



Holy Cross RC Primary School

Newsletter – 21/03/2025

This week:

This morning year 1 class presented their assembly all about migrating birds. They were so brave standing up and sharing their lines, singing their songs and acting out the story. Thank you to all the parents and carers who joined us today and who helped with costumes. Today we said goodbye and good luck to our 3 BEd students who leave us to graduate and begin their new careers as teachers. We wish Miss Jarvis, Miss Mohammed and Miss Vaughn all the best in their future endeavours. What a glorious day Year 1 had on Wednesday spent in the sunshine at Slimbridge. They learned so much about migrating birds, life in the arctic and Ava's journey. They had some challenges to complete at home in order to gain our guardian of the birds title. Next week everyone will have a chance to complete these. Many thanks to everyone who came along and helped out, you are always appreciated!



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	95.1%	88.2%	4
Year 1	93.2%	92.1%	3
Year 2	96.7%	97.6%	1
Year 3	94.0%	92.3%	5
Year 4	95.2%	95.8%	4
Year 5	92.9%	91.3%	8
Year 6	94.8%	95.6%	4
Total	94.0%	93.4%	29

As Year 2 have got the highest attendance they will receive a non-uniform day on Friday 28th March. Well done Year 2!

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

Monday 24 th March	Y6 SATs meeting 3.30pm
Tuesday 25 th March	Lent Penitential service 9.30am
Wednesday 26 th March	Y5 and 6 music performance 2.30pm
Friday 28 th March	Reception class assembly 9.10am
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
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.

COME AND JOIN US!



Bingo NIGHT

FRIDAY, 21ST OF MARCH
6:00pm - 8:00pm
CHILDREN FREE

£1
Entrance



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



COME AND JOIN US

Girls age 10-14



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

JUNIOR BAKE OFF

JOIN THE CLASS OF 2025!

JUNIOR BAKE OFF

... IS LOOKING FOR BRILLIANT BAKERS, AGES 9-15 FOR THE NEXT NEW AND EXCITING SERIES!

APPLICATIONS CLOSE
SUNDAY 23RD MARCH

APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK

For more support information for parents please see our website:

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

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