



Holy Cross RC Primary School

Newsletter – 20/12/2024

This week:

Thank you for all the kind gifts and cards the staff have received for Christmas. We are truly blessed with such a wonderful caring community here at Holy Cross. The children have had a lovely end to the term in school. KS1 children performed amazingly in their Nativity on Thursday and KS2 sang beautifully today in their Carol Concert.



Staffing Update:

Miss Foster will leave Holy Cross on 31st December 2024 due to a change in her personal circumstances. We thank Miss Foster for her years of service and wish her all the best for the future. Mr Adams has been appointed as the new Year 2 Teacher and will take up his post on Monday 6th January 2025. We are delighted that he is able to return as the children really benefitted from his years of experience.

You may have noticed that Miss Fairbairn has already started her maternity leave and Miss Sanchez and Mrs Douglas has been covering her for the last 2 weeks of term. We have been very grateful that they have been able to do this to enable consistency for the children. Miss Bird has been appointed as the new Year 3 teacher to cover Miss Fairbairn's maternity leave and will take up her post on Monday 6th January 2025. She has already been in to meet the children and is looking forward to teaching the children.

Admissions:

Admission for our Reception class for next September will open on Bristol City Council's website on 12th September. If you are going to apply, please speak to Miss Sims about completing our supplementary form.

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.

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.

<p>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</p>	<p>Please contact the school office for more information on 0117 377 2199 email: holycross@bristol-schools.uk</p>
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To see more of the school please visit www.holycross.bristol.sch.uk

Next PTFA Event:



You are hereby invited to the
'Harry Potter School of Magic'
Holy Cross Primary School

Guest of Honour: Potion Making Class will be
sharing their Potion-brewing skills with us!

Friday 31st Jan 6-8pm

Potion Making Class
Craft and Food stalls/Tombola/Raffle
Dress up optional

Buy your tickets online:
<https://ptfa-holy-cross.sumupstore.com>

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 3

Monday 6 th January	Inset day
Tuesday 7 th January	Start of Term 3 Y5 start swimming
Thursday 9 th January	Epiphany Mass 9.10am Y3 to Bristol Old Vic PM
Saturday 18 th January	Lantern Parade
Wednesday 29 th January	SEND Coffee morning
Friday 31 st January	Harry Potter evening
Tuesday 4 th February	Year 3 Museum trip
Friday 7 th February	Numbers day
Wednesday 12 th February	Y6 trip to Mshed and Air Raid Shelter
Friday 14 th February	End of term 3

Term 4

Monday 24 th February	Start of Term 4
Tuesday 25 th February	Y1 farm trip
Monday 3 rd March	Secondary school offer day
Tuesday 11 th March	Y2 trip to Aerospace
Wednesday 19 th March	Y1 trip to Slilmbridge
Friday 4 th April	End of term 4

Term Dates:

Inset days:

Monday 2nd September

Monday 4th November

Monday 6th January

Monday 21st July

Tuesday 22nd July

Term 1:

Monday 2nd September – Friday 25th
October

Term 2:

Monday 4th November – Friday 20th
December

Term 3:

Monday 6th January – Friday 14th February

Term 4:

Monday 24th February – Thursday 4th April

Term 5:

Monday 22nd April – Friday 23rd May (Bank
holiday on Monday 5th May)

Term 6:

Monday 2nd June – Tuesday 22nd July

Parenting is not always easy. Although watching your child/children change and grow up can be a unique and rewarding time, it can also be fraught with stress, uncertainty and conflict. Here are some ideas of how to support your child to become independent whilst making sure that you also look after yourself in the process.



You and your child/young person

If you think your child is struggling with their behaviour and or their mental health, it's easy to be hard on yourself as a parent and a sense of blame can sometimes come into this. Below are ideas for any parent who is worried about their child and or parenting skills.



Ensure that you know you love them, and you are proud of them.

Life can feel incredibly busy and stressful and when you feel in survival mode it can be overwhelming. Try to praise your child for what they do well and encourage them to learn from trying new things and giving it a go. Praise the effort made and not the outcome!!



Be clear about what is and is not acceptable – and make them understand why.

Children benefit when adults are clear about the boundaries and that there are agreed limits to their behaviour. Being clear and consistent and making sure you follow through with a set boundary is key. Otherwise, children may feel anxious and confused and will stop respecting the boundaries.



Role modelling vulnerability, where you can be honest about your own feelings

We all make mistakes and can say unkind things we later feel we wish we hadn't said. If this happens, try to say sorry to your child and explain clearly what happened. They will hopefully learn to make mistakes that they then go on an learn from – making such mistakes does not make them a bad person.



Own your parent role – as a parent it is important to not shy away from making tough decisions or having difficult conversations with your child.

If your child sees you are scared of their reaction and always give in to them, it can make them feel very powerful, which can be frightening. Children need to know that you are there to keep them safe.

First Holy Communion:

The initial meeting for parents and children wishing to make their First Holy Communion in the parish of St Gerald Majella will be on Sunday 5th January after the 10 o'clock Mass.

New App:

From next term we will be changing communication systems and all parents will need to download a new app to communicate with the office, book clubs and be able to pay for things online. All parents should have received an email to help them log in for the first time. If you are experiencing any issue, please message on School gateway and we will work get back to you as soon as we can.



TAKE YOUR GAME TO THE NEXT LEVEL

THE FLYERS COMMUNITY HUBS ARE A GREAT WAY FOR ASPIRING BASKETBALL PLAYERS TO PLAY MORE BASKETBALL AND TAKE THEIR GAME TO THE NEXT LEVEL UNDER THE WATCHFUL EYES OF OUR TEAM OF QUALIFIED AND EXPERIENCED COACHES.

FLYERS BASKETBALL COMMUNITY HUB

BECOME A BETTER BALLER

DATE	THURSDAY NOVEMBER 7TH - DECEMBER 19TH
LOCATION	ST. BERNADETTE'S, BS14 9LS
SESSIONS	SCHOOL YEARS 7 - 11 - 4.30PM - 5.25PM SCHOOL YEARS 3 - 6 - 5.35PM - 6.30PM
PRICE	£6.50 PER SESSION DISCOUNT PROVIDED WHEN BOOKING WHOLE TERM

TO BOOK 
 **0117 9630 683**

Free support sessions



Join us for free information and support sessions covering a variety of topics both in person and online. Or pop along to a peers support session (children welcome!) to find hints and tips on how best to support your family. No diagnosis is needed to access these sessions.

For more info visit: www.bit.ly/Getbookednow

Peer support sessions

Greenway Centre
Inns Court

ADHD, a conversation,
with Jacob Kelly

WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS
AND JACOB KELLY



Speech and Language
in Early years (0-5)

WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS
AND SMALL TALK



An introduction to
Makaton

WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS
AND ALLI PENNINGTON



Transport-Home to
School travel update

WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS
AND BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL



Legal responsibilities and
absence for SEND pupils.

WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS
AND NEUROTEACHERS



How to be a strong
advocate for your child

WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS
AND LISA BAKER-MURRAY



Epilepsy Peer
Support Session

WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS
AND YOUNG EPILEPSY



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



Support for Inter-Parental Communication



FREE support available for one or both parents

- Do you have a child or children aged between 8 and 14?
- Do you find it hard to get on with your partner or your ex?
- Do you argue or shout at each other?
- Or have you stopped talking to each other because it's too difficult?

If so, then this SIPCo project could help.

Support is available for either one or both parents. The help on offer will either be relationship therapy (delivered by the couple therapy charity Tavistock Relationships) or a local practitioner will help you access online resources which can be used at your own pace. If English is not your first language, translators can be provided.

Please contact Gina Pazienza:

relationships@bristol.gov.uk

07721 635376

Visit the SIPCo page at www.bristol.gov.uk

When you apply, your details will not be shared with anyone else. After applying online, if you do not see our response email, please check your junk/spam folder, then mark relationships@bristol.gov.uk as a trusted sender.

Scan QR code to find out more



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PEER SUPPORT SESSION ONLINE

PEER TO PEER SUPPORT WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS

JOIN US FOR A WARM AND WELCOMING ONLINE SUPPORT SESSION WITH PARENT CARERS

Transport-Home to School Travel Rights

WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS AND GELLIARDS SOLUTIONS

Epilepsy Peer Support Session

WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS AND YOUNG EPILEPSY

An introduction to Makaton

WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS AND ALI PENNINGTON

Supporting your young carer

WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS AND CARERS SUPPORT CENTRE

Transition to adulthood - Financial Planning

WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS AND RHANNON GOOH

How to be a strong advocate for your child

WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS AND LISA BAKER-MURRAY

Peer support sessions

Greenway Centre & Inns Court

For more info visit: www.bit.ly/Getbookednow



For more support information for parents please see our website:

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