Thursday 2nd February 2023 Number 3, Term 3

Dear Parents and Carers,



The last day of this term is Friday 10th February. We start back for Term 4 on Monday 20th February.



The Equality policy and Equality Plan are on the school website.

http://www.holymeadp.bristol.sch.uk/web/policies/1879

We have purchased lots of lovely books and posters that celebrate our diverse community. We are sure the children will enjoy reading and looking at them.



Class Assemblies-

Tawny Owl- Tuesday 7th Feb- middle hall

Shark- Tues 7th Feb- upper hall

Please note class assemblies are NOT suitable for preschoolers 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.



Parents' Evenings will take place on 20th and 28th March for infants (YR, Y1 and Y2) and 22nd March and 28th March for juniors (Y3-Y6). Details to follow.

Parent's Evening

These meetings are not suitable for children to attend. Please note there is no crèche and the school will not be supervising children.

<u>Staff run clubs will not run during Parents' Evenings, as</u> teachers will obviously be in parents' meetings.



Nurture, Inspire, Achieve

Author Visits

We were thrilled to have author Polly Ho Yen and poet Alex Wharton come to Holymead! Polly spoke to the children in years 5 and 6 and did workshops with year 6, about how she gets her own ideas and how everyday things can become magical with a bit of imagination!

Alex spoke and performed to children in Years 3 and 4. This was followed by poetry workshops with the year 4 children where they had to write poems imagining they were inanimate objects complaining about their lives. These were very entertaining!

Both Polly and Alex had a wonderful time with the children and more importantly the children had a great time too! It's been fantastic to see how inspired the children have been from these experiences. Thank you to Mrs Knowles, our Reading Teacher, for organising these inspiring and exciting sessions. They certainly created a buzz around writing.



Y6 SATs' Revision Workbooks:



In response to requests from parents we are once again selling Y6 SATs revision workbooks for maths and English (Reading, Grammar,

Punctuation & spelling, Arithmetic and reasoning). These workbooks cover the Y6 curriculum and help children practise the skills that they have been taught over the year. They have proved very popular in the past and enable parents to support their children not only in preparing for the SATs tests, but securing the skills that children will need as they make the transition to secondary school. These workbooks are now available to purchase from the school office and cost £3.50 each or you can purchase the whole set of four books for £12.00. Thank you.



School Prospectus

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.



NEU News.

There are further planned NEU teacher strikes on 2nd, 15th and 16th March 2023.

I will keep you informed by parentmail as I receive further information about what is likely to happen.



SMSA vacancy (dinner staff)

Please ask for further details and an application form from Mrs Holland, via the school office.

LSA vacancy (support staff)

Please speak to the school office if you are interested in applying.

We welcome applications from all sectors of the community for all our vacancies.



February

2nd Feb- Y6 Girls' football tournament starts on Thursdays

3rd Feb- Wellbeing and Mental Health Day activities 6-10th Feb- Children's Mental Health Week, various activities

6th Feb- Y6 SATs meeting- 3.30pm- Salamander Class 7th Feb- Safer Internet Day, focus- 'Want to talk about it?'

21st Feb- Spanish Day (NOT dressing up)

March

3rd March- our World Book Day celebration which includes dressing up as your favourite book character.

YR- Chew Valley Farm visit
7th March- EYFS parent/carer afternoon
17th March- Red Nose Day



Y6 Croft Farm Camp

Please can we remind the parents of those children who are attending the Year 6 camp on April 17th 2023

that the next instalment of £82.50 must be paid by 28th February 2023. 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. Mrs Holland will try and speak with these parents over the next few days. Many Thanks.



Message from our School Nurses.

Drop-in Flu clinics are available for children in Reception to Year 9, offering both the nasal flu and the injectable (gelatine free) vaccine

Tuesday 7th February 2pm – 5pm – Charlotte Keel Health Centre, Seymour Road, Easton, BS5 0UA Tuesday 7th February 2pm – 5pm - Pill Health Clinic, 3 Station Road, Bristol, BS20 0AB

Monday 13th February 10am – 4pm – For All Healthy Living Centre, Lonsdale Avenue, Weston-Super-Mare, BS23 3SJ.

No appointment necessary



Term Dates 2022-2023

Term 3

Closed for INSET Tues 3rd Jan 2023

Re-opens Wed 4th Jan-10th Feb 2023

Term 4

Mon 20th Feb- 31st March 2023

Term 5

Mon 17th April-26th May 2023 (Closed for extra Bank Holiday Monday 8th May following the coronation)

Term 6

Mon 5th June-Thurs 20th July 2023

Closed for INSET Fri 21st July 2023

Term Dates 2023-2024

Term 1

Closed for INSET 1st September 2023

Pupils start Monday 4th September (except new reception who start Wed 6th September, part time) -20th October 2023

Term 2

Closed 30th October 2023 for INSET.

Pupils start Tuesday 31st October- 15th Dec 2023

Term 3

Tues 2nd Jan-9th Feb 2024

Term 4

Mon 19th Feb- Wed 27th March (28.3.24 INSET)

Term 5

Mon 15th April- 24th May 2024

Term 6

Mon 3rd June- 19th July 2024 (22/23.7.24 INSET)

Schools are closed for Bank Holidays.



Cakes, Sweets and Biscuit treats

As many children have special diets for varying reasons, we ask that parents don't send any treats for consumption in school. We have in the past allowed biscuits but with the increased risk of allergies, we feel the best solution is not to send any treats into school at

all. We will be returning any cakes, sweets and biscuits to parents. Thank you.



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.

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. (Y6 may bring their own stationery to get ready for secondary school expectations.) 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.



In Term 4, pupils in Year 4 and Year 6 will have the opportunity to take part in workshops run by SARI, the Bristol based charity that

aims 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.



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.



Practical and informative online sessions from your expert team of local School Health Nurses.

Our webinars lasts between 30 and 45 minutes, with the opportunity to ask questions throughout. They're suitable for parents and carers of children and young people of all ages.



Topics include:

- · Keeping your child happy and healthy
- Healthy eating and physical activity
- Supporting your child's emotional wellbeing
- Eating disorder awareness
- · Dental health
- Sleep

Find out more and book your free space: cchp.nhs.uk/schoolnursewebinars









Governors' Corner

Finance and Staffing Governors have updated several policies including the Charging and Remissions Policy which covers asking for donations towards events such as trips, cooking and the theatre. Governors also discussed and agreed the budget outturn which is looking healthy.

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Holidays in term time. It is very unlikely holidays will be authorised as circumstances have to be really exceptional. However, it is still important that applications are made

so there is a record in school. 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 children out. Note, you can still be fined if you take an unauthorised holiday but don't fill out a form.

Yours sincerely Ms Kate Slatcher









Ríahts Respectina Schools Article 13: Children have the riaht to aet and to share information

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RRS winning

Logos





