



Holy Cross RC Primary School

Newsletter – 6/12/2024

This week:

This morning, Year 1 presented their assembly based on the story of Ocean Meets Sky. They really impressed us with how well they said their lines, acted out the stories and sang their songs! Thanks to all the parents who provided costumes and came to join in our celebration this morning! The choir went to Bristol Beacon to perform at the Winter Sing on Monday and performed to hundreds. They were a credit to the school as they worked hard to learn lyrics. Well done also to Zoe who had a solo. We look forwards to the upcoming trip to the care home!



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:

We will be holding our annual PTFA Christmas Disco on Friday 13th December from 6-8pm. Everyone is welcome.



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%	90.4%	2
Year 1	93.1%	95.3%	4
Year 2	96.9%	98.2%	5
Year 3	96.0%	94.7%	4
Year 4	94.6%	89.6%	1
Year 5	94.0%	92.5%	4
Year 6	94.5%	87.0%	1
Total	94.9%	92.4%	21

As Year 2 have got the highest attendance they will receive a non-uniform day on Friday 13th December. 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 2

Tuesday 10 th December	Reception class to Post Office AM Year 1 and 2 Winter Sing trip PM
Wednesday 11 th December	Choir to Care Home AM Y5 steel pan performance 2.30pm Y6 steel pan performance 2.45pm
Friday 13 th December	KS2 talent show 9.15am Christmas jumper/clothing day PTFA Christmas Disco 6pm – 8pm
Monday 16 th December	End of term assembly 9.15am
Wednesday 18 th December	Christmas dinner
Thursday 19 th December	KS1 Nativity 2pm
Friday 20 th December	End of term KS2 Carol service 2pm Cake sale after school

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
Saturday 18 th January	Lantern Parade

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:

If you would like your child to make their First Holy Communion Sacrament next year, please let Miss Sims know. The lessons will be held at St Gerald Majella Church once a month on a Sunday and the date they will make the Sacrament will be on Sunday 22nd June.



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



Cashpot for Schools is our mission to support primary schools across the UK.

Every time you shop with Asda Rewards from 2nd September to 30th November, we will donate 0.5% of your total spend to a primary school of your choice. Plus, Asda will pop £1 into your school's Cashpot every time someone opts in.

Even more, Asda will get your school started with a further £50. To redeem this, make sure to shop & scan and remind your school to sign up with Parentkind.

For more info, please see our **Terms & Conditions**.

You won't give up any of your own earnings, and your Cashpot will continue to grow! **Shop. Scan. We donate!**

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

<p>Peer support sessions Greenway Centre Inns Court</p>	<p>ADHD, a conversation, with Jacob Kelly WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS AND JACOB KELLY</p>
<p>Speech and Language in Early years (0-5) WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS AND SMALL TALK</p>	<p>An introduction to Makaton WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS AND ALL PENNINGTON</p>
<p>Transport-Home to School travel update WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS AND BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL</p>	<p>Legal responsibilities and absence for SEND pupils. WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS AND NEUROTEACHERS</p>
<p>How to be a strong advocate for your child WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS AND LISA BAKER-MURRAY</p>	<p>Epilepsy Peer Support Session WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS AND YOUNG EPILEPSY</p>



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:

relationshipsmatter@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 relationshipsmatter@bristol.gov.uk as a trusted sender.

Scan QR code to find out more



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

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.

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 GELLDARDS SOLICITORS



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 GOCH



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/>