



Holy Cross RC Primary School

Newsletter – 05/12/2025

Important message:

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have two festive dates coming up and would love the children to join in the fun by wearing their Christmas jumpers!

🎄 **Friday, 12th December** – Children are invited to wear their Christmas jumpers for the Talent Show.

🎄 **Wednesday, 17th December** – Children can wear their Christmas jumpers again for our Christmas Lunch.

We look forward to celebrating the season together!

This week:

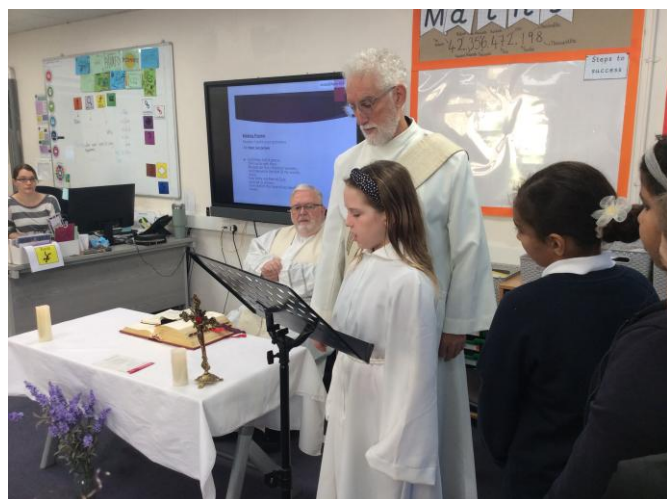
On Monday both Year 5 and 6 were lucky enough to watch a special Liquid Nitrogen Show put on by Badminton School. We were all amazed by the different experiments they showed us and some of us even got to volunteer in the investigations. What an inspiring morning!



Reception had a great day going to the post office to send their letter to Santa. We used our knowledge of road safety to walk sensibly and enjoyed looking at the features inside the post office. Hopefully, Santa will write back!



On Wednesday year 5 and 6 began the morning reflecting the gospel message of the second Sunday of advent and the work of Saint Francis Xavier. They were praised for the beautiful singing and thoughtful responses by both Father Micheal and Deacon Paul.



Admissions:

The deadline for submitting Reception class applications for next September is closed.

Please speak to Miss Sims if you need support in submitting a late application.

Please spread the word about our school with your neighbours and friends! We have spaces in some classes if you know anyone who has moved into the area or looking for a new school. If you are able to put a flyer up in your window, please ask Miss Sims for one. Anyone is able to call the office and organise a visit.

Holy Cross RC Primary School

At Holy Cross everyone is warmly welcome



Be part of our small, diverse, nurturing school with lots of outdoor space where the focus is on safe, happy children who are valued and make good progress.

If you are still deciding on the best school for your family, please visit Holy Cross RC Primary

Rated **Good** by Ofsted

Wrap-around care from 8.00am - 5.30pm

Please contact the school office for more information on

0117 377 2199

email: holycross@bristol-schools.uk

To see more of the school please visit www.holycross.bristol.sch.uk

Term Dates 2025 - 2026 -

<u>Term Dates:</u> Inset days (no school):	Tuesday 2 nd September Monday 3rd November Monday 5 th January Monday 23 rd February Wednesday 22 nd July
Term 1:	Tuesday 2 nd September – Friday 24 th October
Term 2:	Monday 3 rd November – Friday 19 th December
Term 3:	Monday 5 th January – Friday 13 th February
Term 4:	Monday 23 rd February – Thursday 2 nd April
Term 5:	Monday 20 th April – Friday 22 nd May (Bank holiday on Monday 4 th May)
Term 6:	Monday 1 st June – Wednesday 22 nd July

Attendance update:

Throughout this academic year, Mrs Kingston and Miss Sims will be working with parents to improve attendance and support any families who need it. Please speak to Miss Sims if you would like to arrange a meeting to discuss any worries you may have.

if you need to request a leave form, please speak to Miss Sims and she will support with this. All parents need to do this in advance of the leave and need to give as much detail as possible so we can code the absence correctly. If you have 10 sessions (5 day) of unauthorised leave within a 10-week period, you will receive a penalty notice. Please see the following page on the new law for attendance.

We would like to remind parents that children are expected to attend school each day unless they are too unwell. Please use this link from the NHS: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>. Also, there are times when children will be absent from school for an exceptional circumstance. Parents need to inform the school prior to the absence and complete a leave of absence form which is available at the school office and on the school website. Please remember to phone the school office if your child is going to be absent, do not use Class Dojo. If we do not hear from you, we will ring you and then may also make a home visit if we are unable to contact you.

Thank you to those who arrive on time. Remember, children can go straight to class from 8:45am or attend breakfast club from 8am if necessary. If we receive pupil premium funding for your child then breakfast club is free. If your child is constantly late to school this can affect their self-esteem and they could be missing out on valuable reading, phonics or Maths activities and interventions. When your child is absent from school, please ensure you have contacted the school office rather than teachers or Mrs Kingston. If your child is later than 9.30am this is classed as an absence and will be unauthorised. Please see the next page for some more information on unauthorised absences.

Class	Yearly Attendance	This week's attendance	Late sessions this week
Reception	91.2%	83.2%	10
Year 1	92.8%	93.1%	8
Year 2	92.6%	90.4%	10
Year 3	92.4%	83.9%	9
Year 4	91.3%	86.0%	18
Year 5	94.4%	97.1%	18
Year 6	93.7%	85.6%	16
Total	89.8%	88.6%	62

As Year 5 class have got the highest attendance they will receive a non-uniform day on Monday 15th December. Well done Year 5 Class!

School Attendance: The law is changing

From 19th August 2024



Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance are changing

The government is introducing a new National Framework for Penalty Notices

5 days of unauthorised absence

Penalty Notice fines may be issued for any term-time absences that are unauthorised (for example, a 5-day term-time holiday) - whether these absences are taken consecutively or cumulatively over a rolling period of 10 school weeks

10 sessions of unauthorised absence in any 10-week period

Penalty Notice fines will also be considered when there have been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in any rolling period of 10 school weeks

**A school day has 2 sessions:
1 morning and 1 afternoon session per day**

A **school week** means any week in which there is at least one school session. The threshold can be met with any combination of unauthorised absence (e.g. 6 sessions of holiday plus 4 sessions of arriving late after the register closes all within 10 school weeks). These sessions can be consecutive (e.g. 10 sessions of holiday in one week) or not (e.g. 6 sessions of unauthorised absence taken in 1 week and 1 per week for the next 4 weeks). The period of 10 school weeks can also span different terms or school years (e.g. 2 sessions of unauthorised absence in the Summer Term and a further 8 within the Autumn Term).

What is a Penalty Notice?

A Penalty Notice is an out of court settlement which is intended to change behaviour without the need for criminal prosecution. If repeated penalty notices are being issued and they are not working to change behaviour they are unlikely to be most appropriate tool. Therefore, from August 2024, only 2 Penalty Notices can be issued to the same parent in respect of the same child within a 3-year rolling period and any second Penalty Notice within that period is charged at a higher rate. Any further offences may result in criminal prosecution.

The law will be clear that where a Penalty Notice threshold is met – in each individual case, the school **must** consider if a Penalty Notice is appropriate

First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for a Term-Time Leave of Absence or irregular attendance, the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child (if paid within 28 days)

Reduced to: **£80** per parent, per child if paid within 21 days

Second Offence (in a 3-year rolling period)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for a Term-Time Leave of Absence or irregular attendance to the **same parent** for the **same child** the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child (if paid within 28 days)

There is no reduction in the amount.

Third Offence or Any Further Offences (in a 3-year rolling period)

The third time an offence is committed for a Term-Time Leave of Absence or irregular attendance by the **same parent** for the **same child** (including those by other Local Authorities) a Penalty Notice will NOT be issued but will be referred to Bristol City Council's Education Welfare service for **Prosecution** which may result in fines of upto **£2,500** per parent, per child.

Cases found guilty in a Magistrate's Court can show on a parent's future DBS certificate.

Bristol City Council have the discretion to issue Penalty Notice fines before the above threshold is met in cases where parents are deliberately avoiding the national threshold by taking several term time holidays below the threshold, or for repeated absences for birthdays or other family events.

Unchanged

Penalty Notice fines are issued **Per Parent, Per child**. This means that fines are issued to each parent, for each child who is absent. For example: If 2 siblings are absent for a term-time holiday this will result in each parent receiving 2 separate fines.

Important Dates:

Term 2

Monday 3rd November	Inset Day
Friday 7 th October	Whole school Mass: Saints National Child Measurement Programme Y6
Week Commencing 10 th November	Anti-bulling week
Tuesday 11 th November	Y2 Fire visit
Friday 14 th November	Y4 Class Assembly
Tuesday 18 th November	Y3 Cheddar trip
Thursday 20 th November	Y4 Anglo Saxon/Viking Workshop
Friday 21 st November	Y3 class assembly
Wednesday 26 th November	Y6 Air Raid and Mshed Visit
Thursday 27 th November	Y4 Saxon workshop at MShed
Monday 1 st December	Y5 Y6 Liquid nitrogen show
Tuesday 2 nd December	Reception Class Post office trip 9:30-10:30
Wednesday 3 rd December	Y5/Y6 Class Mass
Friday 5 th December	Christmas Disco
Monday 8 th December	KS2 winter sing
Tuesday 9 th December	Y1 and Y2 winter sing at the Spiegel tent
Wednesday 10 th December	KS2 Choir rehearsals Bristol Beacon
Thursday 11 th December	Reception extended play and stay 9-10
Friday 12 th December	KS2 Talent show 9:00-11:30 Plus Christmas Jumper
Monday 15 th December	KS2 choir visit to Osborne Court Care Home
Tuesday 16 th December	Panto- Red Riding Hood
Wednesday 17 th December	Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 18 th December	Nativity 2-3 pm
Friday 19 th December	Carol Service 2-3 pm
Friday 19 th December	END OF TERM 2
	No afterschool clubs are running on last day of Term 2

Arbor:

All parents have been sent an email to sign up for Arbor. It is essential that all parents have the app as this is how we will be sending out messages, booking clubs and paying for trips etc. If you do not have the app you will not receive the messages. If you need support with downloading it please speak to Miss Sims.

Term dates for next academic year:

<u>Term Dates:</u> Inset days (no school):	Tuesday 2 nd September Monday 3 rd November Monday 5 th January Monday 23 rd February Wednesday 22 nd July
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Timetable for Term 2 Teacher Clubs: All Clubs finish at 4:15 pm.

Monday	Adult in charge	Age	Spaces	Price per week
TT Rockstars	Mrs Ormsby	Years 3-6	30	No charge
Choir Club	Miss Lugg	Selected children	20	No charge
Football Team	Mrs Ockwell	Selected children	15	No charge
Tuesday				
Makaton	Miss Bird/Miss Martin	All children	25	No charge
Film club	Mrs Douglas	All children	20	No charge
Thursday				
Christmas/Winter craft club	Mr Adams	Years 2-3	15	No charge
French Club	Miss King	All children	25	No charge

Sports and Wrap Around for Term 2

Wrap around care can now be booked on the school app with the following sessions:

Session 1 – 3.15pm – 4.15 pm costing £3

Children can choose to stay in our after school club room or take part in the following sports:

Monday	Adult in charge	Age	Spaces	Price per week
Multisports	Mr Smart	All Children	20	£3 per session
Tuesday				
Dodgeball	Mr Smart	All children	20	£3 per session
Wednesday				
Multisports	Mr Smart	All children	20	£3 per session
Thursday				
KS1 football	Mr Smart	KS1	20	£3 per session
Friday				
KS2 football	Mr Smart	KS2	20	£3 per session

These sessions need to be book in the app. You choose Session 1 ASC and choose the day required for the sport you would like to select.

Session 2 – 4.15pm – 5.30pm costing £4 (with food)

All of these sessions need to be booked and paid for in advance through the school app (School Gateway). Club sessions need to be booked by 12pm of the day of the session.



Christmas and Family Disco

Bring your 50ps for drinks, hot food and snacks.

Also – visit Santa, decorate a Christmas card for older people in our community and much more



Friday 5th December

Time: 17:30-19:30

In the School Hall

EVERYONE WELCOME 😊

Parent carer letter / newsletter text

New online CBT service for local children and young people

The local NHS has launched a new online CBT service, SilverCloud, which offers support for children and young people experiencing low mood and anxiety. Children aged 12-plus can self-refer to the service at feelingmixedup.uk and support is also available for parents of children aged five-plus.

The service is a part of a range of local wellbeing support for children and young people that also includes Kooth and Off The Record. You can find out more about these services in the *Directory of Mental Health and Wellbeing Services for Children and Young People* for your area, available on the local NHS website at <https://bnssghealthiertogether.org.uk/mental-health/children-and-young-peoples-emotional-health-and-wellbeing/>

Please be aware that the school also has a dedicated mental health support team which can provide direct face-to-face support for your child if needed. Please contact the school directly if you feel this support would be helpful.



Christmas
Challenge

BigGive

DOUBLE YOUR
DONATION

FOR ONE WEEK ONLY!

YOU DONATE

£10

=

WE RECEIVE

£20



DONATE HERE



VATTENFALL

DANDARA
LIVING

REED FOUNDATION

ONE DONATION, TWICE THE IMPACT

Free online & in person support sessions

Peer Support
Greenway Centre
Southmead, BS10
Thurs 13th Nov
9:15AM-10:30AM



Family Voices
St Werburgh's
Community Centre, BS2
Thurs 13th Nov
10AM-12PM



Peer & EBSA Support
Fishponds Old Library
Fishponds, BS16
Thurs 13th Nov
9AM-11AM



EBSA Support
Greenway Centre
Southmead, BS10
Thurs 13th Nov
11AM-12:30PM



Scan here for
details on these
sessions and more



Peer Support
Online
Tues 18th Nov
7PM-8PM



Direct Payments &
Personal Budgets
St Werburgh's, BS2
Weds 19th Nov
10AM-12PM



Peer Support
Inns Court
Knowle, BS4
Thurs 20th Nov
10:30AM-12:30PM



Autism and
Christmas Change
Online
Mon 1st Dec
6:30PM-8:30PM



CHESS CLUB IS BACK!!

FOR CHILDREN AGED 8+
AND THEIR FAMILIES



IF YOU'VE PLAYED BEFORE OR YOU'VE NEVER
TRIED IT,
COME AND JOIN US ON **MONDAYS 4-5PM**
RESTARTING **10TH NOVEMBER UNTIL 8TH
DECEMBER**

AT BEDMINSTER LIBRARY

NO NEED TO BOOK – JUST TURN UP!

Tel: 0117 903 8529 Email: bedminster.library@bristol.gov.uk



Every Tuesday

REDCLIFFE Reading Club

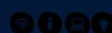
3.30 - 5pm

TheHub*



FREE Reading sessions. A range of children's
books and adults to support reading after school
5 - 11 year-olds. All genders, all abilities.
Just turn up and read!

Redcliffe Community Centre
www.thehubredcliffe.org.uk
4 Waring House, Redcliffe, BS1 6TB



**Bristol
Family
Hubs**

Bristol Parenting Groups

- Are you pregnant or a parent of a 0 - 8 year old?
- Would you like to add ideas and skills to your parenting toolbox?
- Would you like to develop more confidence in your parenting?
- Would you like to understand your child better?

Free
groups for
adults run
by Bristol
Children's
Centres

Scan here
to find out
more and
register your
interest!



Your parenting
toolbox:



For more information please call: **07721 311 497**
or email: psso@bristol.gov.uk

Once you have registered your interest via:
www.bit.ly/BristolParentingGroups we will be in touch to find
the best group option for you.





Free Trial Session and £40 discount at Perform

Popular children's drama and dance school Perform is offering a Free Trial Session and a **special introductory discount of £40 for members of Holy Cross R C Primary** if they sign up by Saturday 24th January 2026. Parents should quote HOLX240126 when they book their free session by going to perform.org.uk/try or calling 020 7255 9120.

You can find out more about the classes at perform.org.uk/try. Alternatively, pdf flyers can be downloaded from [here](#).

The nearest classes to Holy Cross R C Primary are as follows (please click for a map and further details):

Perform Bedminster (Drama for 4-7s)
(0.2 miles)
Tuesdays at 4pm

The Elephant House
1 Dean Street,
BS3 1BG

Perform Bedminster (Drama for 7-12s)
(0.2 miles)
Tuesdays at 5.05pm

The Elephant House
1 Dean Street,
BS3 1BG

Perform Brislington (Drama for 4-7s)
(1.8 miles)
Fridays at 4pm

St Christopher's Church Hall
90 Hampstead Road,
BS4 3HN

Perform Brislington (Drama for 7-12s)
(1.8 miles)
Fridays at 5.05pm

St Christopher's Church Hall
90 Hampstead Road,
BS4 3HN

Perform Clifton (Drama for 4-7s)
(1.8 miles)
Saturdays at 9.30am

Redland Park United Reformed Church
Whiteladies Road,
BS6 6SA

After School Nativity Christingle Service

Friday, 12th December
4-6 pm
St Paul's Church
Southville, BS3 1AS



Join us for craft, making a Christingle and an interactive nativity service where the children can get involved. Then stay for tea after. Please scan to sign up.



<https://forms.gle/6n7QTRJQk17xLLuZ8>



Little Rocks Toddler Group with Christmas Party



Monday 15th December, 10-12pm
Christmas-themed session and party for our 0-5s, stay for lunch
St Paul's Church, Southville, BS3 1AS



SCAN ME



Bristol Parent
Carer Forum
Shaping the Future *Together*

AUTISM AND CHRISTMAS CHANGE

WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS
AND NEURODIVERSE TRAINING



Monday 1st December
6:30pm - 8:30pm

Online

Book here:

<https://bit.ly/43MQZRG>



BEDMINSTER MULTI-SPORTS HOLIDAY CAMP

AGES 4-12
YEARS
OLD

5-12 YEAR OLDS
9AM - 3PM
4 YEAR OLDS
9AM - 1PM
*DROP OFF FROM 8:30AM

**FREE HAF
SPACES
AVAILABLE**



MULTI-SPORTS CAMP

PARSON STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL BS3 5NR

5-12 Year Olds to 3pm

4 Year Olds to 1pm

£22.50 Per Day

£17.50 Per Day

[U-SPORTS.CO.UK/HOLIDAY-CLUBS/BEDMINSTER-SPORTS-CAMP](https://u-sports.co.uk/holiday-clubs/bedminster-sports-camp)

