Thursday 22nd November 2018 Number 2, Term 2

Dear Parents/Carers



Tomorrow, FRIDAY 23rd November, is

non-uniform day and children are asked to wear clothes they normally wear at home and bring in donations for the Christmas Fayre and Hamper Raffle. These may be bottles, toys, toiletries, gifts and Christmas themed food. Please check items are in date. Please don't send money on this occasion. Thank you!



We are delighted to inform you that Mr Jones has been invited back to do some more work with the Department for Education in London on 28th and 29th November. This is a wonderful opportunity for Mr Jones to gain an insight into some of the work the DfE do and also promotes the good practice that takes place at our school.



WAS YOUR CHILD BORN BETWEEN 1st SEPTEMBER 2014 AND 31st AUGUST 2015?

If they were, you need to be applying for a school place for September 2019. 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.



Next Gen Photographers —we will send out photos as soon as they arrive in school. Please note that this is the last year that they will be sending out proofs and next year you will be able to view your child's photos on line only, before ordering.



The last Parents' Evenings is this evening (for KS2). However, if you did not manage to see your child's class teacher please ring the office and arrange a mutually convenient time to meet the teacher. We

expect to meet every child's parents to keep you up to date with how your child is doing.



Nurture, Inspire, Achieve



KS2 How we assess writing (Y3 to Y6 in Salamander Class in the Upper Hall) Mon 26th Nov at 3.30pm. **Cake Sale**- 27th Nov on the junior site. The RAG group are raising funds for the Marmalade Trust for the homeless.

Christmas Shopping Night- 30th Nov 6.30-8.30pm on the junior site. Everyone welcome

Y4 Getting to Grips with Grammar. Tues 4th December

KS2 Film Night- Wed 5th Dec

Y6 SATs Meeting 10th Dec at 3.30pm in Salamander



Class Assemblies-

Junior Site

Tuesday 4th December 2.50pm Turtle – Middle Hall Tuesday 4th December 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.



Rights Action Group

On the 5th December, the Rights' Action Group will be holding our famous film night once again. The children voted for

Incredibles 2. Don't forget to get your tickets by Friday 30th November at £3 each. This will include popcorn and a cup drink. We are having fun whilst fundraising for The Marmalade Trust this year - a Bristol charity that helps the homeless which is particularly important as the days are getting colder. Don't forget your PJs!



Friends' Events:

KS2 Children's Shopping Day- 14th December. The Friends have organised an event for junior children to buy small gifts e.g. for parents, siblings and grandparents. We suggest children bring no more than £5 in pound coins or small change. Please DO NOT send a £5 note. Staff will be on hand to help with buying presents and giving change.



On the infant site the Friends organise a visit and a present for children from Father Christmas and fund the entertainer. We feel these are age appropriate activities.

Next Friends' Meeting- 18th January after drop off on the infant site



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 5th 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.



Tuesday 18th December – Infants. Friday 21st December- juniors.

Please can junior parents make sure they read the separate Parentmail that will be issued and book and pay ONLINE for Christmas lunch by Friday 7th 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.

All children can wear a Christmas Jumper for Christmas Dinner with their usual school uniform.



Term Dates 2018- 2019

Term 1

(Mon 3rd September 2018 CLOSED -INSET) Open Tues 4th Sept for KS1 and KS2 Wed 5th Sept 2018 for new Reception to Fri 26th October

Term 2

Mon 5th Nov to Fri 21st Dec

Term 3

Mon 7^{th} Jan 2019 to Thurs 14^{th} Feb 2019 (Fri 15^{th} closed for INSET)

Term 4

Mon 25th Feb to Fri 5th April 2019

Term 5

Wed 24th April to Fri 24th May 2019 (Tues 23rd INSET)

Term 6

Mon 3rd June to Fri 19th July 2019 (22nd, 23rd INSET) School will close for all BANK Holidays as normal.



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 you 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. Thank you



School Uniform.

Polo Shirts: These can either be plain white or dark purple in colour. **Shoes:** Children need to have BLACK SCHOOL SHOES for school. NO TRAINERS! Thank you.

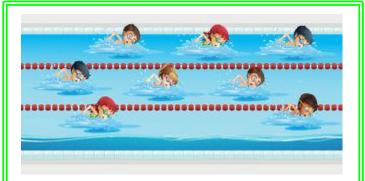
PLEASE NOTE BLACK JEANS, LEGGINGS AND HOODED PURPLE TOPS ARE NOT SCHOOL UNIFORM AND MUST NOT BE WORN IN SCHOOL.

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. 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. The only exception to this is in Y6 where pupils are getting ready for using their own pencil cases and equipment in secondary school.

NO TOYS OR GAMES ARE ALLOWED IN SCHOOL.



Swimming Report: The November Percy Smith Gala showed great improvement on our behalf. Children from across the school competed in both individual as well as team races. Successful debuts were made and places cemented. The atmosphere was electric and a special mention to Sophie, Iris, Amy and Olivia who all won their respective races. A fantastic time was had by all.



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.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Holidays 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 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 CHILD OUT. YOU CAN STILL BE FINED IF YOU DON'T FILL OUT A FORM.



Governors' Corner. The Curriculum and Standards Committee met to discuss the maths curriculum and how well Times Table Rock stars is going. The government is bringing in a test for Y4 to check they know ALL their times tables and we hope practising on TTR will help them. Governors also reviewed data for different groups in school. Please note individual children are not identified in these meetings. The outcomes and progress of children across the school is generally very good. Where there are issues staff were able to report the interventions and support in place.



Dinner money
accounts: Please can
we remind you that the
cost of school dinners
increased to £2.10 with
effect from 5th
November 2018.

All dinner money accounts must be kept in credit at all times. Automatic reminders will be sent to those accounts that are in arrears. Any accounts that are more than £10.00 in arrears, school policy procedures will be adhered to and an email will be sent asking that a packed lunch be provided until such time as the arrears are cleared in FULL. We will not accept payment for one meal (and provide a meal that day) where there are existing arrears on the account. All arrears must be cleared in full, before a school dinner will be provided.

Christmas Concerts

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



11th Dec 1.40pm YR performance (Robin, Rabbit and Red Panda)

11th Dec 2.30pm Key Stage 1 performance (Octopus, Owl, Otter, Toucan, Tiger and Tamarin)

12th Dec 9.30am YR performance (Robin, Rabbit and Red Panda)

12th Dec 10.30am Key Stage 1 performance (Octopus, Owl, Otter, Toucan, Tiger and Tamarin)

12th Dec 2pm and 6pm Year 4 performance (Flamingo, Fox, Falcon). The 6pm performance ONLY is open to all ages. **13th Dec** 9.30am Key Stage 1 performance (Octopus, Owl, Otter, Toucan, Tiger and Tamarin)

Christmas Concert- Y4-Y6 musicians at St Cuthbert's Church- 19th 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.

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.





In-house Christmas
Production: Please
remember Years 1, 2 3
and 4 will be watching
the Christmas
Production of Aladdin

on Tuesday 4th December. Please can we remind parents to pay your £3.00 contribution online via ParentMail, if you haven't done so already.

The visit to the Tobacco Factory in order to see their Christmas Production of 'The Borrowers' (for our Year 5 and Year 6 children) has now all been finalised, tickets have been purchased and ice-creams are in the process of being ordered.

Yours sincerely

Ms Kate Slatcher









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