



Holy Cross RC Primary School

Newsletter – 28/03/2025

This week:

Reception had their first class assembly this morning celebrating all things Spring! They showed their learning of the book 'Oliver's vegetables' through song, talked about what Lent meant to them and looked at words relating to Spring. They even made their own Easter bonnets! On Tuesday, Deacon Paul led a Lenten Penitential service for everyone. It was an opportunity to reflect on our Lenten promises and listen to a reading about Zacchaeus who changed once he met Jesus. Thanks Deacon Paul for helping us to grow in love during Lent. On Wednesday afternoon, Year 5 and 6 performed for their parents, showing off all they have learned on the steel pans. Y5 impressed everyone with their rendition of it's a wonderful world and 3 little birds. Y6 then amazed everyone with their version of oh what a night and one love.



Staffing Update:

Mrs Sanchez will begin her maternity leave on Wednesday 2nd April. We wish her all the best during this exciting time and look forward to meeting the new arrival later in the year.

Mrs. Hunt will begin her Maternity leave on Friday 9th May. We wish her all the best during this exciting time and look forward to meeting the new arrival later in the year. Miss Stroud will be taking on the role of SENDCO on a temporary basis to cover Mrs. Hunt's maternity leave and, therefore, will be out of class on a full-time basis for the remainder of the academic year.

To ensure a full handover between Mrs. Hunt and Miss Stroud for this important role, both Mrs. Hunt and Miss Stroud will be out of class from after the Easter holiday. Miss Ellie King, who has been employed to cover Mrs. Hunt's and Mrs. Sanchez' maternity leaves, will be the new Year 1 class teacher from April 22nd 2025.



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 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	95.0%	94.1%	3
Year 1	92.7%	84.2%	3
Year 2	96.4%	92.1%	7
Year 3	94.0%	95.0%	6
Year 4	95.3%	96.7%	6
Year 5	92.8%	91.3%	8
Year 6	94.9%	96.9%	2
Total	94.0%	93.0%	35

As Year 6 have got the highest attendance they will receive a non-uniform day on Friday 4th April. 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 4

Sunday 30 th March	Stages – dance competition for dance club
Monday 31 st March	End of term assembly 9.10am
Wednesday 2 nd April	Year 4 Wildplace trip
Friday 4 th April	End of term 4 Year 6 class assembly on stations of the cross 9.10am Egg mobile races

Term 5

Monday 21 st April	Bank holiday – no school
Tuesday 22 nd April	Start of term 5
Wednesday 23 rd April	Wear red for St George's day
Thursday 24 th April	Easter Mass 9.15am
Friday 25 th April	Holi workshops
Monday 28 th April	Start of salad bar
Wednesday 30 th April	Reception trip to St Paul's church
Monday 5 th May	Bank holiday – no school
Wednesday 7 th May	Year 5 trip on the Matthew
Friday 9 th May	Year 4 trip to We The Curious
Monday 12 th May	Year 6 SATs week
Tuesday 20 th May	Year 3 trip to Caerleon Roman Museum
Thursday 22 nd May	Ascension Mass 9.15am
Friday 23 rd May	End of term 5

Hall hire:

The School Hall is available for hire for parties and events during the weekend. If you are interested in hiring our School Hall, please contact the Office and request a copy of our Lettings policy.

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.

FOREST SCHOOL AND OUTDOOR COOKING EASTER HOLIDAYS

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

**8-15
year olds**

**HEART OF BS13 CLIMATE
ACTION HUB**

**NATURAL
NETWORKS**

info@natural-networks.co.uk

**Your
Holiday
HUB**
Bristol

WINDMILL HILL CITY FARM We'd like to invite you to our **Supper Club** **WINDMILL HILL CITY FARM**



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

You can be creative!

Do you want to learn new skills?

COME AND JOIN US

Girls age 10-14

You can make friends and have adventures

You can be active

You can make a change

TOGETHER WE CAN DO IT

PEACE

LOVE

Your nearest Guide unit is
118th Guides at
Victoria Park Baptist
Church, Sylvia Ave,
BS3 5DA

Register your interest by visiting
www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus
or you can ring
Girlguiding on 0800 169 5901

Text Donella on:
07837 601037

LITTLE ROCKS

BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

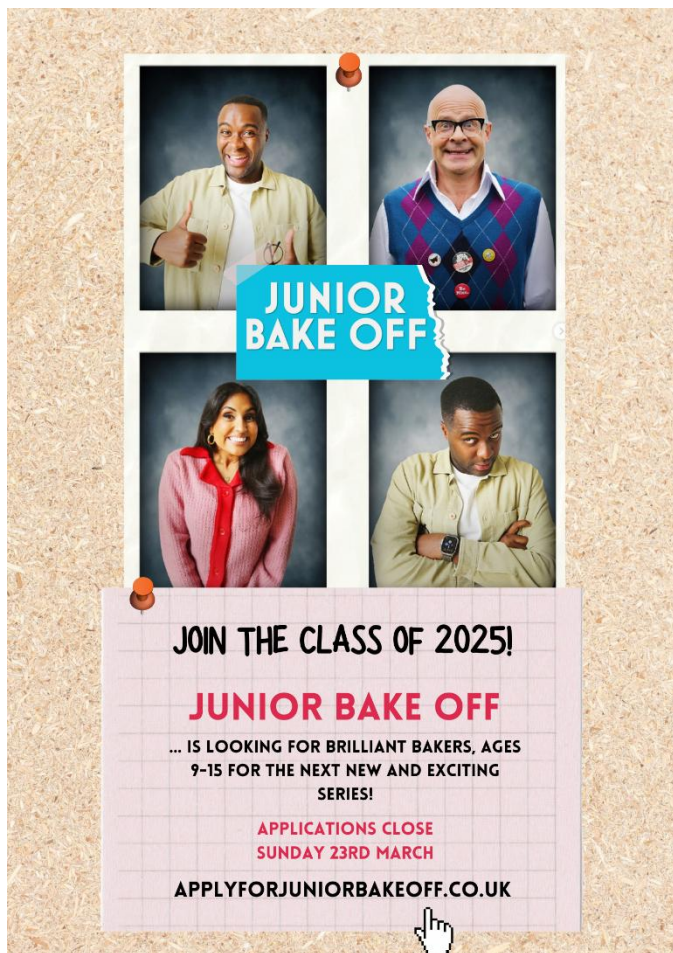
At St. Paul's Church, Southville, BS3 1AS

**MEETS EVERY MONDAY
DURING TERM TIME
10-11.30AM**

- Free play
- Craft
- Story and song time
- Snacks and drinks

Suggested donation £2





For more support
information for
parents please
see our website:

<https://holy-cross-catholic-primary-school-bristol.secure-primariesite.net/support-information/>