



Holy Cross RC Primary School

Newsletter – 18/10/2024

This week:

This morning Year 3 presented their class assembly on their topic this term. They told us about all their learning so far on light. They sang and performed beautifully. Year 6 had the amazing opportunity to try their hand at forensic science on Thursday at we The Curious. As part of their crime and punishment topic, Year 6 learnt more about modern day techniques used to help catch criminals. They even tried our hand at testing DNA which is normally reserved for adults at university. What an amazing experience!



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.

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

Dinner change from next term:

From term 2, children will not be able to select the option of salad bar for their lunch. The options will be hot meal, vegetarian, jacket potato and salad bar. The new menu will be sent out next week.

After School Club

We now offer after school club until 6pm. This is an addition to our second session which ends at 5.30pm. If you wish to extend your after-school club care until 6pm, please book the session 3 slot on the school app which will cost an extra £1.

Message from Clifton Diocese:

Education Mass: Bishop Bosco will be celebrating Mass for all those involved in any way in Catholic education, at Clifton Cathedral, on Thursday **21 November at 6.00pm**. This is an annual Mass, bringing all our school community members together as a diocesan family to celebrate Catholic education. This year's choir will be St Peter's High School, Gloucester. The Mass offers an opportunity for all those connected with Catholic education, teachers, staff, governors, pupils and parents, in Clifton Diocese to renew their commitment to Catholic education. Light Refreshments will be available.

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%	91.9%	1
Year 1	92.3%	95.8%	2
Year 2	96.9%	97.6%	5
Year 3	95.9%	96.8%	1
Year 4	95.0%	95.1%	1
Year 5	94.1%	97.7%	3
Year 6	95.8%	95.1%	4
Total	95.0%	96.0%	16

As Year 5 has got the highest attendance they will receive a non-uniform day on Friday 25th October. Well done year 5!

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 1

Friday 18 th October	PTFA Bingo event in the evening
Monday 21 st October	Year 2 trip to Suspension bridge and
Friday 25 th October	End of term 1 Year 2 class assembly 9.10am PTFA Cake sale after school

Term 2

Monday 4 th November	Inset day
Tuesday 5 th November	Start of Term 2
Friday 8 th November	Chaplaincy trip to Clifton Cathedral
Monday 11 th November	Anti-bullying week
Tuesday 12 th November	Odd socks day for anti-bullying week
Friday 15 th November	Children in need Year 2 to WTC
Friday 22 nd November	Year 2 class assembly
Wednesday 27 th November	Year 5 to WTC SEND Coffee morning 9am
Friday 29 th November	Advent service 9.10am
Monday 2 nd December	Choir trip to Bristol Beacon
Wednesday 4 th December	Pantomime in school for children
Friday 6 th December	Year 1 class assembly

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 – Friday 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 to 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.



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

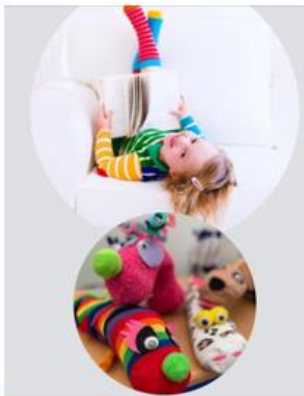
Anti-Bullying week and Odd Socks Day!



Anti-bullying week is approaching!

From Monday 11th-Friday 15th November, we will be focussing on anti-bullying at Holy Cross.

Please bring in any odd socks for anti-bullying week so we can create some sock puppets in school that week!



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

Speech and Language in Early years (0-5)

WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS
AND SMALL TALK



ADHD, a conversation, with Jacob Kelly

WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS
AND JACOB KELLY



An introduction to Makaton

WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS
AND ALI 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



COME AND JOIN US!



Bingo NIGHT

FRIDAY, 18TH OF OCTOBER

6:00pm - 8:00pm

CHILDREN FREE

£1
Entrance

Cashpot FOR SCHOOLS

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!**

Support for Inter-Parental Communication



- 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



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 GELDARDS 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 RHIANNON 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



ST MARY REDCLIFFE MUSIC & CHORAL SING START!



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A fun singing group for youngsters!

In September, St Mary Redcliffe will be launching a new chorister group for youngsters called **Sing Start!**

Sing Start! will be open to children aged 5-7 years old. It will be an informal and fun group that will sing in services when the older choristers are on holiday. We will learn through musical games, call and response and begin to read sheet music.

Rehearsals will be on a Thursday from 5:30pm - 6:30pm (including a squash and biscuit break!) starting at the end of September.

Please contact St Mary Redcliffe's Director of Music Joe Cryan for further information: joe.cryan@stmaryredcliffe.co.uk 07565 597 978

A fun singing group for youngsters!

For more support information for parents please see our website:

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