



Holy Cross RC Primary School

Newsletter – 19/09/2025

Dear Parents,

We kindly ask that you avoid sending your children to school with food from McDonald's or similar fast-food outlets. While convenient, these meals often lack the balanced nutrition needed for growing bodies and can lead to low energy and difficulty concentrating during the school day. Providing children with homemade or healthier alternatives ensures they receive the essential nutrients to support their learning, growth, and overall well-being. Thank you for helping us promote a healthier school environment for all students.

Please make sure all uniform is labelled. If you need any extra uniform, we have lots of good quality second hand uniform. Please ask your child's teacher.

Please make sure you check the dates section at the bottom of the newsletter this week. There are lots of the important dates on there. Others may be added in the coming weeks.

We look forward to working with you to ensure your child has the best opportunities to succeed this year. Please don't hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher if you have any queries. The best way to do this is by contacting them on Class Dojo or booking a meeting through Mrs Fraser.

To aid independence in Year 3 and for safeguarding reasons, parents are not allowed to walk their children down to the classroom in the mornings. Please say goodbye to your child outside the front door. Either Mrs Douglas or Miss Stroud will be available in the foyer to walk them down to class if they need support.

We kindly remind all families to park **safely and legally** when dropping off or picking up children from school.

Please avoid:

- Parking on yellow zig-zag lines
- Blocking driveways or pedestrian crossings
- Double parking
- Stopping in the middle of the road to let children out

These practices are not only **illegal** but also **put children's safety at risk**. Let's work together to keep our school community safe for everyone.

Thank you for your cooperation and support.

The 20/21st September is the South Bristol Arts Trail. As part of this, the school will be open on Sunday 21st between 11.00am-2.00pm. We are showcasing art work from every child in the school. Refreshments will be served by the PTFA. Please come along and look at all of the creative and imaginative work the children have created.

Staffing update:

You may have noticed that Miss Stroud has been absent from school this week. Unfortunately, she had an accident on her bike last week which means that she is unable to come to work at the moment. Luckily, she was wearing her helmet but has sustained some injuries which mean she needs time to recover from. I know you will join me in wishing her a full and speedy recovery so she is back with us as soon as she can. Please keep Miss Stroud in your prayers and thoughts. During her absence, I will be taking on the role of SENDCO with support from Amy Jordan, who is the SENDCO at Christ the King.

Please bear with me if there is a slight delay in responding to any communication. I have rescheduled meetings with external agencies for the coming weeks and will contact you in due course.

Mrs Davies has changed her name and is now known as Miss Martin. We understand it may take you all a while to remember!

Attendance update:

Throughout this academic year, Mrs Kingston and Miss Stroud will be working with parents to improve attendance and support any families who need it. Please speak to Mrs Fraser or Mrs Douglas next week 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 Mrs Fraser or Mrs Douglas next week and they 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	83.1%	90%	1
Year 1	93.3%	93.7%	3
Year 2	96.0%	94.3%	7
Year 3	90.6%	93.3%	8
Year 4	92.1%	93.8%	12
Year 5	92.2%	89.3%	3
Year 6	95.2%	93.6%	15
Total	92.1%	92.0%	49

As Year 2 have got the highest attendance they will receive a non-uniform day on Friday 26th September. Well done Year 2!

Admissions:

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 the school office 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: holycrossp@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 3 rd 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

Important Dates:**Term 1**

Monday 15 th September	Bike ability Level 2 (children who signed up)
Tuesday 16 th September	AM – Bike ability level 2 (children who signed up) PM –Bike ability 1 (children who signed up) Year 6 swimming
Sunday 21 st September	Arts Trail
Friday 26 th September	Y5 class assembly Macmillan coffee afternoon 2:30-4:00
Tuesday 30 th September	Year 1 Farm trip Year 6 swimming
Wednesday 1 st October	Year 4 water plant visit
Thursday 2 nd October	Year 2 suspension bridge and Avon gorge visit
Friday 3 rd October	Year 6 class assembly
Tuesday 7 th October	Y5 SS Great Britain Trip
Wednesday 8 th October	KS1 drama workshop am Y5 and Y6 Old Vic trip
Thursday 9 th October	Y6 children's book show workshop
Friday 10 th October	Y2 assembly
Tuesday 14 th October	Y6 Forensic theme day
Thursday 16 th October	Individual photos
Friday 17 th October	Y1 Assembly
Tuesday 21 st October	Y3 WTC-Light workshop and planetarium Year 6 swimming Parents evening
Wednesday 22 nd October	Parents evening
Friday 24 th October	End of term 1

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 Mrs Fraser.

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.

NATURAL NETWORKS: SUMMER PROGRAMME

8-15
year olds

CAMPFIRE
GROUP GAMES
ROPE SWINGS
CLIMBING NETS
DEN BUILDING
WHITTLING
FORAGING
AND MORE,



SCAN TO BOOK

FOREST SCHOOL

HARTCLIFFE
KNOWLE WEST
STOCKWOOD
BISHOPSWORTH
REDCLIFFE



ON STAGE. BACKSTAGE. WHATEVER STAGE YOU'RE AT.

TRY A
FULL
SESSION
FOR FREE



PQA BRISTOL

FRIDAY 6-18 YEAR OLDS | 5.15PM - 8.30PM

SATURDAY POPPETS - 4-5 YEAR OLDS

9.45AM - 11.15AM & 11.30AM - 1PM

SATURDAY 6-18 YEAR OLDS

9.45AM - 1PM & 1.45PM - 5PM

COTHAM SCHOOL, BRISTOL, BS6 6DT

pqacademy.com | carly.bond@pqacademy.com

PQA
THE PAULINE QUIRKE
ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS

BE SCHOOL READY

Starting school is a big step – for you and your child

Our Be School Ready guide and Be School Ready hub
are packed with tips, tools and advice to help you
both feel prepared and confident

What's inside:

- ★ Simple steps to get your child ready for school life
- ★ Expert-backed advice on developing routines and independence
- ★ Support for managing your own and your child's emotions
- ★ Clear information on how schools work and what to expect
- ★ Ideas to help you feel more connected to your child's school community

Follow us on social media for **FREE**
weekly printables to help your
child prepare for reception.

Read our Be School
Ready guide and
explore the Be School
Ready hub:



**Starting school
with SEND?**
Explore our SEND
hub for expert
advice and tips!



2025

Parentkind



We'd like to invite you to our
Supper Club



Come with your children and stay for the session for a
warm welcome, a shared family meal and children's activities

Every Tuesday 5-7pm

The Café at Windmill Hill City Farm

Price: Free!

For more info or to book in, please contact
Nicky on nicky.orr@windmillhillcityfarm.org.uk




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.










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Bath Royal
Literary and Scientific Institution

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

JULY - OCTOBER

Did you know about the Academy of Imagination's fantastic summer activities?

-  **Design a T-shirt Competition**
All summer
-  **Storytelling with Objects**
7th AUGUST
-  **Gaming!**
26th AUGUST
-  **Drawing from Fossils**
28th AUGUST
-  **Playing with Printing**
12th/14th/19th/21st AUGUST
-  **Children's Exhibition Tours**
16 Queen Square, Bath
www.brlsi.org









Cotham School

Achievement - Diversity - Respect

We warmly invite you to our Open Evening

Main School - 25 September 2025
5:30 - 7:30pm

Headteacher's talks at 5:40, 6:15 and 6:50

[f @cothams](https://www.cothamschool.co.uk)
[X @cothamschool](https://www.cothamschool.co.uk)
[@cothamschool](https://www.cothamschool.co.uk)
0117 919 8000
info@cotham.bristol.sch.uk

www.cotham.bristol.sch.uk

