

Dear Parents/Carers



It was great to see such a great turn out for the Summer Fayre as usual. Thank you everyone who helped in any way and thank you to everyone for turning out and supporting the school in this fund raising event. I am very happy to say that £1,959.37 was raised from the Summer Fayre and £545.55 from the sale of raffle tickets. Along with £195.50 raised from the face painting activities in KS1, the Friends have raised a staggering **£2,700.42** in total from their summer related activities. I hope you enjoyed the day.



Y2 Moving Up Assembly- 21st July, 9.10am

Y6 Leavers' Assembly- 22nd July, 9.20am

Please note 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.



Infant disco 19th July: There is a charge for entry (see Friends' letter). You will need your ticket to get in on the evening. Drink included. As previously, Reception staff and Friends will help change reception classes and take them to the disco so

parent/carers don't need to come to school until after the disco.

Reception - 3.15pm - 4.00pm.

Year 1 - 4.15pm - 5.00pm.

Year 2 - 5.15pm - 6.00pm.

Please drop children off at the Main Entrance and pick up afterwards in the Pencil Playground, except for **Red Panda Class, Otter Class and Tamarin Class** who need to be picked up from outside Tamarin classroom by their steps near the hall.



Nurture, Inspire, Achieve

EVENTS HAPPENING THIS TERM.



YR Tyntesfield Visit

Y1 Planetarium Visit

Y6 Camp

Y6 Brean

8th July- Y3 –recorder concert in middle hall.

8th July- YR and Y2 Sports Day am.

11th July- Shuffle Up afternoon-new classes announced

12th July- Open Day

12th July- Y2 going into Y3 parent meeting on junior site.

19th July- Y6 performance 1.45 and 6.30pm

21st July- Y2- Moving Up Assembly, 9.10am

21st July- Y6 Leavers' Disco, 5.00pm-6.30pm

22nd July- Y6- Leavers' Assembly, 9.20am



Please ensure that all outstanding school dinner money payments and trips payments are paid by **Friday 8th July**, in order that all money is reconciled well in advance of the end of the term. Thank you.

Are you a top turnip or a rotten raspberry? Our school target for attendance is 95%.

The best class attendance on the KS2 site for the week commencing 27th June 2016 was Tawny Owl class with 98.7% and the week commencing 4th July was Springbok with 98.6% attendance and they both won themselves a large bowl of fruit for this achievement! Please remember to arrive on time for school every day. The playground gates are open at 8:40am.



Miss School, Miss Out!



Staff moving classes. For those of you who know the school you will know that teachers and LSAs are employed to work throughout the whole age range and regularly move about through different year groups. 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.



Staff News

Sadly we will be saying good-bye to Mrs Vitale in Tiger Class. Mrs Vitale is leaving to support her mother in an exciting venture to run a nursery. We

hope it works out well.

Mrs Thomas has now started maternity leave and we hope to see her return soon with a little bundle of joy!

Miss Williams and Ms Ellis are both leaving and we send them our best wishes.

We welcome Miss Harris in Tamarin with Mr McSmythurs, Miss L Phillips in Tiger and Mr Stolarczyk who will be working throughout the school.

We would also like to welcome Mr Khaidarov who has joined the staff this week as a school meals supervisor assistant.



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

If they were, you need to be applying for a school place for September 2017. If you know of friends with nursery age children please check they have visited schools and applied online to Bristol local authority. Even if you have older children at this school you must still apply for a reception place using the online Bristol form. Thank you.



Infant site (YR to Y2) StoryBox Theatre 19th July.

Please send your £3 donation to cover costs of the performance of The Snow Queen.

Many of you thanked us for putting on theatre visits like this in the parent questionnaire but they are only possible if the majority of parents are willing to send a donation. We were unable to cover the cost of the previous theatre visit and will have to reconsider if we can do as many shows next year. The Friends' group kindly made up the shortfall in this instance but we need parental donations to make them possible in future. Thank you to everyone who made this year's performances possible with their donations.



INFANT SPORTS' DAY 8th July NEW DATE:

We are looking for volunteers to help on **Infant Sports' Day**. Please let your class teacher know if you are able to help. Children will need to have their PE kit in school on that day. Parents are invited to watch their children in the main playground at the following times:
9.15-10.15 Year 2 (Toucan, Tiger, Tamarin)
10.30-11.30 Reception (Robin, Rabbit, Red Panda)
(No Y1 because they did their sports day in June before the rain set in).

As space is limited please clear the playground quickly when your class finishes so other year groups may come and watch. Arrangements are weather

All 36 children in swimming club attended the Keynsham Swimming fiesta on Friday. It was a super event and the whole team swam their very best. We were in the lead for most of the gala but Chandag pipped us to the post by just one point. It was extremely close. Well done to all children especially Libby and George who swam in their first gala.



1st July, 7pm- Choir Concert at St. Christopher's Church. What a delightful evening of music we were treated to. Well done to William Channon, ex-pupil, who organised this event and to our choir which sang beautifully.

SCHOOL REPORT

School Reports will be sent out tomorrow 8th 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.

Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 - parents will receive a report detailing their child's progress and achievements, with 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.

Summer Uniform- summer dresses for girls are **purple or blue** check.

NO pink, yellow or any other colour.

Boys may wear **black or grey** school shorts. Casual/sports shorts are **not** suitable for school. Sensible sandals that hold a child's feet securely may be worn in fine weather. Sandals should be black, navy, dark purple or white- again **no** pink or other colours. **Leggings, jeans, baseball caps, hooded tops and bright, colourful trainers are NOT part of school uniform and should not be worn.** Pupils should wear black or grey school trousers, skirts or pinafores. We need parents' support in making sure pupils are dressed suitably for school. We are happy to support parents and back you up please come and see Mr Jones, Mr Hough or myself.



Shuffle Up Day- On the afternoon of 11th July **all** children will shuffle up to their new classes to meet their new teachers. This includes Y2 going up to the juniors and new Reception children coming into school. This is the day parent/carers are informed which class their children will be in. No changes to classes can be made once the class lists are put up on the doors so please talk to teachers **NOW**.

Y2 transition to Y3. As part of our transition programme to get children ready for Y3 we have been taking them to visit the junior site where they have a buddy to tell them what it is like in Key Stage 2.

We are also holding a short meeting with Y2 parents to welcome you to Y3 on the evening of 12th July at 6pm in the Upper Hall.



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.



School Vacancy

We still have a vacancy for a School Meals Supervisory Assistant, in order to help supervise the

children during the lunchtime break. If you are interested in applying, please pick up an application form from the school office on either site.

SCHOOL Attendance

The law has changed on holidays taken 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 OF 4 OR MORE DAYS (8 SESSIONS).** Any suspicious absence will be investigated.

Term Dates

Term Dates 2015-2016

Term 6

Mon 6th June to Fri 22nd July 2016- **NEW DATE (23rd June now an INSET day due to changes with EU election in June)**

School will close for all BANK Holidays as normal.

Term Dates 2016-2017

Term 1

(Thurs 1st Sept closed for INSET).

Friday 2nd Sept 2016 KS1 and KS2 start

Monday 5th Sept 2016 new Reception start 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

Term 6

Tuesday 6th June 2017 to Thursday 20th July 2017

(Monday 5th June and Friday 21st July closed- INSET)



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.



Y5 need to put down their deposits for Y6 camp before the end of this term as the camp is happening earlier in the year in 2017.

Library Books: Please return all library books before the end of term, especially if you have a child in Y6. Thank you.



Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers who came to work on the school garden on the infant site.

After lots of hard work, the grounds and the pond area are looking lovely and the children are enjoying being outside whenever they can!

Parking on the zig zags and causing an obstruction.

Parents may have noticed a car being towed away from the zig zags outside school recently and an increased police presence in the area. If you wish to report parking problems outside either site please ring the police on 101. Thank you for your support in this matter.

KS2 Fruit time

KS2 pupils are allowed to bring fresh fruit for break time. We are having problems with children going in and out of the building to get fruit (and other snacks) from their lunch boxes, when they should be outside in the playground. From now on fruit for break time must be brought directly into the classroom and not left in lunchboxes.

As there is also a problem with litter, children are only allowed to bring **FRESH FRUIT** for break time (preferably with no packaging) so waste can be dropped in the food bins. Children may continue to have any other sort of fruit or veg in their lunch box but can only eat it in the dinner hall where rubbish can be cleared away. Thank you.





Open Day Tuesday 12th July – the school invites current and prospective parents to look round both sites. This will be an opportunity to meet the teachers and look at the classrooms your child will be moving to in September.



The infant site will be open at 9.10- 10.00am, 1.00-2.00pm and 3.20-4.20pm. Parents who have children currently in Key Stage 1 will be shown around by their children (please make sure they are registered first). I will be doing conducted tours for prospective parents.

The junior site will be open at 10.00-11.00am, 2.00-3.00pm and 3.20-4.20pm. Y6 ambassadors will be showing current parents round. Pupils in Key Stage 2 will need to stay in class (as Key Stage 2 learning is more structured and less fluid than learning in Key Stage 1).

If you are concerned and wish to discuss your child's report (which you will have by then) then the OPEN EVENING session from 3.20-4.20pm is a good time to do this. (Please ring the office to make an appointment with the class teacher).



Nic Wilkins, a Teaching Assistant on the infant site, is taking part in a Macmillan Mighty Hike of 22miles on Saturday 9th July along the Jurassic Coastline. If anyone would like to support the cause, she has set up a Just giving page set up address below:-

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Nic-Wilkins3>

Or any sponsorship can be left at the school office on either site. We wish her lots of luck!



Cheesy Bake Off update!

The school has taken a huge delivery of approximately 360 boxes/items from Tesco last week, after Mollie in KS2 won their Bristol Cheesy Bake-Off competition. After coming first in the competition Mollie not only won a prize herself, but she also won £5000 worth of cooking equipment for the school! When the kitchen is ready, the boxes will be unpacked and all the items will be put to good use on both sites. We are extremely proud of Mollie and her baking achievements and we hope that she continues to utilise her baking skills in the future.



HAMILTON PRE SCHOOL (attached to Holymead Primary School) has a job vacancy for a lunchtime supervisor. This is to support the children who stay for lunch. You will be required to work for 2 hours per day. For an application form please contact Louise Pullin on 0117 9144471

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

Yours sincerely
Ms Kate Slatcher



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