

Thursday 17th November 2016 Number 2 Term 2

Nurture, Inspire, Achieve

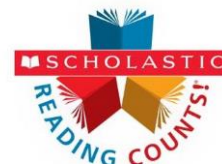
Dear Parent/Carers



It was lovely to see so many parents and prospective parents on Open Day. I was very proud to show off our wonderful school. We had lovely comments about children's work and behaviour and I'd particularly like to thank the Y6 pupils who showed parents around as they were outstanding ambassadors for the school!

School Tours

Mr Hough and I will be running conducted tours on the infant site on 22nd November 2016 and 4th January 2017 at 9am for prospective parents to look round if they are looking for school places and were unable to attend Open Day.



Thank you to everyone who supported the Book Fayres across both sites. We raised £752.99 for books for the school.

Non-uniform Day 18th November

in aid of the Christmas Fayre aka Shopping Evening. We are asking parents to send donations for the school Christmas Hampers.



Suggested donations are toiletries; make up, perfume, jewellery and Christmas food and drink. Any unopened nearly new gifts for ladies, gents or children will be welcome.



As the date coincides with Children in Need Day children may in addition bring in donations of £1.00 which we will send to Children in Need. For a bit of fun children may have a crazy Hair Day for Children in Need but no permanent hair dye please.



WAS YOUR CHILD BORN BETWEEN 1st SEPTEMBER 2012 AND 31st AUGUST 2013?

If they were, you need to be putting your child's name down at the school you wish them to attend in September 2017. 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 at www.bristol.gov.uk/schooladmissions by midnight on 15th January 2017. Offer letters will be sent out on 18th April 2017.



KS2 Parents' Evenings -It was great to see such a good turnout at Parents' Evenings. If you didn't manage to make it please see your class teacher or ring the office to arrange a mutually convenient time. We expect to see 100% of parents for these important meetings.



Friends' Events:

Christmas Shopping Night:

Come along and bring your friends to the school's Christmas Shopping Night on **25th November 7-9pm on the junior site.**

The Christmas Raffle is drawn on 12th December.

World Book Day: We are very grateful to the Friends for making this possible by agreeing to pay for this through the Friends' fund raising activities.

dates to Remember

Girls' football-30th November at Oasis Brislington
Y3/4 Mixed football- see the match report on our website.

RAG Cake Sale- KS2—we raised £109.70 for the charity War Child Thank you everyone who got involved.

21st November, 3.20pm- Terrific Times Tables meeting for parents to help their KS2 children, Upper Hall.

22nd November- Y6 netball match

25th November- Christmas Shopping Evening/Fayre, 7-9pm at the junior site. Everyone welcome.

9th December- Jack and the Beanstalk theatre visit- YR-Y4.

15th December- pantomime visit Y5 and Y6
See below for other Christmas activities.



Christmas Dinner will be on Tuesday 13th for the JUNIORS and Thursday 15th for INFANTS.

Please can junior parents make sure they read the separate junior letter and book and pay for **Christmas lunch by Friday 2nd December. Thank you.** It is anticipated that the majority of children in KS1 will be served a Christmas dinner. It will be helpful if infant parents let us know if their children are definitely NOT having a hot Christmas Dinner. If children really don't want a Christmas dinner they can bring a packed lunch and decorate their lunch boxes on both sites.



Wednesday 14th December- Christmas Parties on both sites. All children wear school uniform as normal. Lists for food will be sent out later. Thank you.

Children's Shopping Day- 8th December. The Friends organise this event where KS2 children can shop for small Christmas presents. On the infant site the Friends organise a visit and a present for children from Father Christmas. We feel these are age appropriate activities.

**Term Dates
2016-2017**

Changes in red.



Term 1

Friday 2nd Sept 2016 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

(Thursday 4th May is now an INSET day as the school will be closed for polling).

Term 6

Monday 5th June 2017 to Thursday 20th July 2017

(Note: Monday 5th June the school is now open NOT an INSET day)

(Friday 21st July closed- INSET)



Reminder- 'Holidays in term time are not normally authorised.' 'Penalty Notices (fines) may be used where absence is unauthorised,' Education Welfare Service.

Holidays should not be taken in term time so do not be surprised if your request is not authorised and you are fined. Holidays need to be taken in school holidays not during term time.

If you have an exceptional reason for needing to take your child out of school during term time you will need to fill in a leave of absence form from the office stating the exceptional reason e.g. to see a terminally ill grandparent or attend a close relative's wedding. These will be kept as evidence should a penalty notice or court case ensue.

Please note requests for taking children out of school for exceptional reasons must be made in advance of taking children out. Leave of absence cannot be authorised after you return and therefore will be marked as unauthorised. 4 days (8 half days) of unauthorised absences can mean a penalty notice (fine) is issued.



School dinner money records are now up to date on ParentMail and are showing the true dinner money balances. **Please remember to check**

your child's balance on a regular basis and ensure that their account remains in credit at all times. We are a cash less school (where possible), yet we are still receiving payments in to the school office. Please ensure you pay future payments online. Thank you.



Christmas Carol Service- as you know we are a very large primary school and being split over two sites means we don't have a large enough hall to ever get together in one place. Our Carol Concert at St Cuthbert's has become a bit of a Christmas tradition where we all get together and this year we are fortunate enough to have been welcomed back on 2nd December. Unfortunately (if that's the right word!) we are such a large community that the church was absolutely packed last year just with children and a few adult helpers so we are unable to invite parents to come and join the service. However, if you are really keen to get involved then we do need a couple of parents from each class to help us walk down and supervise children whilst in the church and walk back. Please see your class teacher to volunteer to help out. I'm afraid it's standing room only for helpers.

Permission is covered in the general local visits sheet but if you haven't returned that yet please do so this week. If you wish to withdraw your child on religious grounds please see the Head Teacher so alternative arrangements can be made to stay in school. **Children should not be kept at home as alternative education is provided.**



Christmas Cards

As an ecologically aware school we are keen to do our bit to reduce the amount of waste produced at Christmas.

Don't forget to send your one card for the class Christmas Card Tree. We are not stopping individuals from sending cards if they really want to but this is an alternative to the mass writing of cards. Thanks.



Are you a tangy tangerine or a sour satsuma?

Our school target for attendance is 95%. The best class attendance on the KS2 site for the week beginning 31st October was Tree Frog class with 92.3% and for the week beginning 7th October it was Tree Frog Class again with 93.2%, so they won themselves a large bowl of fruit for this achievement, for two weeks running again! That is 4 weeks on the trot! Well done Tree Frog class.

Please remember to arrive on time for school every day. The playground gates are open at 8:40am.

Miss School, Miss Out!



Class Assemblies:

Junior Site

Tuesday 29th November, 2.50pm, Turtle-Middle Hall

Tuesday 29th November, 2.50pm, Shark-Upper Hall

Please note class 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.



It was good to see Steve Johnson (new governor) in school last week. Steve is the Y2 governor and came in to see how the children were getting on in their classes. He also sits on the finance committee so spent the afternoon discussing the school budget with Mrs Buckley and Mrs Holland. Like many schools in the country we are facing cuts in real terms as the money coming in from the government stands still and the money going out e.g. on increased pension contributions goes up.

Christmas Concerts

Parents/carers are invited to attend one of the following Christmas performances. Arrangements for tickets will be sent out later.



6th Dec 9.30am YR performance (Robin, Rabbit and Red Panda)
6th Dec 10.30am Key Stage 1 performance (Octopus, Owl, Otter, Toucan, Tiger and Tamarin)
7th Dec 2pm and 6pm Year 4 performance (Flamingo, Fox, Falcon). The 6pm performance only is open to all ages.
7th Dec 1.30pm YR performance (Robin, Rabbit and Red Panda)
7th Dec 2.30pm Key Stage 1 performance (Octopus, Owl, Otter, Toucan, Tiger and Tamarin)
8th Dec 9.30am Key Stage 1 performance (Octopus, Owl, Otter, Toucan, Tiger and Tamarin)
Christmas Concert- Y4-Y6 musicians at St Cuthbert's Church- 13th December, at 7pm - all ages welcome.

Please note the performances DURING SCHOOL HOURS are NOT suitable for pre-school children as the children have worked hard to learn their parts and we want them to be heard.

We will run a crèche but need some parent volunteers to work with staff. If you can volunteer to help in one of the crèche sessions please come in and sign up at the office.

We do not charge entry to the school concerts but there will be a collection bucket on the way out if you wish to make a donation to charity (money will not go to the school). Thank you.

Child Safety - As in previous years anyone performing in plays/concerts may be photographed by parents during the performance and whilst we hope parents will be mindful of where they put photos of children, the school has no say in where photos end up. If you don't want your child in any photos then they cannot perform in the play and we will make arrangements for them to stay with another year group during the performances so they are safe. Please see your class teacher if you need your child to be kept from public view.



Christmas Concert: December 13th at St Cuthbert's Church:

The following children are performing – Y4, Y5 & Y6 choir, Y4, Y5 & Y6 recorders, instrumentalists including guitar/keyboard/drums/woodwind/violin players. Recorder players should have music and instruments in school every day from now until the concert. Other instrumentalists will be rehearsing before the concert and should come suitably prepared.

The concert starts at 7.00 pm. Children should arrive by 6.30pm to have instruments tuned. School Uniform should be worn. The concert should last about an hour.



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.



Over 150 local artists displaying their unique arts, crafts and creations in more than 75 venues across Totterdown.

Venues open 12pm to 6pm
19th & 20th November



Front Room Totterdown
@frontroomart
Totterdown Arts Trail 2016 app on Play and iTunes
www.frontroom.org.uk



Year 4 Football Tournament at Oasis Brislington 9th November 2016

Holymead A 6 - 0 Broomhill A
Holymead B 5 - 0 Broomhill B
Holymead A 2 - 0 Broomhill B
Holymead B 9 - 0 Broomhill A
Holymead A 2 - 2 Holymead B



What a fantastic performance from all the boys and girls who represented Holymead at this mini football tournament versus Broomhill. Goals from Luka and Aisha helped the A team to 2 wins and a draw while goals from Oliver, Ronnie and Corey saw the B team achieve the same results. The overall winners were Holymead B due to a superior goal difference. Special mention to those players making their first appearance in an organised team event, especially Harry for two magnificent goal saving tackles in the final game. Some excellent performances as well from James, Hunter, Freddie, Saul, Angus and Remi. As well as the matches the squad also enjoyed the coaching activities organised by Oasis. It was great to have some of our former pupils working with our current pupils! In addition to the amazing performances on the pitch I was especially pleased to see how well our children supported each other and represented our 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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