

Thursday 20th September 2018 Number 2, Term 1

Dear Parents/Carers



Please note there will soon be a new office area on the junior site. To improve security parents will need to enter and exit via the main entrance on Wick Road rather than through any of the back doors. Please do not be offended if you are challenged on entering through the back doors as these will be for exiting only or for staff who have access fobs to use. Please bear with us as not only is the system new but we have temporary staff in the office as Mrs Reynolds is off ill.

What's Happening

New Reception Parent/Carer Curriculum Meeting 26th September. We will be holding a curriculum meeting at 6.00pm in YR classrooms for parents/carers to come and find out more about what your children will be learning this year in school (no crèche).

Y2 Reading Meeting 27th September 5.30pm in the Hall (no crèche).

Y1 Phonics' Meeting 8th October 3.20pm in the Hall (crèche available).

YR and KS1 Parents' Evenings 11/16th October -details to follow (no crèche)

Y4 Camp Meeting 24th October 3.20pm in Falcon

Y6 secondary school transfer meeting on 4th October at 3.30pm in the Upper Hall. Open to Y5 and Y6 parents.

KS2 Reading Meeting at the juniors- 18th October 3.30pm.

School Open Day 13th November- details to follow.



WAS YOUR CHILD BORN BETWEEN 1st SEPTEMBER 2014 AND 31st AUGUST 2015?

If they were, you need to be applying for a school place for September 2019. If you know of friends with nursery age children please check they have applied online to the local authority. Even if you have older children at this school you must still apply for a reception place using the online Bristol form.


Holymead
Primary

Nurture, Inspire, Achieve

Harvest Festival

We will be collecting food for the East food bank for Harvest this year. If you would like to send a donation we are collecting the following items:

- * Long life fruit juice
- * Tinned soup
- * Tinned fruit
- * Long life milk
- * Custard
- * Biscuits
- * Rice
- * Tinned rice pudding
- * Sugar
- * Toiletries

Please don't send any donations until Monday 15th October as we don't have much storage space in school. Thank you.



Next Gen Photographers will be in school on the following dates: 15th October- KS2 individuals and siblings on the junior site.

16th October- family, siblings and individuals on the infant site

If you want a FAMILY group photo with ANY age children including across either sites or pre-schoolers bring them on 16th October to the infant site at 8.30am.

Siblings who are currently on the **same site** as each other will automatically be photographed together so do not need to come to the family session.

Please let teachers know the day before that you may be late for registration if you're having family photos done.



The Bristol Post usually come early to take a photo of new reception children so please make sure you have filled in your slip saying whether you give permission or not for your child to appear in the paper. Pupils are not normally named on this occasion.



School Uniform. We have moved to all uniform being ordered online. We stock different sizes of sweat shirts etc so you can try on a sample to get the right size before ordering. If you don't have internet access our office staff

are happy to help you with ordering uniform.

Polo Shirts: These can either be plain white or dark purple in colour.

Shoes: Children need to have BLACK SCHOOL SHOES for school. NO TRAINERS! Thank you.

PLEASE NOTE BLACK JEANS, LEGGINGS AND HOODED PURPLE TOPS ARE NOT SCHOOL UNIFORM AND MUST NOT BE WORN IN SCHOOL.

PE kit: is a purple tee-shirt and black shorts in a purple dap bag. Black or white tee shirts and shorts are an acceptable alternative but no club football kits etc.

ALL UNIFORM, INCLUDING PE KITS MUST BE LABELLED CLEARLY.

Back Packs are not allowed on the infant site as space is very limited.

Pencil Cases: just a reminder that pupils are NOT allowed to bring pencils and pencil cases to school. The only exception to this is in Y6 where pupils are getting ready for using their own pencil cases and equipment in secondary school.

NO TOYS OR GAMES ARE ALLOWED IN SCHOOL.



Infant Bedtime Story

3rd October 4.30-5.30pm

All infant children are invited to return to school in their pyjamas to listen to bedtime stories and have a hot

chocolate and biscuit in the infant hall. There will be a small charge with any profit donated to charity. Details to follow.

Outdoor Equipment! Please note the outdoor equipment on both sites is for use during school time only and children should not be playing on it before or after school. Thank you.



Friends' Coffee Morning Monday 24th September 9am

for all parent/carers to particularly welcome new parent/carers to school. After drop off in the infant hall. YR to Y6 parents are welcome to come and have coffee and chat. Pre-schoolers are welcome to come and play. (All donations to MacMillan Cancer Support).

Friends' AGM Friday 28th September 9am infant site-calling all parents in both KS1 and KS2 (infant and junior sites). We always need new members to keep joining the Friends' Group and get involved in organising social and fund raising events. We will be looking for new people to help by taking up positions in the group to ensure it runs smoothly. Support is always on hand. Meetings are held during and after school on the infant and junior sites and pre-schoolers are welcome. The first meeting will be on Friday 14th September at 9am on the infant site and all are welcome.



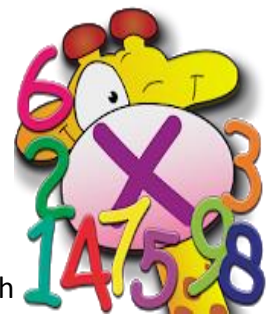
Spellings

This year's KS2 Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPAG/EGPS) results were well above the national average and we feel the support parents have given

their children in learning their spellings has played an important part in making sure children are ready for these harder tests.

All children will be tested on their spellings in September. There are spelling lists on the school website. Please make sure your child practises their year group spellings. If they struggle then limit your child to one or two sections to go over and over. If they know them all then your child can learn the next year's list.

Times tables are also on the website for children to practise and learn off by heart. Keep returning to the lists regularly and testing your child. I can't emphasise enough the difference knowing your times tables makes. It is those children who have learnt them that speed through their maths work in class.



Reward Systems

Praise Book- on the infant site you may notice your child talking about the Praise Book or coming home with a Praise Book sticker. This is a system to reward good work, effort or behaviour.



Children's names are read out and they receive their sticker in assembly. This record of their achievement is also put up on display in the Link the following week for everyone to see.



Star of the Week- on the junior site, as the children get older, we introduce a Star of the Week where children nominate and vote for a child they think deserves to be Star of the Week. Whilst the children have more say in who is chosen, this system is still overseen by the teacher to ensure fairness.



Reminder to Parents: please can we remind parents to ensure that all dinner money accounts (via Parentmail) and breakfast club and afterschool club accounts (Liburcura) are

either kept in credit or at zero. Dinners and services **MUST** be paid for in **ADVANCE** rather than in arrears.



Governors' Corner.

Curriculum governors met to monitor pupil outcomes in SATs. We are delighted with the improvements in KS1 SATs and EYFS data which put us in line with national expectations and of course with the fantastic Y6 results which were well above average.

Governors reviewed updates to the safeguarding policies, including the e-safety policy and the e-safety risk assessment.



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.



Times of the School Day – the school buildings open at 8.50am for the children to be registered at **9am**. Infant children should be handed over at the **OUTSIDE** classroom door from parents to teachers. Junior children may be left in the junior playground when a member of staff is on duty i.e. at 8.40am. Home time is **3.10pm for infants and 3.20pm for juniors**. The school office is open from 8.40am if you need to call in. **Please do not wait inside the buildings before or after school unless you are queuing for the office.**

JUST A LITTLE Reminder

Please remember hair styles and accessories should be sensible and conducive to learning. Hair should be a natural colour with no shocking colours or bleaching. Small bows are acceptable, large ones get in the way and distract other children from their learning.

Mobile phones are banned at school. Please follow the policy and ask for permission slips at the office if you need your child to bring a phone to school.

The school accepts no responsibility for items brought from home.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

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 FOR A HOLIDAY 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.

PLEASE FILL IN A LEAVE OF ABSENCE FORM IN ADVANCE OF TAKING YOUR CHILD OUT. YOU CAN STILL BE FINED IF YOU DON'T FILL OUT A FORM.

CHARACTERS

FREE TASTER FOR CHARACTERS DRAMA SCHOOL on Thursday 20th September.

Characters Stage School is based at St Brendan's Performing Arts Academy, Brislington. They offer an all-round training in the wonderful surroundings of the onsite theatre and dance studio, in drama, singing and dance from 4.30-5.30 (Age 4-7's) and 4pm-6pm (Age 8-15) every Thursday.



The classes build up your child's confidence and skills and work towards regular performances. If your child enjoys the free taster, they can sign up for our September - December term.

To reserve your place email moira@charactersstageschool.com with your child's name and age or call Moira 07932 785807. See <https://www.charactersstageschool.com> for more details about Characters



TERM DATES

Term Dates 2018- 2019

Term 1

(Mon 3rd September 2018 CLOSED -INSET)
Open Tues 4th Sept for KS1 and KS2
Wed 5th Sept 2018 for new Reception
to Fri 26th October

Term 2

Mon 5th Nov to Fri 21st Dec

Term 3

Mon 7th Jan 2019 to Thurs 14th Feb 2019 (Fri 15th closed for INSET)

Term 4

Mon 25th Feb to Fri 5th April 2019

Term 5

Wed 24th April to Fri 24th May 2019 (Tues 23rd INSET)

Term 6

Mon 3rd June to Fri 19th July 2019 (22nd, 23rd INSET)
School will close for all BANK Holidays as normal.



Rules and Safety

As the new school year starts I would like to inform parents about some of the rules around school.

Bikes and scooters and any other wheeled transport may not be ridden in the school grounds. We have found it is too dangerous to allow children of any age to use wheeled transport round school. Scooters must be taken home, not left in school, as we do not have the capacity to store them. Children in Upper KS2 (Y5 and 6) may park bikes in the bike sheds if parents fill in the cycling to school agreement. Bikes are left at their owner's risk.

Climbing Equipment is not for use by children before or after school hours on either site.

Dogs are not allowed on the school premises at all (except guide/working dogs). Even if you know they are gentle pets a small child can still find them threatening.

The white lines on the infant site are painted round the playground to keep your children safe. Please remind your children they are not allowed to go up the grass banks or the new path or the concrete slopes before or after school. This includes pre-schoolers as playing in these areas can be dangerous.

Drains and drain covers - There are many drains and drain covers around school which mean there are many holes so please be careful if you wear stilettos or narrow heeled footwear as narrow heels can go through the holes.

Toys, games, pencil cases, mobile phones etc are not allowed in school as they can cause arguments and lead to problems. The school accepts no responsibility for loss or damage to any items brought from home.

Yours sincerely
Ms Kate Slatcher



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