



Holy Cross RC Primary School

Newsletter – 02/04/2026

This week:

What a wonderful way to end the term – the sun is shining and we even had a visit from the Easter Bunny! From Easter Egg hunts to Egg mobile races it has been fantastic to see the joy, effort and creativity on display today.

We hope you all have a lovely Easter break and we will see you back at school on Monday 20th April.

Egg mobile races:

Every class raced their egg mobiles today and we had a winner for the best design and a winner in the overall race. Thank you to the Year 6 Sports Captains who ran the event for us. Please join me in congratulating the winners below:

Class	Design	Winner
Reception	Merida	Dorothy
Year 1	Chelsea	Sinan
Year 2	Cami	Gibril
Year 3	Sub	Frankie
Year 4	Che	Poppy
Year 5	Mia	Joey
Year 6	Bobby	Romone



Stations of the Cross:

On Wednesday, Year 6 shared the Stations of the Cross with the rest of the school. They encouraged all of us to think about how this journey of Jesus' death is still very important today and how each of these stations help remind us how we should live our lives. It was a beautiful, reflective start to the day.



Support during the holidays:

During the holidays, weekends evenings or overnight, if you have any worries that you need to talk to someone from school about, you can leave a voice message or send a text message or an e mail and will be contacted back by a member of the safeguarding team. The phone and e mail will be checked regularly and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

You can leave or send a message to **07384450567**.

You can also send an e mail to **holycrossp@bristol-schools.uk**

Or you can email any of the class teachers or support staff on their school e mails.

The key contacts of the safeguarding team are:

DSL Mrs Kingston: headholycrossp@bristol-schools.uk,

DDSL Miss Stroud: estroud@holycross.bristol.sch.uk

DDSL Mrs Douglas: kdouglas@holycross.bristol.sch.uk

Or you can e mail the generic safeguarding inbox: safeguarding@holycross.bristol.sch.uk

Alternatively, you can contact Childline on 0800 1111

or by going to this page on the internet: <https://www.childline.org.uk/get-support/contacting-childline>

Admissions:

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

Please speak to the office 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 the 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: holycross@bristol-schools.uk

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

Term dates for this academic year:

<u>Term Dates:</u>	Wednesday 22 nd July
Inset days (no school):	
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 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 the office 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.

As Year 6 have got the highest attendance they will receive a non-uniform day on Friday 24th April, well done Year 6.

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.

Natural Networks CIC Forest School – Easter Holidays

We're pleased to be offering FREE Easter Holiday Activities through Bristol City Council's Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme.

This Easter, we'll be running sessions at some of our fantastic and well-established delivery sites across Bristol, providing a safe, supportive, and engaging outdoor environment for children and young people.

Our Forest School sessions give children the chance to take part in:

Woodland adventure play

Outdoor cooking (with hot meals provided)

Nature-based arts & crafts

Tool use

Team games & group challenges

Conservation

Ages 8–15

Children aged 5–7 are welcome when accompanied by a parent/carer

These sessions are fully funded for children eligible for HAF, including a healthy meal each day. Affordable places for those not eligible for HAF funding.

See the attached flyer.

Spaces are limited, so we recommend booking as soon as possible.

If you're unsure about eligibility or would like more information, feel free to get in touch - info@natural-networks.co.uk

NATURAL NETWORKS CIC FOREST SCHOOL – EASTER HOLS

HARTCLIFFE KNOWLE REDCLIFFE



**HAF FUNDED
5-15 YEAR OLDS**



SEND COFFEE MORNING

WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS

**Wednesday 6th May
@ 9-10.30am**

Come along to chat with Bristol Parent Carers & school staff to find out about services available locally to support your family and children



PTFA



ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

Thank you to those who attended the Spring Disco in February. It was a wonderful time and we raised £201. This money is going towards future events including buying some secondhand lights for future discos.

The PTFA has given £300 to the school to be spent on a list of much-needed books requested by the school council.

We have successfully raised the £150 needed to pay for hoodies for Year 6.



FUTURE EVENTS



1

Bingo*
Friday, May 8th
17:30-19:30

2

Bake Sale
Friday 22nd May
15:15

*Please donate any unwanted Christmas gifts for our bingo prizes.

Contact info



ptfa@holycross.bristol.sch.uk

Mental Health Support Team

Mental Health Support Teams (MHSTs) were established to support schools, helping them develop ways to look after the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people (CYP) as well as the wider school community including school staff and parents/carers.

The MHST are now delivering online sessions which are free to sign up to. Please scan the QR code below to register for our next webinar.

NEW

Online Parent/Carer Sessions

An Introduction to Anxiety

NEW

To sign up, please
complete a registration
form here:



[MHST Online Session](#)



What is it? This session covers:

- What anxiety is, when it is useful, when it becomes unhelpful, and what keeps anxiety going.
- Our body's response to anxiety focusing on our thoughts, feelings, physical sensations and behaviours.
- Providing strategies for managing and overcoming anxiety

Who is it for? Helpful for parents and carers whose children may be struggling with mild anxiety.

When are they? Sessions will be run at 12pm-1pm every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

New topics and dates will be released regularly.

The MHST is a partnership between Off the Record (OTR) and CAMHS. We are working with selected education settings across Bristol, North Somerset and South Glos. To find out where we work, check out our webpage:

www.otrbristol.org.uk/what-we-do/mhst/





Holiday Activities Easter 2026

Ashton Park Sports Centre Holiday Activity
Programme for children aged 4-14



Tuesday 7th - Friday 17th April

All bookings MUST be made online via: <https://ashtonparksports.schoolactivity.co.uk/>
Childcare Voucher Payments are accepted. Please enquire via email:
enquiries@ashtonparksports.com



Ashtonparksportscentre1



Ashtonparksports



@ashtonparksport



ashtonparksports.schoolactivity.co.uk

Standard Day: 9:00am - 4:00pm ED*: 9:00am - 5:00pm (8am drop off available as an extra £4) Full Day - 8am-5pm

Ofsted Reg:2788667

Blackmoors Lane, Bower Ashton, Bristol, BS3 2JL
t: 0117 3773300 e: enquiries@ashtonparksports.com w: www.ashtonparksports.com

Free online & in person support sessions

Hordhac ku Saabsan
Makatonka

Online

Talaado 3-da March
7:00PM 9:00PM



Sida Loo Noqdo U
Doodaha Adag ee
Ilmahaaga

Online

Khamiis 5ta-March
7:00PM 8:30PM



Fahamka Qaybta
Caafimaadka ee
EHCP-da

Online

Isniin 9ka-March
10:00AM 11:30AM



Taageero assaga

Online

Talaado 10-ka March
7:00PM 8:00PM



Si qad faahfaahin uga hesho
kalfadhiyadan iyo kuwo kale
Iskaan garee QR-code-ka ama booqo:



<https://linkbristolparentcarers.org.uk/gethelp>

Taageero asaaga

Greenway Centre,
Southmead, BS10

Khamiis 12-ka March
9:15AM 10:30AM



Taageero asaaga
Fishponds Old Library,
Fishponds, BS16

Khamiis 19-ka March
9:00AM 11:00AM



Taageero asaaga
Inns Court,
Knowle, BS4

Khamiis 19-ka March
10:30AM 12:30PM



Taageeridda Xiriirrada
Caafimaadka Qaba

Online

Khamiis 26-ka March
7:00PM 8:30PM



SENDCo Newsletter

March 2026

www.bristolparentcarers.org.uk



Session Highlights

Are your families aware that we offer free support sessions with practical, accessible information? Please share the booking link so they can sign up.

Sessions include:

Understanding the Health Section of an EHCP:

9th March, 10am-11.30am

Supporting Healthy Relationships & Sex Education in

SEND: 26th March, 7pm-8.30pm

[Book here](#)



Together for SEND

Our Annual SEND Event is just around the corner. Come and join us for a day of information, networking and a chance to get ahead in all things SEND and Education in Bristol: We The Curious, Monday 16th March.

[More here](#)

FES treatment funding from NHS

NHS funding is available locally for children under 16 who may benefit from Functional Electrical Stimulation (FES) for dropped foot, following NICE guidance. FES can improve walking and reduce falls for children with neurological conditions and a new Bristol clinic has now opened.

Contact: enquiries@odstockmedical.com or www.odstockmedical.com



New resource for children with complex needs

WellChild, the national charity for seriously ill children, has launched 'In Your Area', a free online platform helping parents and carers of children with complex medical needs quickly find local services and support. The first tool of its kind in the UK, you can search by postcode and use filters to identify resources tailored to your circumstances.

[Click here](#)

Because You're Worth It: A short film by the Centre of Studies for Inclusive Education (CSIE)

Across Bristol, CSIE workshops continue to support parent carer wellbeing and strengthen advocacy in education. This week CSIE launched 'Because You're Worth It', a short film created to honour parent carer voices and deepen understanding across our community. CSIE welcome discussions and feedback from parent carers.

Contact: admin@csie.org.uk

[Watch here](#)

Bristol Parent Carer Forum updates

EHCP Timescales

We've recently updated our website and added a new page outlining EHCP timescales. It provides a clear summary of statutory deadlines and key stages in the process, which may be useful to share with families or refer to when discussing timelines and expectations.

[Click here](#)

Coffee Mornings



Have you booked yours?

These relaxed sessions give parents and carers a chance to meet, share experiences and talk with our facilitators to explore available support for their child. They offer a straightforward way for schools to build stronger relationships with families and often lead to clearer communication and more collaborative problem-solving.

Families consistently tell us they leave feeling better informed and more connected, making these sessions a valuable part of the wider school offer.

[Book here](#)

info@bristolparentcarers.org.uk

Every Tuesday

REDCLIFFE Reading Club

3.30 -5pm



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!

TheHub*

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

JOIN OUR MONTHLY LITTER PICK

HELP KEEP OUR PARK CLEAN, SAFE, AND BEAUTIFUL FOR EVERYONE TO ENJOY!

NEXT PICK: 11AM SATURDAY 14TH MARCH

MEET: COMMUNITY GARDEN, DAME EMILY PARK

WHAT'S PROVIDED: LITTER PICKERS, BAGS, GLOVES. BRING YOUR OWN GLOVES IF YOU HAVE THEM

WHO CAN JOIN?: EVERYONE! FAMILIES, FRIENDS, AND NEIGHBOURS WELCOME

NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED
JUST TURN UP!




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:

- Listening
- Play
- Praise
- Nurture
- Empathy
- Connection

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.

nbcc
Wellspring Settlement
Central
EBCC
South Bristol Children's Centres

BS3 MULTICULTURAL FEAST

March 2026 - Bedminster - Date/ Venue TBC



JOIN US FOR A VIBRANT CELEBRATION!
Come and meet your neighbours, share food and celebrate the many cultures of our neighbourhood

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?
We're looking for residents to help shape the day. You could:
Cook or bring a dish • Perform (music, poetry, storytelling - anything!) • Run an activity for children • Help organise or support on the day • Or bring your own ideas!

No experience needed - just enthusiasm!
You'll be supported by Hugh and Jas. To find out more, contact:
jas - jasmine.tippett@bs3community.org.uk
Hugh - hugh.o'boyle@bristol.gov.uk

progressive kids
Trusted childcare for your little one

Easter Half Term Holiday Club

Childcare sorted for working parents

Ages 4-13 | £26/day | Ofsted registered



- Structured day + lots of choice
- 4 Zones each morning: Active / Creative / Discovery / Wellness
- Enrichment afternoons: fun experiences children may not otherwise get to try
- EASTER ACTIVITIES

10% OFF - Code
EARLYBIRD10
Ends **SUN 15 MARCH**

8:30am - 3:30pm | 4 activity zones | Nut-free setting - all food sent in must be nut-free

Book now → linktr.ee/progressivekids_sports.bristol

Questions? office@progressivekidsbristol.com | 07946656332

SPRING INTO EASTER HOLIDAY CLUBS



BOOK NOW FOR 20% OFF
Use Code: **Early Booker**
Offer ends 29/03/2026
*Conditions apply

- Mini & Mega Mash-Ups
- Creative Eggs-travaganza
- Make a High School Musical
- Gymnastics & Cheerleading
- Cookery Workshop
- Cricket Fundays
- Disney Dance

SOUTHVILLE

Shine
HOLIDAY CLUBS
MyShine.co.uk

Supported by
Windmill Hill City Farm

SOUTH BRISTOL TOY LIBRARY



Save the dates!

OPEN FORTNIGHTLY
SATURDAYS 10AM - 12PM

2026 DATES

• 31 st January	• 23 rd May	• 12 th September
• 14 th February	• 06 th June	• 26 th September
• 28 th February	• 20 th June	• 10 th October
• 14 th March	• 04 th July	• 24 th October
• 28 th March	• 18 th July	• 07 th November
• 11 th April	• 01 st August	• 21 st November
• 25 th April	• 15 th August	• 05 th December
• 09 th May	• 29 th August	• 19 th December (Xmas Party)

Where is it?
St Michael's and All Angels Church
Vivian Street, BS3 4LW

How does it work?
Join as a member for just £15 (£7.50 concession) a year and get access to 1000s of toys for ages 0 to 12 with small hire fees (typically £0.20 - £2 per 2 weeks). Open to all postcodes. Check out our toys on our website!

Contact Us
southbristoltoylibrary@gmail.com

[@southbristoltoylibrary](https://www.facebook.com/southbristoltoylibrary)



“acta
CREATE A PLAY IN
TWO DAYS IN
BEDMINSTER

13th & 14th April: Ages 8-12
16th & 17th April: Ages 12-16

Run by experts in drama education at
acta Community Theatre

Freshly cooked, nutritious lunch provided

Have fun, make friends, gain confidence!



£42.50 per day / free places for Young Carers funded by HAF

Book on Eegu, via Bristol's Holiday Hub

Kids Stuff Bristol

Relax  Shop  Donate 

Open 2nd Saturday every month

10-2 Wed-Fri

Supporting local families, building community

 



www.kidsstuffbristol.org.uk

We believe that raising a family shouldn't cost the earth, so we have created **kids stuff**.
'Pre-loved children's items at great prices'

Quality pre-loved clothes from birth to 10yrs, school uniform & shoes, books & toys, fancy dress & coats, puzzles, games, loads of baby items & much more...

"Such a fab community spirit! lovely people, with a great range and prices. Thank you!"

See our socials for more info regarding Saturday openings

Kids Stuff Bristol, British Road, Bedminster, BS33BW

UNIQUE VOICE

Creative Arts Club

No cost! Young people must be eligible for Free School Meals. Find out more on our booking page.

Learn creative skills and meet new people this Spring!

WHEN
Tuesday 7th - Friday 10th of April

WHERE
John Cabot Academy, BS15 8BD

FOOD
Free hot lunch, dessert and snacks

TO BOOK
Scan the QR code or visit <https://eequ.org/uniquevoice>

ACTIVITIES

- Performance
- Games
- Multi media arts
- Photography
- Drawing



Questions?
Call/Text: 0117 428 6240 or 07831 914685 Email: kitty@uniquevoice.org

 

Creative Holiday Club

Reception - Year 6

NO COST!

Activities

- Arts and Crafts
- Drama
- Games
- Outdoor play

When?
10am - 2pm
Dates from 7th - 16th April 2026

Where?
Sites across Bristol & South Glos

*All club places are fully funded (no cost) and children must be in receipt of benefits-related Free School Meals to be eligible for a place.

Any questions?
Call/Text: 0117 428 6240 or 07831 914685
Email: kitty@uniquevoice.org

To find out more visit our booking page here



 

SEND Stay & Play

UNIQUE VOICE

We are delighted to be able to offer relaxed Stay & Play sessions in the school holidays during 2026 for children with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) and their families. Scan the QR code for registration details and locations!

What to Expect:

- Arts & Crafts
- Drama & Storytelling
- Food Activities
- Support / Signposting

SCAN ME



FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK

OR CLICK TO REGISTER

Free* Entry

"My son really enjoyed attending the sessions today. He was able to take part in activities that would otherwise be difficult to attend. He was able to feel safe and express himself in an environment that was understanding of his needs."

Dates in all school holidays throughout 2026!

Scan the QR code for more information

*Supported by:

 