

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2017 Number 2, Term 6

### Dear Parents/Carers

On 7<sup>th</sup> July we are holding a Heritage Day. We are a school with a rich diversity of backgrounds, family history and cultures and this day is an opportunity to celebrate that. We are saying children don't have to wear school uniform as they can wear something that shows their heritage and background. That may be wearing the everyday clothes they wear at weekends or to special family events or items of traditional clothing. We are also asking children to bring something to share with their classmates. This may be an item that tells a story of achievement or past experience from your family heritage. Please don't send fragile or highly sentimental items that are irreplaceable as children could accidentally break things. Photos of special objects would be better in this case. The diversity group have asked for parent volunteers to contact Mrs Cole (SENCO) if they would like to cook and bring in food to sample. As children may have allergies PLEASE fill in the slip in the separate letter with your 50p (to cover ingredient costs) to school. As a Rights Respecting School we want to promote our ethos of respect for all and provide an opportunity to learn more about each other. We want this to be a celebration for ALL our pupils.



  
**Holymead**  
Primary

Nurture, Inspire, Achieve



**School Reports** will be sent out in early July. Parents need to collect their reports in person or send a signed note naming a trusted adult to collect it on their behalf.

Please can parents let the office know if a second copy needs to be sent elsewhere.

**Reception Reports (Foundation Stage)** - parents will receive their children's diaries which contain comprehensive details of your child's achievements over the year. A short summary report is sent home to highlight your child's strengths and areas for development.

**Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2** - parents will receive a report detailing their child's progress and achievements, with targets which parents may be able to support their child with.

There will be a **feedback sheet** enclosed with the reports which needs to be signed and sent back to class teachers so we know you have received them.

**Attendance-** please note that attendance is calculated in half days. So if the report shows 6 absences then your child has been off school for the equivalent of 3 days. This is because the register is called twice a day (once in the morning and once in the afternoon) so pupils get 2 possible attendance marks each day.

## What's Happening

- 19<sup>th</sup> June Science Week
- 23<sup>th</sup> June Y5 NSPCC workshop
- 30<sup>th</sup> June- Friends' infant site face painting
- 1<sup>st</sup> July Friends' Summer Fayre on junior site
- 7<sup>th</sup> July Heritage Day
- 7<sup>th</sup> July Y3 –recorder concert in middle hall.
- 10<sup>th</sup> July- Shuffle Up to new classes
- 11<sup>th</sup> July- Open Day
- 12<sup>th</sup> July- Y6 performance 1.30pm and 6.30pm
- 14<sup>th</sup> July Spanish Day
- 19<sup>th</sup> July- Y2- Moving Up Assembly, 9.10am
- 20<sup>th</sup> July- Y6- Leavers' Assembly, 9.20am

### Term Dates 2016-2017

#### Term 6

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2017 to Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2017  
INSET day – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2017.



We have now held both key stage Sports' Days and the children had a lot of fun. Thank you to parents for turning out and cheering us on whatever the weather!



**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June 9.10am Robin-Infant Hall**

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July 9.10am Rabbit-Infant Hall**

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2.50pm Fox- Middle Hall**

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2.50pm Firefly- Upper Hall**

Please note class assemblies are NOT suitable for pre-schoolers as we want the children performing to be heard. We do run a crèche with school staff and are always on the lookout for volunteers to help in crèche. If everyone who uses the crèche volunteers to help out in a different one then we have plenty of helpers. Please put your name forward at either office if you can help.



### Term Dates 2017-2018

#### Term 1

(Sept 4<sup>th</sup> school closed for INSET)

Tues Sept 5<sup>th</sup> school starts for KS1 and KS2

Wed Sept 6<sup>th</sup> school starts for new reception.

Term 1 ends Thursday October 19<sup>th</sup>

(Friday October 20<sup>th</sup> school closed for INSET)

#### Term 2

Mon 30<sup>th</sup> Oct to Fri 15<sup>th</sup> Dec

#### Term 3

Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2018 to Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> Feb (school closed on

Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan and on Fri 9<sup>th</sup> Feb for INSET)

#### Term 4

Mon 19<sup>th</sup> Feb to Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> March

#### Term 5

Mon 9<sup>th</sup> April to Fri 25<sup>th</sup> May

#### Term 6

Mon 6<sup>th</sup> Jun to Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2018 (school closed Tues 24<sup>th</sup> July for INSET)

School will close for all BANK Holidays as normal.

**Phonics**  
ee ur ow  
wh y au

**Congratulations Year 1 and those in Y2 who did their Phonics Check last week.** We are very pleased with how well the children have worked to learn their phonics.

Parents will get results at the end of the year. Any children who haven't passed the check are already having interventions to help them learn the sounds they don't know and this will continue into next year. Teachers are happy to share ideas of how to practise phonics at home so please ask.



**Governors' Corner:** The finance and staffing governors met last week to discuss next year's budget. You will no doubt have heard in the national press about how cuts are really starting to affect schools. Whilst we are able to set a budget for next year we are planning cuts so we are not in deficit budget the following year. For more details see the separate letter from governors and raise your concerns with local MPs.



The Friends are organising the Summer Fayre on 1<sup>st</sup> July and will need volunteers to organise stalls, the raffle, food and setting up and clearing away afterwards. Please see Jonty, the chair of the Friends, or leave a message in the Friends box in the infant Link if you can help.

**Friends' Meeting 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2pm, junior site.**



#### Friends' Activities -Coin Line

Thank to everyone who sent in contributions to the coin line. The winners are still to be verified and money on the KS1 is yet to be counted.

Well done to our Year 6 children who

Counted all the coins for KS2 and I can confirm that the KS2 amount raised was £276.00. Watch this space for confirmation of the winning classes and the total raised for the school! Well done everybody!



#### Summer Concert

What a lovely concert we were treated to on Tuesday. Well done to all the children for all their hard work practising and thank you to parents for supporting your child and to staff for giving their time to put together a super evening's entertainment.



**School Trousers.** Do you have any small sized school trousers in good condition, hanging around at home, that are no longer required? If so, the school office on the infant site would love to have them. We are running very short at present on our supply of spare school trousers (black or grey please). Subsequently,

if you have borrowed some school trousers and you still have them at home, please can we ask that you wash and return them as soon as possible.

Thank you.



**Summer Uniform-** summer dresses are purple or blue check. NO pink, yellow or any other colour. Pupils may wear **black or grey** school shorts. Casual/sports shorts are **not** suitable for school. Sensible sandals that hold a child's feet securely may be worn in fine weather. Sandals should be black, navy, dark purple or white- again **no** pink or other colours. Please remember hair styles and accessories should be sensible and conducive to learning. Small bows are acceptable, large ones get in the way. Pupils should NOT wear trainers or jewellery (except in agreed circumstances).



Staff are starting to prepare new class lists for next year as ALL the classes will be mixed up. We try to put children with a friend and split up those who don't work well together. This is a complex task as classes also need to remain balanced with even numbers of girls and boys of different abilities. Staff ask the children to name a couple of friends that they try to put them with **BUT IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO GUARANTEE THAT YOUR CHILD WILL BE WITH THEIR FRIENDS.** If you want to speak to teachers it is best to approach them now rather than later. I realise this can be an anxious time, usually more so for parents than children! We find the children are actually very adaptable and make new friends quickly in September so please don't worry. Making new friends is an important life skill and we find moving the children round can balance friendship groups better.

**EVERY  
SCHOOL DAY  
COUNTS**

**Holidays in term time.** It is very unlikely holidays will be authorised as circumstances have to be really exceptional.

**AS A GUIDELINE PARENTS SHOULD ASSUME APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE WILL NOT BE AUTHORISED AND YOU ARE LIKELY TO BE FINED FOR ANY UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE OVER 4 DAYS (8 SESSIONS).**

**Fines start at £60 per child, per responsible adult. For example if you have 2 children in school and there are mum and dad sharing responsibility for the children then you will be fined £240. Fines rise if they are not paid on time. Fines are not only issued for children being taken on holiday but can be given out when children are kept off school for 4 days or more without the head teacher's authorisation. PLEASE FILL IN A LEAVE OF ABSENCE FORM IN ADVANCE OF TAKING YOUR CHILD OUT.**



**Open Day Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July** - the school invites current and prospective parents to look round both sites. This will be an opportunity to meet the teachers and look at the classrooms your child will be moving to in September. The infant site will be open at 9.10-10.00am, 1.00-2.00pm and 3.20-4.20pm. Parents who have children currently in Key Stage 1 will be shown around by their children (please make sure they are registered first). I will be doing conducted tours for prospective parents. The junior site will be open at 10.00-11.00am, 2.00-2.50pm and 3.20-4.20pm. Y6 ambassadors will be showing current parents round. Pupils in Key Stage 2 will need to stay in class (as Key Stage 2 learning is more structured and less fluid than learning in Key Stage 1).

If you are concerned and wish to discuss your child's report (which you will have by then) then the OPEN EVENING session from 3.20-4.20pm is a good time to do this. (Please ring the office to make an appointment with the class teacher). Thank you.





## PLEASE!! NOTE

**Please note** the school tries to pass on information it considers may be helpful or of interest to parents in this newsletter. We do not necessarily endorse or check the security and safety of the services on offer. Parents need to satisfy themselves that they are happy to leave their children at any of the clubs and services advertised which are not based on the Holymead School sites. Holymead School carries out DBS checks on clubs who have hire agreements with this school.

**Staff moving classes.** For those of you who know the school you will know that teachers and LSAs are employed to work throughout the whole age range and regularly move about through different year groups. Staff are expected to move around the age ranges to become competent at teaching all ages. I am keen to dispel the myth that staff who move from Reception to Y6 are getting promoted and those who move from Y6 to reception are getting demoted!! As staff will be moving around (in September) I think they would be dismayed to think parents considered a change of age range as a promotion or demotion. It is not. This is simply part of the cycle of moving around and keeping staff up to date with ways of teaching in all the age ranges.



**Sheffield Swimming** On Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup> of June, the year six swimming team swam at the national school finals in Sheffield! The boys swam in two events and the girls swam in one; the girls didn't qualify for the other one. We had lots of support on the day - some teachers and year six pupils came up to watch as well as the families of the children swimming. The teams' first swim was the boys 4x25 medley swim; they managed to get to the B finals and came 14<sup>th</sup> in the whole country! Next was the other boys race and this was their 4 x 25 freestyle relay. They managed to get into the B finals again and got 12<sup>th</sup> in the country! The final races were the girls' one and they did their 4 x 25 medley relay and managed to get to the B finals and came 14<sup>th</sup> overall! All of the teams swam amazingly well and the support was incredible - thank you everyone! Kt (a year six pupil) was there watching and said: "They all swam really well and I'm really proud they both got to the B finals!"  
By Kaya and Kt



**Shuffle Up Day** - On the afternoon of 10<sup>th</sup> July all children will shuffle up to their new classes to meet their new teachers. This includes Y2 going up to the juniors and new Reception children coming into school.

This is the day parent/carers are informed which class their children will be in. No changes to classes can be made once the class lists are put up on the doors so please talk to teachers NOW.

**Y2 transition to Y3.** As part of our transition programme to get children ready for Y3 we have been taking them to visit the junior site where they have a buddy to tell them what it is like in Key Stage 2.

**We are also holding a short meeting with Y2 parents to welcome you to Y3 on the evening of 11<sup>th</sup> July at 6pm in the Upper Hall.**

## NOTE to Parents...

**Reminder.** Please can we respectfully remind Parents/Carers that with school budget reductions occurring, we have to scrutinise our school expenditure more than ever. We would really appreciate if you could manage your child's school dinner money account more vigilantly and ensure that it is always in credit, rather than arrears.

With regards to trips, camps, cooking and music payments, we are not in a position to subsidise these payments any further. If your child has been booked into receive music tuition for example, you will be required to make these payments even if your child chooses not to attend.

Your continued support is much appreciated. Should you wish to discuss this further please speak to either Mrs Buckley, the School Business Manager or Mrs Holland, the School Bursar. Thank you.



Are you entitled?

**Reminder to our current Year 2 parents/carers re Free School Meals.** Currently your child is entitled to universal free school meals, but this entitlement will end in September, when they move into Year 3. You can apply for free school meals and Pupil Premium from Year 3 onwards if you get any of these benefits below:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (as long as you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit

For further information on how to apply, please refer to:

<https://www.bristol.gov.uk/schools-learning-early-years/free-school-meals> or come in and speak to our office staff for further assistance.

Yours sincerely  
Ms Kate Slatcher



Holymead Primary (Infant Site)  
Hollywood Road, Brislington, Bristol BS4 4LE.  
4HB  
T: 0117 3772381–F: 0117 3772382  
E:office@holymeadprimary.co.uk  
[www.holymeadp.bristol.sch.uk](http://www.holymeadp.bristol.sch.uk)

Holymead Primary (Junior Site)  
Wick Road, Brislington, Bristol, BS4  
T: 0117 9030377-F: 0117 9030378  
E:office@holymeadprimary.co.uk  
[www.holymeadp.bristol.sch.uk](http://www.holymeadp.bristol.sch.uk)

Rights Respecting Schools Article 13: Children have the right to act and to share information