



Holy Cross RC Primary School

Newsletter – 20/03/2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week in school we are really pleased to see the sunshine after so many weeks of rain. The children have really enjoyed playing out in the playgrounds and forest and not getting wet!

We held a Lenten pilgrimage yesterday, led by Deacon Paul focusing on Jesus' forty days in the desert. The children were given opportunities to reflect on their behaviour and how they can help others.

Eid Mubarek to any of our families celebrating Eid today. We wish you a lovely day.





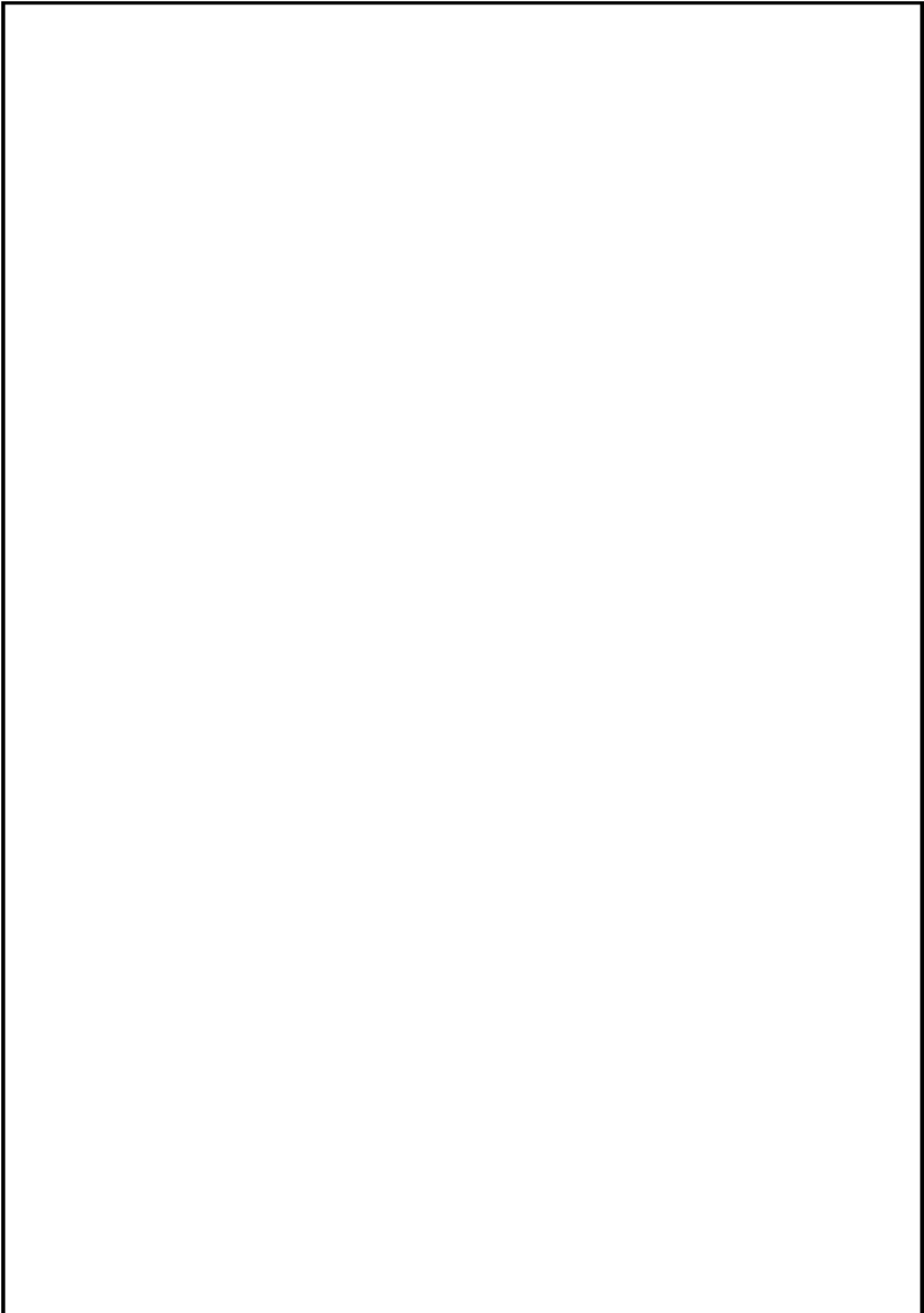
Staff update:

Mrs Hunt is returning from maternity leave after the Easter holidays and will resume her role as SENDCO, whilst also covering Ms Fitzgerald and Ms Ormsby for their PPA time. She will be available Monday and Tuesday and Wednesday mornings to book meetings.

Miss Stroud will return to teaching Year 1 Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday with Miss Fairbairn taking the class on Thursday and Fridays. Miss Stroud will be available for meetings on Thursdays and Fridays.

Mrs Sanchez has decided not to return to work after her maternity leave to spend time with her children. We wish her all the best for the future and hope to see her and the children occasionally.

Mr Loughheed, who has been covering Year 1 in Miss King's absence, will leave us at Easter. We are so grateful to him for his hard work with the class and how dedicated he has been to ensure they have had consistency and make good progress.



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



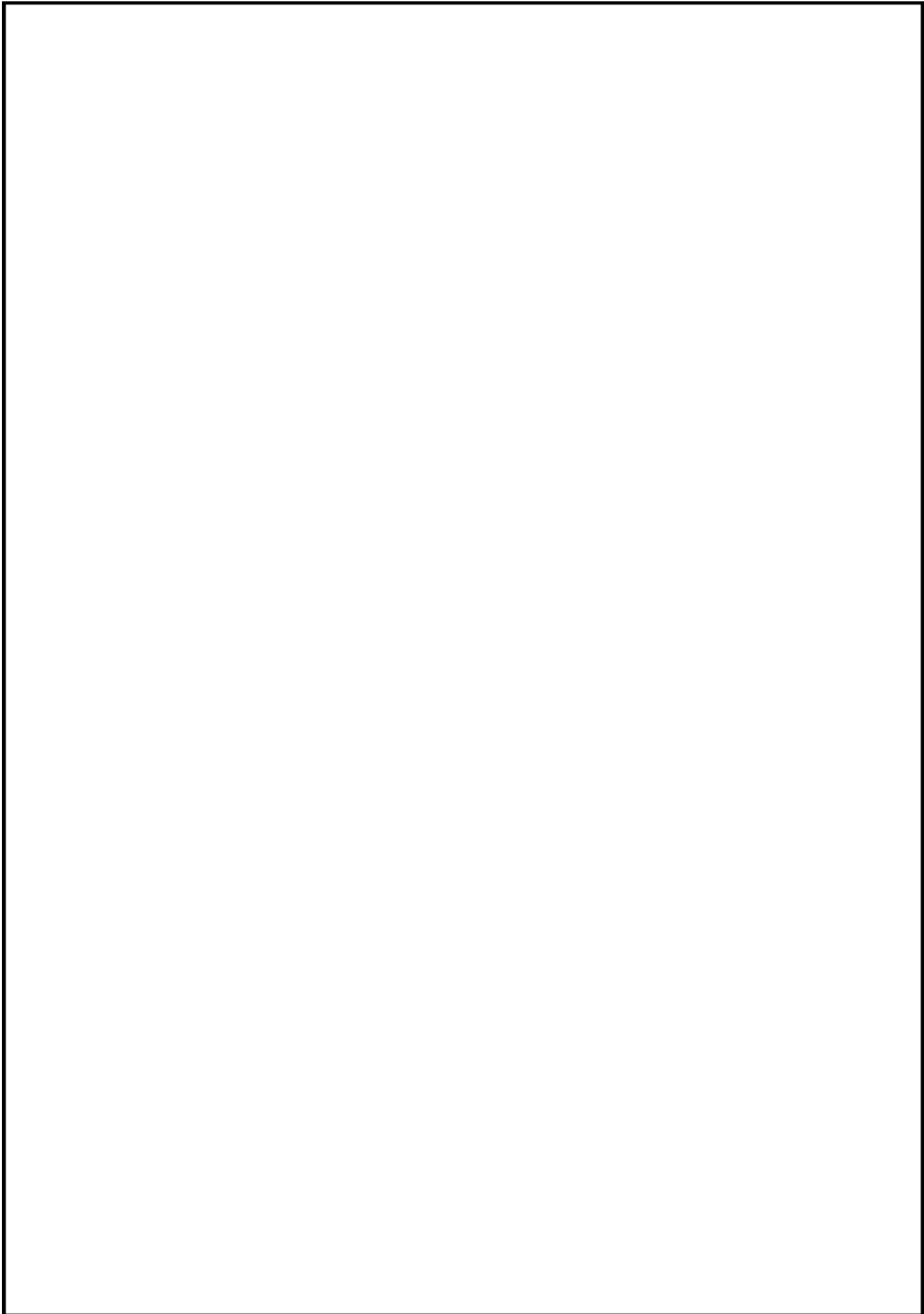
Be part of our small, diverse, nurturing school with lots of outdoor space where the focus is on safe, happy children who are valued and make good progress.

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: holycrossp@bristol-schools.uk

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

Term Dates 2025 - 2026 -



Important Dates:

Term 4

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.

Term dates for this academic year:

<u>Term Dates:</u> Inset days (no school):	Tuesday 2 nd September Monday 3 rd November Monday 5 th January Monday 23 rd February Wednesday 22 nd July
Term 1:	Tuesday 2 nd September – Friday 24 th October
Term 2:	Monday 3 rd November – Friday 19 th December
Term 3:	Monday 5 th January – Friday 13 th February
Term 4:	Monday 23 rd February – Thursday 2 nd April
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

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/



Ashton Park Sports Centre 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

Friday Film Club!

Join us at our Southville Centre
Friday 6th March, 3-6pm

2 short films
Teatime cafe menu
Craft activity
Cosy corner

FREE ENTRY!



www.bs3community.org.uk
info@bs3community.org.uk
0117 9231039

Registered charity no. 1000544


Community

Festival of Stories

Saturday 7th March 11am-6pm

@ SPARKS Bristol

Join us for an unforgettable day of shared experiences, creativity, and inspiration, as we honour the art of storytelling and the way it can bring a community together.

Storytelling! (Featuring Nikesh Shukla!)

Bookish craft stalls, local indie authors, writing workshops, free craft activities, fairytale decor, fun vibes, special deals and discounts, and lots more!

(Fancy dress encouraged!)



Scan to
follow our
Facebook
event page!



SPARKS BRISTOL

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 aad 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: pssso@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.

Logos: nbee, Wellspring Settlement, Central Bristol Children's Centres, 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)





BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL

“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](https://www.acta-theatre.co.uk)

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](https://www.bristolsholidayhub.co.uk)**



Kids Stuff
Bristol

Relax

Shop

Donate

Open 2nd Saturday every month

10-2 Wed-Fri

Supporting local families, building community

QR code

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

QR code

South Gloucestershire Council
Delivering for you

Department for Education

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 Glas

*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
087 428 6240 or 07831 205 100
Email: beth@uniquevoice.org

To find out more visit our booking page here
[www.eequ.org/uniquevoice](https://eequ.org/uniquevoice)

QR code

Your Holiday HUB

South Gloucestershire Council
Delivering for you

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:

COMMUNITY FUND

South Gloucestershire Council
Delivering for you