

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please note the two Bank holidays when the school will be closed on 1st and 8th May. Around this time the children will be learning about King Charles III Coronation.



All the children will be given a small gift to commemorate the event. We'd like to keep this a surprise for the children.

If you would like further details about this event or would like to help out during the week, please speak to your class teacher directly.

Supporting your child to use

Timestable Rockstars and Numbots

Following on from the success of inviting parents and carers in to work alongside their children on TTRs; we are pleased to be able to invite parents and carers in for further sessions on TTRs and Numbots;



21.4.23 at 2.45pm for Otter

28.4.23 at 2.45pm for Owl

5.5.23 at 2.45pm for Octopus



Class Assemblies-

Tamarin- Friday 28th April- infant hall 9.00am

Otter- Friday 5th May- infant hall 9.00am

Tree-frog- Tuesday 23rd May - middle hall 2.45pm

Firefire Tuesday 23rd May - upper hall 2.45pm

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. Thank you.



Parent's Evening

Parents' Evenings

It was lovely to see so many people at Parents' Evening last term. If you didn't manage to see your teacher, please ring the school to arrange a mutually convenient date.



NEU

As you may be aware from the national news, teachers in several unions have rejected the government's pay offer and we are therefore anticipating further strike action. **As we have many teachers in the NEU it is likely that the school will be fully closed on: 27th April and 2nd May 2023. Further dates will be announced if the strike continues into Term 6.**

We will keep you updated of any changes and confirm these closures nearer the time. Teachers are aware of the difficulties these strikes cause parents and are very grateful for your patience at this time.



Staff News

Mrs Bell will return to work after her maternity leave on 12.7.23. Miss Robb will stay with Turtle Class until the end of the academic year.

Mrs Bell will then work as a part- time teacher from September.

We are delighted that Miss Robb and Miss Robbins (in YR) who joined us as temporary teachers, will be staying with us as permanent full- time teachers now.

Mrs Milton, LSA, will also return from maternity leave at the end of July and will be part- time from September.



Y4 and Y5 Mendip Trip

In previous years, we have run camps for Y4, Y5 and Y6. Following parental concerns about the cost of camps, we dropped the Y4 and Y5 camp and offered a day's adventure outing instead. This has been widely welcomed, so due to the cost of living rises we are sticking with the Mendip Activity Centre day out for Y4 and Y5 and the residential camp for Y6- as we feel this is a great primary school rite of passage.

The Mendip Day for Y5 will be in May and for Y4 is in June. Please can we remind you that the year 5 trip must be paid in full by 5th May and the year 4 trip by 5th June 2023. Thank you.

Spelling Bee

Congratulations to the following winners and runners up in the Spelling Bee:

Year 1: Bessie in Octopus

Year 2: Ivy in Toucan

Year 3: Isla in Tawny Owl

Year 4: Lylah in Falcon

Year 5: Fred in Firecrest

Year 6 will be completing their Spelling Bee after SATs



Forward Planning



The Y6 SATs tests will be administered from 9th May.

The Year 1 Phonics Check is w/b 12th June.

The Y4 Multiplication Time table Check is 5th- 16th June.

The Y2 SATs test will be administered during the month of May.

It is therefore essential that Year 6, Year 1, Year 4 and Year 2 children are in school during these weeks so any requests for holiday/leave of absence during this week will not be authorised. If you need to attend a funeral or have an unexpected emergency during this week please see the Head teacher or ring school immediately.

Thank you.



Behaviour, Equal Opportunities and Anti-Bullying Policies (See attached)

Whilst racist, homophobic and disablist bullying are rare at Holymead, we do still have to deal with some instances and every incident brings hurt to those on the receiving end. In response to these incidents, we have reviewed our policies to try and get across the message to everyone that any form of discrimination is unacceptable. Please read the Behaviour, Equal Opportunities and Anti-bullying policies attached, in particular the bits in red which show the action we will be taking if there is a discriminatory incident. Children who repeatedly or knowingly abuse others may have to work in the Link or library by themselves (supervised). This is known as internal suspension or seclusion and is an internal way of managing behaviour. It is not a formal suspension/exclusion. However, please note, repeat incidents or any severe incidents can also lead to formal suspension/exclusion. We will inform both sets of parents/carers and work with them. We expect parents/carers to engage with us to discuss the impact of these incidents on children and their families, and to improve future behaviour. We have spoken to the children and told them that it is not acceptable to use racist/homophobic/disablist or other discriminatory words and explained what the consequences will be if they do.

Please see the attached policies for details.



Friends' News

The next Friends' meeting is at drop off at the infants on 21.4.23. Everyone is welcome, including pre-schoolers. Please come and sign in at the office. Come and get involved in fund-raising and organising fun activities for the children.

The Summer Fayre returns on 1st July 2-4pm and we need lots of volunteers to make it a success. Thank you.



Term Dates 2022-2023

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.



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.

School Uniform

Hopefully we will be having some warm weather this term so here is a reminder of the summer uniform.



Summer Uniform- summer dresses are purple or blue check. NO pink, yellow or any other colours. Pupils may wear **black or grey** school shorts.

Casual/sports shorts are **not** suitable for school wear, except on PE days.

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.

Please remember hair styles and accessories should be sensible and conducive to learning. Small bows and headbands are acceptable, large or sparkly ones get in the way and are distracting to others.



The Railway Children 17.5.23

We have managed to re-book the theatre for Y3-Y6 to enjoy on 17th May.

We are asking parents to contribute £3.00 per child towards the cost of running the two productions. The school will pay any further outstanding balance. The payment has been added to ParentMail. Please can we ask that all money is received by Monday 15th May. Thank you.



YEAR 6 LEAVERS' HOODIES

Please can we ask our Year 6 parents, that if you would like to order a Leaver's Hoody for your child, all orders and payments must be received by 26.4.23. No orders will be accepted after this date.

Please can we remind those that have placed an order, to send back the reply slip attached to the original letter sent, advising us of the size of hoodie that you require to purchase. Payment must be made in order for a hoodie to be ordered.

Thank you.

What's Happening

April

Y6 Camp at Croft Farm
 22.4.23 STAGES Dance with Mrs Thomas
 Y4 trip to Caerleon
 Y2 author visit
 22nd April STAGES dance at Trinity Academy
 Y3 Hindu Temple visit
 YR Health Screening checks- NHS will contact parents for permission beforehand

May

Y3 Science Day 2.5.23
 Y5 Nightingale Valley Pilgrimage
 YR Encounter Christianity
 Y2 SS Great Britain
 YR library visits



Book Fayre on both sites.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Book Fayre. We will let you know how much we have raised, once all the sales have been reconciled accordingly.



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.



Governors' Corner

The Governors have put out an advert and application pack together to recruit a new Head teacher for Holymead Primary School. I will update you on how it goes.

At the FGB meeting, Governors welcomed a new co-opted Governor, Astrid Jenkinson. As a parent, Astrid is keen to be involved in the school at this exciting time of change. At the FGB Governors agreed the financial outturn for last year and the new 5-year budget.

Burger ALL STARS

18th MAY '23

MAINS

Burger in a bun
 Halal Burger in a Bun
 Quorn Hot Dog

SIDES

Chips, Sweetcorn and Baked Beans

DESSERTS

Honey Cookie

ALL-TIME GREATS FROM THE UNITED STATES

CELEBRATE THE KING'S CORONATION

4TH MAY 2023

SANDWICHES

Tuna, Cheese or Egg Sandwich

SIDES

Potato Wedges
 Garlic Dough Balls
 Carrot and Cucumber Batons

DESSERTS

Victoria Sponge Cake

Yours sincerely
Ms Kate Slatcher



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

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RRS winning

Logos

