

Dear Parents and Carers,  
The Cabin in the Woods

You may start hearing your child saying they've been to the 'cabin' to do their work. We are delighted to have our cabin up and running so children can enjoy a new resource with access to the outdoor environment. We will be developing the outside area further to offer learning opportunities that broaden our already rich curriculum, particularly in the areas of science, geography and environmental education.

Whilst it is situated on the infant site, this resource is available for all children across the whole school. Y4 have been to explore the outdoor area including finding mini-beasts as part of their science work and Y5 have enjoyed part of their English reading time in the cabin. We hope all children will enjoy their visits to the new cabin in the woods.



**WAS YOUR CHILD BORN BETWEEN 1<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017 AND 31<sup>st</sup> AUGUST 2018?**

If they were, you need to be applying for a school place for September 2022. Even if you have older children at this school you must still apply for a reception place using the online Bristol form.

**Starting School 2022: Additional tour date.**

**Tours must be booked by phoning the office on 01173772381** and are limited to ONE parent only (pre-schoolers welcome) at the following times: **23.11.21** at 9.10am and 10.00am. Please leave your name and contact number.

If you do not wish to look round in person then please see the Head teacher's virtual tour and FAQs on the school website

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

We look forward to hearing from you.

**Secondary School Applications.**

**New Secondary School**



Please can we remind our current Year 6 parents and carers, that the deadline for Secondary School applications for the academic year 2022-2023 is **31<sup>st</sup> October 2021**.

All applications need to be submitted online. Please use the link below. Applications can be changed at any point up to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021.

<https://parent.bristol.gov.uk/web/portal/pages/parents/admissions>



**Aspirations' Day 8<sup>th</sup> October.**

The children had such a great time dressing up and telling us all about their aspirations for the

future. What an enormous and interesting range of things children want to be when they grow up.

We raised £303.88 for The Red Cross and this will go towards helping Afghani refugees. Thank you.



**Inset Day**  
.. school closed to pupils

Please note today is the last day of term and we are closed tomorrow. We re-open TUESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> November (Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October and Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November are INSET days).

Have an enjoyable half term.



### 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.

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.



### Harvest Festival

Thank you to everyone for your generous donations of Harvest Food. The people from the food bank were very grateful for all the donations you have sent in. Thank you!



### Are you interested in being a school governor?

Governor vacancies come up from time to time and we are keen to recruit new governors with the following skills:

- Health and Safety
- Finance
- Safeguarding

Being a governor is an important role in the school that requires commitment. If you are interested in finding out more, please come and talk to either me (Kate Slatcher) or the Chair of Governors (Jessica Coggins). You can contact us through the office by email or phone. This will be an informal chat and will give you a taste of what to expect. We look forward to hearing from you.



### 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. Please note other family members who are fully vaccinated, are no longer required to isolate while you are waiting for test results. Apologies for the confusing message on the last newsletter.

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

### Dinners

Universal Free School Meals (FSM) are available on the infant site. That means everyone up to and including Y2 can have free hot dinners.



For KS2 (juniors), hot dinners have increased to £2.30 a day from 1<sup>st</sup> November. All school dinners must be paid online using the ParentMail facility. Dinner money accounts must always be in credit. If you think you are eligible for free school meals (FSM) please ask the office for details.



**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.



**The Bristol Post** –We have sent off our Reception class photos to be included in their 'First Class' supplement. We understand that they will reprint the photos to include all 3 classes this time as they printed one class twice in error. Please remember to purchase a copy if your child is in one of these classes.

# What's Happening

## Dates for the Diary

Please wear face masks to any meetings in school.

**KS2 (Y3-Y6) Parents' Evenings** will be on 16<sup>th</sup>

November and 25<sup>th</sup> November

9.11.21 **Y2 Parents'/Carers' Maths Meeting**, 5pm, infant hall, no crèche

12.11.21 **Non-uniform Day** to bring in donations for the hamper raffle. We will collect £1 donations for Children in Need Day on this day too.

## Activities in November include:

YR Fire fighter and police dog visits in school

Y2 St Luke's Church visit

Y4 Folly Farm visit

Y6 Bikeability

Y6 cinema trip



## NB. CHANGES IN RED

### New Term Dates 2021-2022

#### Term 1

2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept 2021 school closed for INSET.

Mon 6<sup>th</sup> Sept 2021 All pupils start.

**Term 1 ends on 21st October. (22<sup>nd</sup> October-new INSET)**

#### Term 2

Closed for INSET on Mon 1<sup>st</sup> November

Re-opens Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> November- 17<sup>th</sup> December.

#### Term 3

Closed for INSET on Tues 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Re-opens Wed 5<sup>th</sup> January-18<sup>th</sup> Feb 2022

#### Term 4

Mon 28<sup>th</sup> Feb- 8<sup>th</sup> April 2022

#### Term 5

Mon 25<sup>th</sup> April- 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022

#### Term 6

Closed for INSET Mon 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022

Re-opens Tues 7<sup>th</sup> June- **Wed 20<sup>th</sup> July 2022.**

**Closed for INSET Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2021.**

**Additional school holiday to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee - Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2022**



## Parents' Evenings EYFS and KS1

It was so lovely to be able to meet parents in person for the infant parents' evenings. If you

haven't managed to

make your appointment, please arrange to meet your class teacher directly.

**KS2 Parents' Evenings** –please remember to bring a mask.

16<sup>th</sup> November between 3.30pm and 6.00pm and 25<sup>th</sup> November between 4.00pm and 6.30pm.

Parents' Evening bookings will need to be made using our online booking system via our ParentMail App. Appointments will be available to book from midday on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 21. These meetings are not suitable for children and there are no crèche facilities.

**Please note that teacher run clubs cannot operate on parents' evenings as teachers are meeting parents.**

Senco Meetings: Mrs Davies will be available to talk to parents about their children's progress, if they have special needs. Please phone the office when you have made your online booking for Parents' Evening.



## 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.





### Governors' Corner by Phil Wright

As a governor at the school for over 12 years, I have seen many changes, including the merger of the Infants and Juniors to create Holymead Primary School in 2013. However, the last 18 months have, without a doubt been the most challenging for the wider school community. My role over that period has been to act as the link governor for Remote

Learning. I am always keen to see progression in how the school advance learning opportunities and I have been very proud of how we reacted to a difficult situation and used it to embed and adapt new practices. The school was one of the early adopters of online learning, using teaching tools with Google Classroom and Seesaw during lockdown. It didn't work perfectly for everyone, but it did create the continuity of opportunity for many children. I also worked with the school to look at how we would overcome issues such as lack of broadband connectivity and appropriate technology to access online learning and ensure that all children could continue their learning during a very difficult period for us all. It is now good to see that these online tools will become 'business as usual' as children continue to use them for homework and in-school learning.

### Rules and Safety



**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.

**Climbing Equipment** is out of bounds before and after school. It is not to be used by children before or after school hours on either site.

**Dogs** are not allowed on the school premises at all (except guide/working dogs). Even if you know they are gentle pets a small child can still find them threatening.



**The white lines on the infant site are painted round the playground to keep your children safe.** Please remind your children they are not allowed to go up the grass banks or the new path or the concrete slopes before or after school. This includes pre-schoolers, as playing in these areas can be dangerous.

**Drains and drain covers** - There are many drains and drain covers around school which mean there are many holes so please be careful if you wear stilettos or narrow heeled footwear as narrow heels can go through the holes.



**Toys, games, 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. Please note the school does not accept any liability for items brought in from home including mobile phones. 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.

### Year 6 camp 2022.

We have now costed our year 6 camp and letters have been sent to the parents of those children that are attending, detailing our instalment plan for future payments.



Miss O'Toole held a camp meeting this week and her presentation has been placed on the year 6 page on the school website, for those parents to view who were unable to attend.



### Bonfire & Fireworks Display.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Bristol scout group has its annual fireworks night again this year on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> November. Gates open at 6pm and the fireworks display commences at 7.30pm.

The address for the display is The Wigwam Scout Hut, Brookside Road, Brislington, BS4 4JS. Tickets cost £3.00 for adults and £2.00 for children under the age of 16 (under 3s are free).



## E-Safety.

Please find attached two links for information on e-safety that are useful for supporting our parents with children's use of electronics at home.

In order to limit screen time per app (instead of the whole device) as well as track activity, set daily limits, view device location and more, please follow

<https://techcrunch.com/2019/9/18/googles-parental-control-software-family-link-gains-much-needed-features/>

**Swiggle** - child friendly search engine for younger children. For use at home and in school, Swiggle is a child-friendly search engine developed by South West Grid for Learning and built on the Google Safe Search technology. It is free, ad free, has a reporting page for children and adults, active blocking of inappropriate search strings and even a Swigglebot to give advice. For more information go to the link below and look at the menu (top right of page)

<https://swiggle.org.uk/>

Thank you to those at [www.esafety-adviser.com](http://www.esafety-adviser.com) for making us aware of these links.

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





Community Children's  
Health Partnership



## Sirona School Health Nurse Webinars - November 2021



**Healthy Eating**  
**Monday 1 November**  
9:30—10:30am



**Keeping Your Child  
Happy and Healthy**  
**Tuesday 2 November**  
9:30—10:30am



**Understanding Your  
Child's Wellbeing**  
**Wed 3 November**  
9:30—10:30am



**Helping Your Child  
With Sleep**  
**Thurs 4 November**  
10—11am



**Eating Disorder  
Awareness**  
**Friday 5 November**  
10—11am



**Continence in Children  
and Young People**  
**Monday 8 November**  
1—2pm



**Your Child's Dental  
Health**  
**Tues 9 November**  
12—1pm

**Click on the icon to  
book onto the event  
you wish to attend**

Service provided by:

**Sirona**  
care & health