Thursday 5th November 2020 Number 1, Term 2

Dear Parents/Carers

KS2 (Y3-Y6) Parents' Evenings – Year 3 & 4 – 17/11/20 and 25/11/20 Year 5 & 6 – 19/11/20 and 24/11/20



Due to the current lockdown our KS2 Parents' Evening will continue as planned, but will no longer be face to face discussions. I have arranged for your child's class teacher to hold telephone sessions with you.

Time slots can be booked as normal using our ParentMail Parents' Evening online booking system and you will have received an email from the school, advising how to go about booking a call home.

If you have any issues with making a booking, please call the school office.

SENDco Meetings: Our new SENDco, Mrs Davies, is happy to talk to parents about their children's progress if they have special needs. Please phone the office and we can arrange a mutually convenient time when she can telephone you to discuss this further. Thank you.



Traffic around School

The issue of traffic around school was discussed at the Full Governing Body meeting on 21.10.20. Governors agreed unanimously to raise our concerns about driving and parking around the school sites with the local authority to see what improvements can be made. We will keep you informed about their response and where appropriate we will be asking parents and carers to support the school in any initiatives to improve safety on the roads around school.

At the school's request the police came out to monitor traffic and parking around school on 3.11.20. They will be back to confront dangerous driving and illegal parking such as on the zigzags and double yellow lines.

Anybody can report anti-social and illegal parking to the police at the link below, should you wish to do so; https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/report/

We encourage children to walk to school but if you choose to drive please switch off your engine while you are parked outside the school. Idling (having the engine running whilst your vehicle is stationary) pumps outs toxic fumes which damages people's health. Please think of our children's health and switch off engines if you are waiting in your car to drop off or pick up your child.



Nurture, Inspire, Achieve



Harvest

Thank you for your very generous donations for the Food Bank. There were so many bags of groceries and toiletries on both sites. The helpers who came to collect it were very grateful.



WAS YOUR CHILD BORN BETWEEN 1st SEPTEMBER 2016 AND 31st AUGUST 2017?

Applications for September 2021 entry to school need to be made by 15.1.21.

Unfortunately, I will not be able to do prospective parent/carer tours this year so we've made a virtual tour video and FAQs sheet instead which are on the Holymead website home page. This can be found at the following link below;

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



The Bristol Post

Please can we remind you that our Reception class photos to be included in their 'First Class' supplement which is being printed tomorrow.

There are approximately 70 photos being printed in a 20 page supplement! Please remember to purchase a copy if your child is in one of these classes.



Christmas Performances and Concerts

Due to Covid-19 we will not be doing live concerts and performances for parents and carers this year. However, do not despair, we will still be celebrating Christmas! For those year groups who normally do a live performance, teachers are busy putting together virtual celebrations which we will record and show you online.

Child Safety - If you don't want your child in any videos we will make arrangements for them to stay with another year group during the recordings so they are safe from view.

Please see your class teacher if you need your child to be kept from public view.



Christmas Events

We have booked theatre treats with a difference this year, so children will not travel to pantomimes, but will enjoy performances by professional companies in school. Further details will follow.

We are also making the usual arrangements for parties and Father Christmas has said he can still visit KS1 on their party day as he usually does!

Unfortunately, big events where people normally mingle such as the Church Carol Concert and Christmas Shopping Night will not be able to go ahead. However, the Friends' group are working hard to organise the sale of children's Christmas Cards and holding the Christmas Hamper Raffle so you are still in with a chance of winning one of those lovely hampers of Christmas goodies. Please support us by sending donations on 13.11.20 (a little earlier than usual so we can leave donations before handling them safely to make up the hampers).



Reminder to Parents: please can we remind parents to ensure that all dinner money accounts (via Parentmail) and breakfast club and afterschool club accounts are either kept

in credit or at zero. Dinners and services must be paid for in advance rather than in arrears.



Friends' News- The Friends' AGM was held via zoom on 13th Oct at 8pm. The following people kindly offered to take positions on the board to help the smooth running of the group: Helen Watts and Madeleine Jones are Co-Chair, Co-Treasurer - Kay Morgan and Jess Agnew, Co-Secretary – Amy Walden and Lorna England. Many thanks to Lisa Holden (outgoing chair) for her many years of dedicated support of the school. You've done a fantastic job. Thank you!



Non-uniform raffle donations/Children in Need Day-Friday 13th November

NHS seasonal flu (not covid) vaccines 17th and 18th November.



Dinners

In KS1 we are moving to Chartwells' Stage 4 menu from 2nd November. Hot meals (UFSM) will be served every day next term.

For KS2 (juniors), the cost of hot dinners has risen to ± 2.25 from 2nd November. If you think you are eligible for free school meals (FSM) please ask the office for details.



Christmas dinner will be on the following dates:-KS1 – Wednesday 16th December KS2 – Thursday 17th December

We will soon be asking our KS2 parents/carers to book Christmas lunch in advance, if their child wishes to have one via ParentMail and further information will be sent in due course.



Non-uniform Day Friday 13th November

We are asking parents to send donations for the school Christmas Hamper Raffle. 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 this coincides with Children in Need Day, children can dress up in spotty clothing or Children in Need merchandise and bring in donations of £1 which we will send it to Children in Need.

Camps

The government is still advising against overnight stays for school pupils so we will be keeping in touch with different year groups as we get further information. The camp operators are doing their best to work with us on providing alternatives. We are still hoping the Y5 (delayed from Y4) camp and Y6 camp will operate. These camps were already in the pipeline before Covid struck, with money already committed.

Unfortunately, we will not be booking a camp for current Y4 due to too much uncertainty.



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.



Cakes, Sweets and Biscuit treats

With Covid infection rates rising, we politely remind parents not to bring cakes, sweets or biscuits to celebrate birthdays or special occasions in school. As many children have special diets for

varying reasons, we would rather parents didn't send any treats for consumption in school. We have in the past allowed biscuits but with the increased risk of contamination from the virus, we feel the best solution is not to send any treats into school at all at present. Thank you.



Holymead Primary School has vacancies for SMSAs to supervise children at dinner time.

We are also looking for a part time evening caretaker who will mainly be responsible for locking

up, but will be asked to carry out further light duties. Hours will initially be 10 hours per week, however these hours could be increased for a suitably experience candidate.

If you are interested in either vacancy please ask for details and an application form from Mrs Buckley, via the school office. Thank you

Reward Systems

Praise Book- on the infant site you may notice your child talking about the Praise Book or coming home with a Praise Book sticker. This is a system to reward good work, effort or behaviour.



Children's names are read out and they receive their sticker in assembly. This record of their achievement is also put up on display in the Link the following week for everyone to see.



Star of the Week- on the junior site, as the children get older, we introduce a Star of the Week where children nominate and vote for a child they think deserves to be Star of the Week. Whilst the children have more say in

who is chosen, this system is still overseen by the teacher to ensure fairness.

School Uniform.



Thank you for a great start back in full school uniform. All uniform needs to be ordered online (with logo) or bought from any shop (without logo). We stock

different sizes of sweat shirts etc so you can try on a sample to get the right size before ordering. If you don't have internet access our office staff are happy to help you with ordering uniform.

If you have any problems with uniform, eg both sweat shirts are in the wash on one day or you're waiting for new trousers to arrive, please explain your circumstances to a member of staff.

Polo Shirts: These can either be plain white or dark purple in colour.

Shoes: Children need to have black school shoes for school.

Please note trainers, black jeans, leggings and hooded tops must not be worn in school.

PE kit: is a purple tee-shirt and black shorts in a purple dap bag. Black or white tee shirts and shorts are an acceptable alternative but no club football kits etc. Currently PE kits should be worn all day on PE days. ALL UNIFORM, INCLUDING PE KITS MUST BE LABELLED CLEARLY.

Back Packs are not allowed on the infant site as space is very limited.

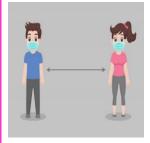
Pencil Cases: just a reminder that pupils are NOT allowed to bring pencils and pencil cases to school. This now includes Y6 during Covid restrictions.

No toys or games are allowed in school.



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 to run children's clubs with this school.



Message for Parents/Carers

Thank you to parents and carers who have been wearing masks whenever they can on the playground, coming to the office and between the school sites.



Term Dates 2020- 2021

Term 1 (INSET 1st Sept.) Wed 2nd Sept- school year starts for KS1 and KS2 (new Y1 to Y6) Thurs 3rd Sept- New in-take Reception start. Thurs 22nd October will be the last day of Term 1. Please note the change. (NEW INSET Fri 23rd Oct. School CLOSED) Term 2 Mon 2nd Nov- Thurs 17th Dec 2020 (INSET 18th Dec) Term 3 Tues 5th Jan 2021 – Friday 12th Feb 2021 (INSET 4th Jan) Term 4 Mon 22nd Feb- Wed 31st Mar 2021 (INSET 1.4.21) Term 5 Mon 19th April- Fri 28th May 2021 Term 6 Tues 8th June- Wed 21st July 2021 (INSET Mon 7.6.20)

Holymead Needs You!



Have you considered being a school governor?

We have three governor vacancies at the school including one parent governor and two co-opted governors.

It is a very rewarding role and we would encourage parents to come forward to help continue the valuable work at the school.

Benefits of being a governor:

- It will give you the chance to make a real difference to young people
- You get to take part in decisions which affect the school
- You can influence initiatives and activities which benefit the children – for example, the annual heritage day started as a result of a governor-led initiative
- You can use and develop your skills in a board-level environment
- It's very rewarding!

We are currently seeking individuals with experience in health & safety, local authority budgets and applying for grants/funding. These skills are desirable and not essential and would encourage anyone who is interested to find out more.

For more information or to discuss the role in more detail contact: <u>Jesscoggins@holymeadprimary.co.uk</u> How to apply: email <u>Judith.buckley@holymeadprimary.co.uk</u>

Please note: those applying for a parent governor role will need to go through an election process.



ARE YOU A YOUNG PERSON UNDER 25?

DO YOU HAVE A DISABILITY. OR DO YOU NEED EXTRA HELP WITH LEARNING?

DO YOU LIVE IN BRISTOL, NORTH SOMERSET OR SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE?

If yes, we can help you to...

- Understand your rights in education or training
- Get the help you need
- Make sure you are listened to

We need your consent if you would like a parent or carer to contact us. See our website for more information.

www.supportiveparents.org.uk



9.30am – 4.30pm Monday to Friday (answerphone at all other times)

0117 989 7725

Alternatively, complete the contact form on our website: www.supportiveparents.org.uk

Or email: support@supportiveparents.org.uk

Our Registered Office: 3rd Floor, Royal Oak House, Royal Oak Avenue, Bristol, BS1 4GB

If you would like this leaflet in Braille, large print easy-read or another language, please contact us.

Working in partnership with:



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Providing the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIAS) for Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire



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/2019/09/18/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 <u>www.esafety-adviser.com</u> for making us aware of these links.



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



Richa at Rachna.pandya@bristol-schools.uk or call her

EBCC

on: 07880465063

Michelle 1 - 2pm 9.30 - 10.30am Becky

astbristol.childrenscentres@bristol-schools.uk 🖗 eastbristolchildrenscentres Sign up to our newsletter: www.eastbristolchildrenscentre.co.uk/email-sign-up

Keep in touch

Wednesday

Friday

0117 377 3493