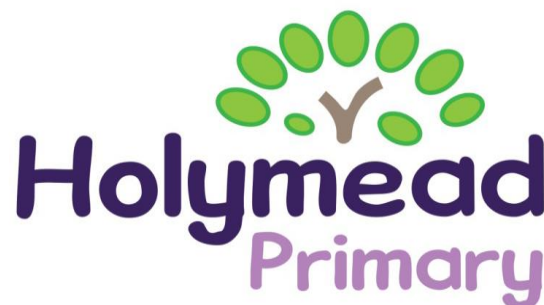


Dear Parents/Carers

Please note! Miss Elston's parents' evening is TONIGHT 5th December.



There are lots of events for your calendar in the lead up to Christmas. Please see the end of the newsletter for information regarding plays, pantomimes and concerts.



Nurture, Inspire, Achieve

What's Happening

2nd Dec Y1-Y4 panto- in school, £3 donation please

6th Dec Whole School Carol Concert

Y5/6 Tobacco Factory Panto

11th Dec Y6 Camp Meeting- Salamander

KS2 Children's Shopping Day 13th Dec

16th Dec Christmas hamper raffle draw

17th Dec Christmas parties

18th Dec Y4-Y6 musicians Christmas Concert at St Cuthbert's Church, 7pm

Last day of term THURSDAY 19th December (Friday 20th school closed for INSET)



Christmas Concert: December 18th at St Cuthbert's Church:

The following children are performing – Y4, Y5 & Y6 choir, Y4, Y5 & Y6 recorders, Instrumentalists including guitar/keyboard/woodwind/violin players. Recorder players should have music and instruments in school every day from now until the concert. Other instrumentalists will be rehearsing before the concert and should come suitably prepared.

The concert starts at 7.00 pm. Children should arrive by 6.30pm to have instruments tuned. School uniform should be worn. The concert should last about an hour.



Children in Need Day 15th November – it was great to see so many children wearing Pudsey ears and spotty accessories to support Children in Need on Friday. We raised £242.62. Thank you!

Update

Y1 Owl Class Staff News

I am writing to inform you that Mrs Taylor will be leaving us at the end of term. Mrs Taylor has been a wonderful teacher and we are sad to say good-bye. She is going to spend more time with her young family. Hopefully we will still see Mrs Taylor from time to time working for us on supply. I am sure you will want to join me in wishing Mrs Taylor all the best for the future.

Coincidentally, we are very lucky to have Mrs Hunt, an experienced Y1 teacher, returning from maternity leave at the end of this term and she will be working 3 days a week in Owl Class with Mrs Perry. From January Mrs Perry will work Monday to Wednesday and Mrs Hunt will work Wednesday to Friday. As Mrs Taylor and Mrs Hunt are planning the handover before Christmas I am sure this will run smoothly. However, if you have any concerns about your child, please see Mrs Head or myself.



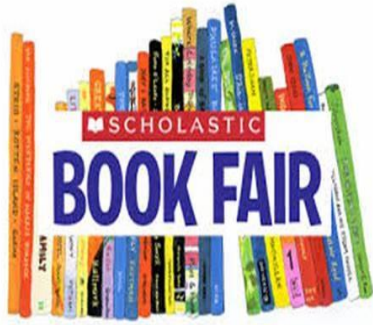
Adverse Weather and possible School Closure.

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.



Thank you to everyone who came and purchased books at the Scholastic Book Fayres. We raised £832.04 at the KS1 book fayre and £856.65 at the KS2 book fayre.



Rights Action Group

On the 28th November, KS2 children came back to school in their pyjamas to watch Toy Story 4. The children (and adults) had great fun. We raised £553.82 for The Child of Hope - a charity that provides education for children in Uganda. The children have had a visit from a teacher from the school to see how the school compares to our own. This is part of the school's work as a gold standard UNICEF Rights' Respecting School. Thank you to Miss Elston and the RAG group for organising the evening and to everyone for their support in making this such a fun event.



Governors' Corner. The Health and Safety governors met last week to do a walkabout on the infant site. They checked the Premises Log Book to see that all the safety checks that need doing are done such as Legionella water checks.

We now have a parent vacancy on the governing body and are seeking interest from parents. Please see details as they come out. This is an essential role to the smooth running of the school. If you feel you have the skills required, for example finance, HR, Health and Safety or education either from work or voluntary work then please come and have an informal chat with myself (Ms Slatcher) or Mrs Buckley (SBM) about what the role entails. Thank you.



Parking Reminder!

Please don't park on the zig-zags outside either site. They are there to try and keep children safe. Some parents are endangering lives by parking on the zig-zags. Please find a safe place to park away from the busy entrances. Thank you.



A BIG THANK YOU to the Friends' group for organising such an amazing Christmas Shopping Night last Friday and thank you to everyone who came to support the event and helped create such a lovely happy atmosphere.

The draw for the Hamper Raffle will be on 16th December and the school will be in touch with winners to collect their hampers soon after that.

Friends' Events:

KS2 Children's Shopping Day- 13th 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.



Friends Christmas Fundraiser.

Christmas cards, thank you cards, mugs, gift tag and value packs. The order has been sent off and the return of items ordered, is approximately 2 weeks. As soon as the order is received, we will send them home with the children. 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



There is a Festival of Angels being held at St Cuthbert's Church on Sandy Park Road. The opening times are -

Saturday 14th December – 10.00am until 5.00pm
Sunday 15th December – 12.00pm until 5.00pm

Admission is free and there is a programme of live musical entertainment on both the Saturday and again on Sunday afternoon. Local choirs and musicians are kindly giving their time to entertain. The church will also be serving refreshments in the Crypt room below the church. Tea/coffee and mince pies in the morning, homemade soup and rolls between 12 and 2pm and tea/coffee and cakes in the afternoon.

Our Year 4 children have made decorations this year. The children have really enjoyed using wire and beads to sculpt their own designs. They are beautiful.

Parents are invited to come and view a selection of these lovely angel sculptures over the weekend. Please pop along and have a look.



School Prospectus

School Prospectus.

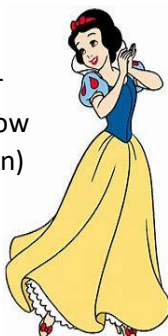
Please note the school prospectus which is available on our website states: 'Make-up should not be worn and hairstyles should be sensible and appropriate for school e.g. not unnatural colours or shocking styles'. Jewellery should not be worn in school (except small pierced ear rings).

There are some exceptions-please see the prospectus or talk to the head teacher. Thank you.



In-house Christmas Production: Please note Years 1, 2, 3 and 4 will be watching the Christmas Production of Robin Hood on Monday 2nd December. Please can parents pay their £3.00 contribution online via ParentMail. We will arrange an activity for YR later in the year.

The visit to the **Tobacco Factory** in order to see their Christmas Production of 'Snow White' (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. Thank you.



Reminder

Please do not send any cakes or sweets 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 food for consumption in school. If you feel you really must send something then a packet of plain biscuits with clearly labelled ingredients would be best so these can be given out on the way out of school and parents can check them. Thank you.



Parents' Evenings

It was lovely to see so many parents/carers at parents' evenings. If you haven't yet managed to meet your teacher please ring the school to arrange a mutually convenient time to meet. 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 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.



Christmas Parties

These are taking place across the school on Tuesday 17th December. Children need to wear normal school uniform.

Reception to Y4 will be cooking their party food themselves so we ask that parent/carers send £2 to cover the cost of ingredients rather than spending this on food contributions.

Y5 and Y6 are being asked to bring in party food with minimum waste packaging. Each year we are trying to get more children involved in the creation of their own party food.

If your child has a special diet eg for religious reasons or for allergies, parents may send a separate covered plate of food just for their child. Please name the plate clearly.



Christmas Carol Service 6th 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 6th 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 in school.



TERM DATES

Term Dates 2019- 2020

Term 1

(INSET 2nd, 3rd Sept.)

Wed 4th Sept- school year starts for KS1 and KS2 (new Y1 to Y6)

Thurs 5th Sept- New intake Reception start.

Fri 25th October- last day of Term 1.

Term 2

Mon 4th Nov- Thurs 19th Dec 2019 (INSET 20th Dec)

Term 3

Mon 6th Jan 2020 – Thursday 13th Feb 2020 (INSET 14th Feb)

Term 4

Mon 24th Feb- Fri 3rd April 2020

Term 5

Mon 20th April- Fri 22nd May 2020

Term 6

Mon 1st June- Friday 17th July 2020 (INSET Mon 20.7.20)

Infants

Wednesday 18th December.

Juniors.

Thursday 19th December-.



Please can junior parents make sure they read the separate Parentmail that has been issued and book and pay ONLINE for Christmas lunch by Friday 6th 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.

An enchanting tale of a doll that comes to life- a delightful production to charm audiences of all ages.

Coppélia

Bristol Russian Ballet School and Youth Ballet presents

2nd February 2020 . 4pm | THE PLAYHOUSE | Weston Super Mare The Playhouse

Ticket price : Adult £18.50 / Child £15.50 (including booking fee)
 Discount available for the Friend of the Playhouse. Family tickets also available.
 BOX Office : 01934 645544 / www.parkwoodtheatres.co.uk/Playhouse-Theatre
 Bristol Russian Ballet School : www.bristolrussianballetschool.com

Christmas Concerts

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



10th Dec 9.30am Key Stage 1 performance (Octopus, Owl, Otter, Toucan, Tiger and Tamarin)

10th Dec 1.40pm YR performance (Robin, Rabbit and Red Panda)

10th Dec 2.30pm Key Stage 1 performance (Octopus, Owl, Otter, Toucan, Tiger and Tamarin)

11th Dec 9.30am YR performance (Robin, Rabbit and Red Panda)

11th Dec 10.30am Key Stage 1 performance (Octopus, Owl, Otter, Toucan, Tiger and Tamarin)

11th Dec 2pm and 6pm Year 4 performance (Flamingo, Fox, Falcon). The 6pm performance only is open to all ages. The 2pm is not for pre-schoolers.

Christmas Concert- Y4-Y6 musicians at St Cuthbert's Church- **18th 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.

Yours sincerely
Ms Kate Slatcher



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

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