



# Holy Cross RC Primary School

## Newsletter – 14/06/2024

### This week:

This week the children have taken part in International Week with the theme of 'Olympics 2024'. They enjoyed moving around the different classes learning about different athletes and their countries. They have made peacocks, wreaths, necklaces, parrots, gymnastic dollies, parrots, Eiffel tower pin pictures and played Boccia. The children have had lots of fun and shared their learning in an assembly this morning. Afterwards we shared food from different countries in our classes. Thank you to all who came along. Year 6 attended their wonderful Leavers Mass on Thursday, which was hosted by Bishop Bosco, their singing was fabulous. The children were reflective and embraced the theme of "Living Simply". We can all live simply by having faith and trust in those around us. On Wednesday Reception class took a walk to the bus stop and caught the M2 Metrobus which was driven by Ollie's Dad! They had a great time and saw lots of things out of the window like boats, churches and even went over a big bridge like a rollercoaster.



# 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: [holycrossp@bristol-schools.uk](mailto:holycrossp@bristol-schools.uk)

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

## Message from our Mental Health Support Team

Hello, my name is Sam Hodge and I work as part of the Mental Health Support Team (MHST). I am an Education Mental Health Practitioner (EMHP Trainee) at Holy Cross and work in school on Monday mornings. I will be giving weekly suggestions that you may have tried or not - the idea being to keep actively thinking about ways we can support the mental health of young people!

This week's tip:

10. Role model vulnerability – Opening up and being honest about how we feel is scary, yet for children seeing an adult role model this can help them access their own thoughts and feelings.





### **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 | 92.8%             | 98.1%                  | 3                       |
| Year 1    | 93.9%             | 98.8%                  | 0                       |
| Year 2    | 94.4%             | 94.4%                  | 2                       |
| Year 3    | 94.3%             | 97.8%                  | 1                       |
| Year 4    | 90.4%             | 95.0%                  | 5                       |
| Year 5    | 94.0%             | 95.6%                  | 0                       |
| Year 6    | 95.4%             | 95.5%                  | 1                       |
| Total     | 93.6%             | 96.2%                  | 12                      |

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><br>Inset days: | Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> September<br>Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January<br>Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> June<br>Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July<br>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><br>Inset days: | Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September<br>Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November<br>Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January<br>Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> July<br>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 18 <sup>th</sup> June   | Year 1 farm trip<br>Year 5 tennis session                                                  |
| Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> June    | Year 2 class assembly 9.10am                                                               |
| Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> June    | Year 4 Wildplace trip<br>KS1 sports day 9.30am                                             |
| Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> June | Year 3,5 and 6 trip to WTC                                                                 |
| Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> June  | Year 2 Noah's Ark trip<br>Choir trip                                                       |
| Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> June    | Inset day – no school                                                                      |
| Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> July     | SEND Coffee morning 9.00am –<br>mental health focus<br>KS1 sports day 10am<br>Science week |
| Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July    | Year 5 tennis session                                                                      |
| Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> July     | Year 1 class assembly 9.10am<br>Summer Fair 3.30pm – 5.30pm                                |
| Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July    | Year 6 tennis session                                                                      |
| Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> July    | Reception class assembly<br>9.10am<br>Choir to Monica Wills<br>Reports go out to parents   |
| Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> July    | End of year assembly 9.10am                                                                |
| Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July   | Year 6 tennis session<br>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                                                                 |
| Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July    | End of term 6<br>Year 6 leavers assembly 9.10am                                            |

### **Gospel of the week:**

In this Sunday's Gospel, to explain God's kingdom, Jesus uses images drawn from the fields around him. This reminds us that Jesus came to establish a kingdom – God's kingdom of love. God loves all people equally and invites everyone to share in his kingdom. Everywhere we go, we can help to reveal God's kingdom, sharing the love and peace which Jesus brought as he went teaching around the countryside.

Dear God,

Thank you for your love and care. Please help us to build your kingdom in our hearts.

Amen.

### **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.



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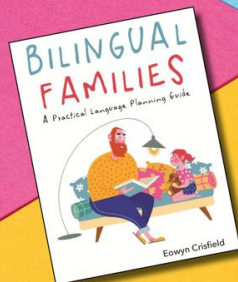
# Free event for bilingual families!

**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  
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