

Dear Parents and Carers,



Please note that due to the coronation of King Charles III there will be an extra Bank Holiday next year. Schools will be closed on Monday 8th May 2023. As this was already designated as Y6 SATs week we have been informed that the SATs will now run from Tuesday 9th to Friday 12th May 2023. It is important that Y6 pupils are in school that week so please do NOT book holidays following this Bank Holiday! Thank you.

Last day of this term is Friday 16th December 2022.
Pupils start back on Wednesday 4th January 2023 (Closed for INSET on 3.1.23)



Friends' Events:

What a fabulous Christmas Fayre we had! Thank you to the Friends for organising this event and to everyone who turned out to support.

KS2 Children's Shopping Day- 9th 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.

Thank you.



The Friends have been busy making up the donations for the Hamper Raffle and tickets are on sale online (using the link below).

<https://raffall.com/.../enter-affle-to-win-christmas...>

The draw is on 12th December and you will be notified if you are a winner. Good luck!
Thank you for your £1 donations. We raised £260.50 for Children in Need Day.



Nurture, Inspire, Achieve



WAS YOUR CHILD BORN BETWEEN 1st SEPTEMBER 2018 AND 31st AUGUST 2019?

If they were, you need to be applying for a school place for September 2023 by 15.1.23. Last tour of the infant site for prospective parents looking for a Reception place for **September 2023 is 5.1.23 at 9.10am.**

Tours must be booked by phoning the office on 01173772381.

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.



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 16th December 2022.

We are due to pay our next interim payment to the Centre and can only do this once all these payments have been received.
Many Thanks.

Christmas Parties: Tuesday 13th December



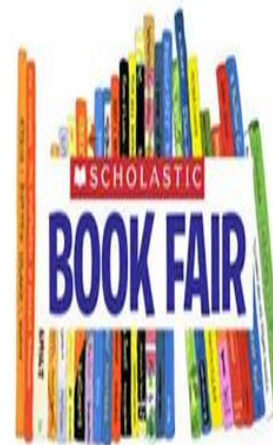
Party Food

Reception to Y4 will cook/prepare their party food and will NOT need any party food brought in on the day.

Unfortunately, there is not enough equipment or space for everyone in KS2 to cook before the party, therefore for some festive fun, Y5 will provide a biscuit to ice and decorate and Y6 will provide a cupcake to ice and decorate on the morning of the party.

This means, Y5 and Y6 children ONLY will need to bring in their own plate of party food from home on Tuesday 13th December. This can be a named covered plate or a named sealable container with party treats just for your child.

All children need to wear normal school uniform on this occasion but may wear Christmas hats and accessories.



Thank you to everyone who supported the **Scholastic Book Fayre** on the junior site. We raised £321.42 in rewards, which we can use to restock our library. We have been purchasing lots of books that show a diversity of characters and events as part of making the school welcoming to people of all characteristics.

What's Happening

December

1.12.22 Beauty and Beast- Theatre in school
NHS seasonal flu (not covid) nasal vaccines 8th Dec.
Consent forms have been sent to parents
6th and 7th Dec-Christmas Plays (see letter)
KS2 Children's Shopping Day 9th Dec
12th Dec Christmas hamper raffle draw
13th Dec Christmas parties
15th Dec Y4-Y6 musicians and choir Christmas Concert at St Cuthbert's Church, 6.30pm
Last day of term Friday 16th December

January

Y5 and Y6 panto visit to the Tobacco Factory.



Parking near school considerably.

We have received a complaint from one of our school neighbours regarding parents and carers parking over their

drive way, both at school drop off and pick up times. This has subsequently made them late to drop off/pick up their own children, as they are unable to get their car off their drive.

Please can we ask our parents/carers who drive their children to school, to be mindful of where you park and leave your car each day and to respect our neighbours and their property. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.



To Amy H in year 3 for winning the Christmas Bauble competition and getting to put on the Christmas Lights on Sandy Park Road.

Well done to the choir for your fabulous singing on Saturday 26th November at the switching on of the lights.



SMSA vacancy

Holymead Primary School is actively looking to recruit an SMSA to supervise the children at lunch times. Our SMSAs are integral members of staff and are highly valued. If you are interested or know someone who may be interested but is not necessarily connected to the school, please ask for further details and an application form from Mrs Holland, via the school office.

Thank you.



Governors' Corner

Holymead Primary School has a vacancy for a co-opted governor. This position is open to parents or carers and wider members of the community. If you are interested in being a governor and have the following skills: Health and Safety, Finance, Safeguarding. Please see the advert on parentmail and email Jessica Coggins, chair of governors, via office@holymeadprimary.co.uk



Term Dates

2022-2023

Re-opens Tues 1st November- 16th December 2022

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.



e-Safety corner

For Parents - Setting Up Devices

With Christmas fast approaching some children will be getting new or upgraded devices, older devices may be handed to younger children. This is an ideal time to get information about the importance of setting up devices with parental controls in relation to the age of the child. Internet Matters covers all devices with very simple, easy-to-understand parental guides which you can find it here: <https://www.internetmatters.org/childrens-online-safety-this-festive-season/>

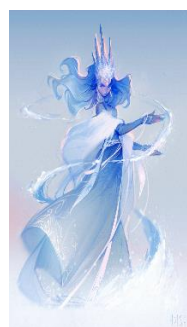
Amazing Games Guide for Parents

As we head towards the winter holidays, children will be asking for new games, but this can be a confusing minefield for parents. Internet Matters have put a lovely guide together which will help parents make decisions, including age-specific games in which families can play together. You can find the guide here: <https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/online-gaming-advice/amazing-video-games-guide-for-families/>



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 Snow Queen. Our Year 5 and Year 6 children have been given the opportunity to watch The Snow Queen at the Tobacco Factory on Wednesday 11th January 2023. If you would like your child to attend, please pay via ParentMail before **2nd December**. Thank you.



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.



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 your 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



Well done to the Chartwell staff in the junior kitchen, who had a visit from Environmental Health last week. Our kitchen was awarded a 5 Star rating, which is amazing news. Thank you ladies for all your hard work in achieving this award.



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.



Christmas Carol Service 2nd December-

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 2nd 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 inside the church.

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 in school.



Spanish Spelling Bee

Spanish Spelling Bee

This term, we held our first ever Spanish Bee! Well done to everyone who participated. We were so impressed with your memory skills and pronunciation.

Here are the results:

Year 5 Winner - Elsie B

Year 5 Runner-up - Leila F

Year 6 Winner – Alice R

Year 6 Runner- up - Olivia W

All four children will now be entered into the regional round! We wish them the best of luck!

Christmas Concerts

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



6th Dec 9.20am Y2 performance (Toucan, Tiger and Tamarin),

6th Dec 10.45am YR (Robin, Rabbit and Red Panda) and

6th Dec 2.15pm Y1 (Octopus, Owl, Otter)

7th Dec 9.20am YR performance (Robin, Rabbit and Red Panda)

7th Dec 10.45am Y1 performance (Octopus, Owl, Otter)

7th Dec 2.15pm Y2 (Toucan, Tiger and Tamarin)

Please note the Reception, Y1 and Y2 performances are NOT suitable for pre-school children as the children have worked hard to learn their parts and their voices are very quiet. We will run a crèche.

6th Dec 2pm and 6pm Year 4 performance (Flamingo, Fox, Falcon). The 6pm performance only is open to all ages. The 2pm is open for pre-schoolers but not younger siblings of school age as they need to stay in class.

Christmas Concert- Y4-Y6 musicians and choir at St Cuthbert's Church- **15th December, at 6.30pm** - all ages welcome.

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.



KS1 – Thursday 15th December

KS2 – Friday 16th December

Please can junior parents make sure they read the separate Parentmail coming soon and book and pay ONLINE for Christmas lunch by Friday 9th 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/accessories for Christmas Dinner with their usual school uniform.

Yours sincerely
Ms Kate Slatcher



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

Holymead Primary (Infant Site)
Hollywood Road, Brislington, Bristol BS4 4LE.
T: 0117 3772381–F: 0117 3772382
E:office@holymeadprimary.co.uk
www.holymeadp.bristol.sch.uk

Holymead Primary (Junior Site)
Wick Road, Brislington, Bristol, BS4 4HB
T: 0117 9030377-F: 0117 9030378
E:office@holymeadprimary.co.uk
www.holymeadp.bristol.sch.uk

RRS winning

Logos

