to be signed and sent back to class teachers so we know you have received them.

Attendance- please note that attendance is calculated in half days. So if the report shows 6 absences then your child has been off school for the equivalent of 3 days. This is because the register is called twice a day (once in the morning and once in the afternoon) so pupils get 2 possible attendance marks each day.

What's Happening

Dates for Diary

Hamper Raffle Draw 28th June

Y1 Visit to Court Farm

Y2 Visit to Noah's Ark Zoo Farm

Y3 Visit to Noah's Ark Zoo Farm

Y4 Visit to Blaise Castle Estate

Y6 Visit to Brean

Y6-Y7 transition visits 30.6.21 and 1.7.21

Y3 Egypt Day 9.7.21 (dressing up)

Sports' Days still to come. Unfortunately, due to Covid, we are unable to invite parents and carers to watch Sports' Days this year. However, we hope the children will still have a fun day on the following dates:

25.6.21 Y1

2.7.21 Reception

9.7.21 Y2

Children will need to wear PE kits on these days.



Starting School 2022

Due to Covid-19, we will not be holding an Open Day this term. However, Mrs Head and I will do a limited number of tours of the infant site for prospective parents looking for a Reception place for **September 2022**.

Tours must be booked by phoning the office on

01173772381 and are limited to ONE parent only (pre-schoolers welcome) at the following times:

6.7.21 and 15.7.21 at 9.10am, 10.00am, 1.15pm. Please leave your name and contact number.

Dates for September tours will be released later.

Parents with children starting school in **September 2021** should have received details of your transition visit in June already. We look forward to seeing you then. If you haven't received any starting school information, please phone the office on the above number for help.



Reminders!

Reminder. Please note the school does not accept any liability for items brought in from home including mobile phones and bikes. 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 and the cycling to school agreement if they want their child to cycle.

Please remind your child they are not allowed to bring any toys or games including swapping cards and clip on toys on bags.



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.



Term Dates 2020- 2021

Term 6

Tues 8th June- Wed 21st July 2021 (INSET Mon 7.6.20)

New Term Dates 2021-2022

Term 1

Thurs 2nd Sept 2021 school closed for INSET

Fri 3rd Sept 2021 KS1 and KS2 start (all current pupils)

Mon 6th Sept 2021 New Reception start part time.

Term 1 ends on 22nd October.

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- Thurs 21st July 2022.

Closed for INSET Friday 22nd July 2022



Dinner money arrears.

We have a high amount of dinner money accounts in arrears at present. Please can we remind parents that **dinner money accounts on ParentMail MUST ALWAYS be kept in credit.**

Our school policy is that once an account for an individual child is in arrears of £10.00 or more, then a packed lunch **MUST** be provided for your child until such time as these arrears are cleared. A ParentMail will be sent to parents to advise them when accounts are in arrears and phone calls will be made home, should a school dinner be requested when arrears are present.

WELLBEING WEBINARS

For Bristol parents & carers



ANXIETY

Exploring the way our minds can generate anxiety and how it can dominate our day. We'll look at different ways to relate to anxiety, leaving us with a bit more choice to pursue what matters to us.



SELF-CARE

Many times our own self-care can slip way down our to-do lists. Here we'll explore the cultivation of a compassionate attitude towards ourselves and our wellbeing.

NOTICING

We can spend up to 47% of our waking hours on autopilot - where our body is in one place and our mind is elsewhere. Here we'll explore and practice different ways to connect with the here and now for our well-being.



ENGAGING, PRACTICAL SESSIONS WITH TAKEAWAY TECHNIQUES

Online bite-sized sessions with an experienced psychologist. Standalone sessions, attend any or all webinars.

Click dates to book

ANXIETY

TUESDAY
29TH JUNE
12.40-1.40PM

SELF-CARE

THURSDAY
8TH JULY
12.40-1.40PM

NOTICING

TUESDAY
16TH JULY
12.40-1.40PM



SMSA vacancy

Holymead Primary School has a vacancy for an SMSA to supervise the children at lunch times. Our SMSAs are integral members of staff and are highly valued. If you are interested or know someone who may be interested but is not

necessarily connected to the school, please ask for further details and an application form from Mrs Buckley, via the school office. Thank you.



Friends' Summer Fundraiser.

Please can we remind our parents/carers that as the Friends have been unable to sort the summer fayre this year, they have organised a summer raffle to raise funds for the school. There are a fantastic 69 prizes to be won. Tickets can be bought on line using the link below. They cost £1 each and the draw will take place on Monday 28th June. Good Luck!

<https://raffall.com/231493/enter-raffle-to-win-super-summer-hamper-raffle-hosted-by-holymead-friends>



Permission Slips.

Permission slips are a very important piece of school documentation. Without the return of completed permission slips for school trips, children will not be allowed to participate with the rest of their class. Please can we remind parents that ALL permission slips issued in respect of any school trip, must be completed and returned to the class teacher as soon as possible. The annual permission slip that we ask parents to complete for local visits, are only valid for local trips. Thank you.



Anyone in England who does not have symptoms of Covid-19 can now get regular rapid lateral flow tests to check for the virus. We encourage parents to do these lateral

flow tests for adults (not on primary age children). For further information, please refer to the link below.

[Regular rapid coronavirus \(COVID-19\) tests if you do not have symptoms - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/regular-rapid-coronavirus-covid-19-tests-if-you-do-not-have-symptoms)

Yours sincerely
Ms Kate Slatcher



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

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RRS winning
Logos

