



Holy Cross RC Primary School

Newsletter – 11/07/2025

This week:

On Tuesday Year 3 enjoyed a fantastic day exploring We the Curious. They watched an amazing 3D show about the Solar System and took part in extraordinary science experiments. On Wednesday, Year 5 took part in an Ancient Greek workshop; handling artefacts from Greek times they learnt how archaeologists use information to find out the uses of the pottery and handled actual remains from Ancient Greek times. All children were fantastic and showcased their learning from the term. Year 6 were super excited to spend the afternoon at Zaza Bazaar on Wednesday afternoon as a special end of year treat. The children behaved impeccably and we all left feeling very full and very happy! What a way to spend the afternoon! On Thursday, the whole school took part in drama workshops hosted by Rise Theatre company focusing on how we can care for our planet, we even learnt some British Sign Language to accompany some songs. On Friday, Reception had their final assembly- celebrating the beach and sunshine! They have come so far and they did a fantastic job learning their songs.



Baby news:

We are pleased to announce that Miss Sims has her baby last night, both mum and baby Jude are home and doing well. I am sure you will join us in sending congratulations to her and her family and wish them all the best.

Staff update:

Miss Sims started her maternity leave last Friday. We wish her all the best and look forward to meeting her new arrival in the new academic year.

Mrs Fraser, who is covering the Office during Miss Sims's maternity leave started this week and has settled in well.

As you all know, Miss Sims held a lot of information about the school and families and was adept at managing every situation (even the most unusual ones!) thrown at her. Please be patient if we are slightly slower at responding to any queries during this transition time.

Reports:

Reports have gone home today. There is an open evening next Wednesday from 3:30 – 4pm, where parents have the opportunity to discuss anything on your child's report with their class teacher.

This year's exercise books will be coming home on Thursday of next week. Please send in a bag for the children to use.

Class Teachers:

On Monday afternoon, the children will spend some time with their new teacher and in their new classroom.

The majority of class teachers are staying in the same year groups for the next academic year. LSA allocation will be confirmed next week.

EYFS	Miss Lugg
Y1	Miss King
Y2	Mr Adams
Y3	Miss Bird
Y4	Mr Ockwell
Y5	Miss Fitzgerald
Y6	Miss Ormsby

Summer holiday – Free Bus Travel

During the Summer holidays WECA are offering free bus travel for all school children around Bristol.

Please see the link below with advice from BCC about how children and families can stay safe during the Summer holidays.

<https://www.bristolsafeguardingineducation.org/staying-safe-out-of-school/>

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 -

<u>Term Dates:</u>	Monday 2 nd September
Inset days:	Monday 4 th November
	Monday 6 th January
	Monday 21 st July
	Tuesday 22 nd July
Term 1:	Monday 2 nd September – Friday 25 th October
Term 2:	Monday 4 th November – Friday 20 th December
Term 3:	Monday 6 th January – Friday 14 th February
Term 4:	Monday 24 th February – Friday 4 th April
Term 5:	Tuesday 22 nd April – Friday 23 rd May (Bank holiday on Monday 5 th May)
Term 6:	Monday 2 nd June – Tuesday 22 nd July

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	93.9%	96.8%	3
Year 1	91.9%	86.1%	9
Year 2	95.9%	93.8%	15
Year 3	94.6%	91.8%	6
Year 4	94.5%	88.6%	9
Year 5	94.5%	88.6%	18
Year 6	95.1%	97.1%	7
Total	93.4%	91.5%	67

As Year 6 have got the highest attendance they will receive a non-uniform day on Friday 18th July. Well done Year 6!

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 6

Monday 14 th July	End term celebration assembly 9.10am Moving up session 1.30pm
Tuesday 15 th July	Leavers Mass 9.30am
Wednesday 16 th July	Year 6 play to parents 1.45pm Open session for reports 3.30pm
Friday 18 th July	End of term 6 Leavers assembly 9.10am

Term 1

Tuesday 2 nd September	Inset day
Wednesday 3 rd September	Children back to school
Tuesday 9 th September	Y6 start swimming
Monday 15 th September	Y5/6 Bikeability (selected children who signed up)
Tuesday 16 th September	AM - Y5/6 Bikeability (selected children who signed up) PM – Y4 Bikeability (selected children who signed up)
Tuesday 30 th September	Y1 farm trip
Wednesday 1 st October	Y4 trip to the water plant
Thursday 4 th September	Y2 trip to the Suspension bridge
Tuesday 7 th October	Y5 S S Great Britain trip
Wednesday 8 th October	Y5 and 6 trip to Bristol Old Vic AM
Tuesday 14 th October	Y6 WTC trip – forensic theme day
Thursday 16 th October	Individual photos
Tuesday 21 st October	Y3 WTC trip
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 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
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



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

**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

FIND OUT MORE



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



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

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www.cotham.bristol.sch.uk