



# Holy Cross RC Primary School

## Newsletter – 5/7/2024

### This week:

During Science week, each class has been taking part in an investigation linked to their unit of work where we have been demonstrating our understanding of the 5 enquiry types and using our working scientifically skills. On Thursday, we presented all of our amazing work in a whole school assembly where we were also lucky enough to hear from a couple of our parents who work in STEM! Year 1 really enjoyed showing off all their learning to the school and visitors in their assembly this morning. They sung, acted and quizzed us all about plants and where our food comes from. They also reminded us about the story of Pentecost. They were all super stars and delivered their lines with such confidence. Thank you to all who came to watch. Reception class visited Clevedon beach on Thursday. They made sandcastles, went on a scavenger hunt, did a beach clean up and decorated pebbles with messages of love, joy and hope. They also found time to roll down a big hill, eat some chips at the seaside and dance in the bandstand! The chaplains were given a VIP backstage tour of Clifton cathedral. Deacon Paul led us in prayer then we had some prayer time to celebrate the end of our wonderful 2 years as chaplains at Holy Cross.



# 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)

## Gospel of the week:

**In this Sunday's Gospel, the people who were most familiar with Jesus welcomed him at first. They readily acknowledged his wisdom and his miracles. But they were not prepared to put their faith in him, to go further and see that God was at work in him and so, in the end, they rejected Jesus. Although it's good to admire Jesus, it's putting our faith in him which helps us to realize that he is the Son of God – the incredible presence of God on earth among us .Dear Lord Jesus, please help me to stay calm when life is stormy and show me how I can help others to stay calm too. Amen.**

Dear God,

Please help us to welcome all visitors to our home, to our school and to our community, as special people who are loved by you.

Amen.

## **Attendance update:**

We are working in partnership with parents, carers and Bristol City Council to ensure all of our pupils maximise their attendance. We would like to thank parents and carers for the work you have done in ensuring your children have received education over the last few challenging years due to the pandemic. The usual rules on school attendance continue to apply, including:

- parents' duty to send their child to school regularly where they are of compulsory school age;
- schools' responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence
- the availability of local authorities to use legal sanctions, including penalty notices and prosecution in court

If you are worried about your child attending school the first port of call is to discuss your concerns with us directly. Our staff who may be able to help, and all schools work closely with health and council teams who may also be able to help if needed. If you need to request time off for exceptional circumstance, please ask Miss Sims for a request of absence form. We would like to remind you that only requests for exceptional circumstances will be authorised. If your request is unauthorised, the absence will be looked at and if your child has more than 4 days off within a 10 week period, you could receive a penalty notice.

Class	Yearly Attendance	This week's attendance	Late sessions this week
Reception	92.9%	92.7%	6
Year 1	94.1%	96.3%	1
Year 2	94.5%	97.3%	3
Year 3	94.3%	98.1%	7
Year 4	90.5%	90.9%	8
Year 5	94.3%	100%	2
Year 6	95.3%	97.4%	3
Total	93.7%	96.1%	30

**Well done to Year 5 as they have 100% attendance this week. Their reward will be a class party on Thursday afternoon and they can wear non-uniform on Thursday too (not Monday) as they had the highest attendance last week too!**

Thank you to those who attend regularly. 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. Please see this link for when your child may be too unwell to attend school: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/> As a rule of thumb, being too tired is not a reason to miss school unless it is linked to an illness.

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 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.

<b><u>Term Dates:</u></b> Inset days:	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> September Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> June Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July
Term 1:	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2023 – Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2023
Term 2:	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2023 – Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2023
Term 3:	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January – Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February
Term 4:	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February – Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March
Term 5:	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April – Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May (Bank holiday on Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May)
Term 6:	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June – Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July

### 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

## **Important Dates:**

### **Term 6**

Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 tennis session
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	Reception class assembly 9.10am Choir to Monica Wills Reports go out to parents
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	End of year assembly 9.10am Year 6 Zaza treat
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 tennis session Parents open evening for reports
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Leavers Mass 9.10am
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Leavers play 9.10am 100% attendance Zaza visit
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	End of term 6 Year 6 leavers assembly 9.10am

### **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

## PTFA news and Events

Our next PTFA event is:

**Summer Fair**

**on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July at 3.30pm – 5.30pm**

**They urgently need volunteers to run stalls. Please email them directly on the email address below if you can help.**

Are you interested in joining our PTFA? We have lots of parents who will be leaving the PTFA in July due to their children going to Secondary Schools. Please email [ptfaholycrossbedminster@gmail.com](mailto:ptfaholycrossbedminster@gmail.com) for more information about how you can be involved.

**PICKING PATCH**

**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

SCAN ME!

BOOK ONLINE TODAY AT:  
[PICKINGPATCH.COM](http://PICKINGPATCH.COM)

# ART CLASSES FOR CHILDREN IN SOUTHVILLE



**BRING YOUR FRIENDS!**  
50% OFF A TRIAL  
BOOK ONLINE WITH CODE:  
**FYE450**

art-k.co.uk

# ART CLASSES FOR CHILDREN IN SOUTHVILLE



**TRIALS  
AVAILABLE**

art-k.co.uk

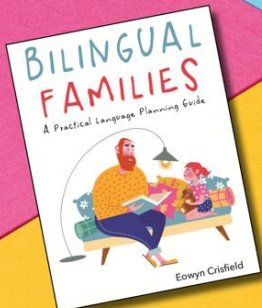
# Free event for bilingual families!

**15**  
June  
10.30am

- Do you have a bilingual family?
- Are you raising your kids in more than one language?
- Do you need practical tips?

**Ask the expert!**

**EOWYN CRISFIELD,**  
bilingual family expert,  
answers your questions!



**Windmill Hill  
Community  
Centre**

Sign up  
free here!



## 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



Sheffield  
Hallam  
University

