



# Holy Cross RC Primary School

## Newsletter – 19/7/2024

### This week:

As another academic year draws to a close for at Holy Cross, we are able to reflect on all the achievements that have been made during that time. We are immensely proud of our pupils, from the progress they have made academically to the wonderful way they behave around school. We are very lucky to have such a strong, diverse community and children who love learning and show kindness to those around them. We would like to thank parents and carers for their support throughout this year and acknowledge the important role you have in your child's education.

Today we held our leavers assembly and said goodbye to our Year 6 class. We wish them luck at their secondary schools and will miss them lots! Yesterday they performed their end of year play, Mission Implausible. We were so surprised at how lovely so many of them could sing. We also said good bye to some children who are moving away and having to go to other school. We will miss you Sean, Ciaran, Arjun, Baker and Tabarakh!



Goodbye  
&  
Good Luck



# Admissions:

Admission for our Reception class for next September is now closed. If you have applied, 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. 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](mailto:holycross@bristol-schools.uk)

To see more of the school please visit [www.holycross.bristol.sch.uk](http://www.holycross.bristol.sch.uk)

## Next Year:

I am pleased to inform you all that Miss Lugg is returning to Holy Cross and is going to be our new Reception class Teacher from September.

Mr Kean will be leaving Holy Cross at the end of the term. He has had a great year teaching the fabulous yr1s but has decided to take some time out over the summer to consider other options. He wants to thank all the staff, children, and parents who have made his time with the school so enjoyable.

Also, Mrs Buffon will be leaving us to continue with her tutoring role at Bristol University and working for a local charity. We wish her the best of luck.

<b>Year group</b>	<b>Teacher</b>
Reception	Miss Lugg
Year 1	Miss Stroud and Mrs Hunt
Year 2	Miss Foster
Year 3	Miss Fairbairn
Year 4	Mr Ockwell
Year 5	Miss Ormsby
Year 6	Miss Fitzgerald

### **Attendance update:**

First of all, we would like to congratulate all of the children who achieved 100% attendance this academic year. They had an amazing time yesterday at Zaza Bazaar! Also, we have many children in our school who have excellent attendance and are only absent when they are too unwell to attend. Their efforts do not go unnoticed.

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.

From next academic year, there are new rules for attendance which is set by the Department of Education. Over the Summer we will be amending our attendance policy and request for leave form with these changes and it will then be available on our school website in September.

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.

**If your child has low attendance and you would like to make an appointment and create an action plan for the rest of the year, please speak to Miss Sims. We hope that we can work with parents and support them to improve attendance.**





# 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

Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	Inset day
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Start of term 1
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> September	Arts Trail
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> September	Y5/6 Bikeability (children who signed up)
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> September	AM - Y5/6 Bikeability (children who signed up) PM – Y4 Bikeability (children who signed up)
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Flu immunisations
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	Individual photos
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	End of term 1

### Next year (2024-2025)

<b><u>Term Dates:</u></b> Inset days:	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> July Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July
Term 1:	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September – Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October
Term 2:	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November – Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December
Term 3:	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January – Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February
Term 4:	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February – Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> April
Term 5:	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April – Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May (Bank holiday on Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May)
Term 6:	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June – Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July



**FREE**  
10 Week  
Group



## The Nurturing Programme

A parenting group for parents of children aged 2 - 8 years old, run by qualified staff at your local Children's Centre. This group is for adults only.

- Understanding why children behave as they do
- Recognising the feelings behind behaviour (ours and theirs)
- Exploring different approaches to discipline
- Finding ways to develop co-operation and self-discipline in children
- Learning the importance of looking after ourselves

Scan here to register your interest



If you would like further information or to register your interest directly then please call us on: 07721311497 or email: [pso@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:pso@bristol.gov.uk)  
Once you have registered your interest, a member of the team will be in touch to find the best course location for you (in person or virtual options available).



**FREE**  
4 Week  
Group



## Parenting Puzzle

A parenting group for parents of children aged 0 - 5 years old, run by qualified staff at your local Children's Centre. This group is for adults only.

This course is split into 4 workshops:

- 1: Understanding Behaviour
- 2: Praise
- 3: Boundaries
- 4: Choices and Consequences

Scan here to register your interest



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## 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:



For more information please call: 07721 311 497 or email: [pso@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:pso@bristol.gov.uk)

Once you have registered your interest via: [www.bit.ly/BristolParentingGroups](http://www.bit.ly/BristolParentingGroups) we will be in touch to find the best group option for you.



**FREE**  
11 Week  
Group



## Incredible Years

A parenting group for parents of children aged 2 - 8 years old, run by qualified staff at your local Children's Centre. This group is for adults only.

This programme will help parents learn how to:

- Help their children feel loved and secure
- Encourage their children's language, social and emotional development
- Establish clear and predictable routines
- Handle separations and reunions
- Use positive discipline to manage misbehaviour

Scan here to register your interest



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# PYO SUNFLOWERS PUZZLE MAZE & ESCAPE ROOM

**WHATS ON FOR 2024**

- GRAFFITI AREA
- ARTS AND CRAFTS
- GAMES AREA
- PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES
- FOOD AND DRINK BY FLOURISH
- PICNIC PODS

## 9-11 & 16-26 AUG

9.30AM - 4PM  
GLENAVON FARM  
BS313TJ - BRISTOL

BOOK ONLINE TODAY AT:  
[PICKINGPATCH.COM](https://www.pickingpatch.com)

SCAN ME!

### SIPCo (Support for Inter-Parental Conflict)

A Project to Improve Parents' 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](mailto:relationshipsmatter@bristol.gov.uk)
- ☎ 07721 635376
- 🌐 <https://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

