

Thursday 11th May 2017 Number 2, Term 5

Dear Parents/Carers

Following a refurbishment of the ground floor of the old Annex we now have a building with a separate entrance that can be used for polling so we do not need to close the school on 8th June for the election. I would like to thank staff and governors who have worked through a long term plan over many years to make this possible. You will be able to see it for yourself when you come to vote!



The gate on Rossall Road will only give access to the polling station on 8th June. To access the playground you will need to use the gate on Eton Road.

Term Dates 2016-2017

Last day of term is Friday 26th May.



Term 6

Monday 5th June 2017 to Thursday 20th July 2017 (Note: Monday 5th June the school is now open NOT an INSET day)

(Friday 21st July closed- INSET)

School will close for all BANK Holidays as normal.

School will be OPEN on the next polling day.



Scholastic Book Fayre- Thank you for your support. We raised £485.19 and this money can be used to purchase more books on the infant site. Thank you.

The photographer is in school this term to take class photos so please make sure children are looking smart in full school uniform on 24th May. Details of school uniform are outlined below in this newsletter.



Meeting for parents of children starting school (new Reception) in September 2017 on

Thursday 25th May at 7pm in the infant hall. This meeting is for adults only. There will be no crèche. Come and find out about your child starting school.



School Dinners

Please note that the cost of a school dinner will increase to £2.05 with effect from 1st May 2017. Thank you.



Nurture, Inspire, Achieve

What's Happening

Girls' Football Competition- starts 26th April
YR -Tyntesfield

May 17th Swimming gala at Horfield at 7.30pm.

May 24th Class Photos on both sites

May 24th Football teams at Ashton Gate



This term, with the warmer weather there will be lots of outside PE so it essential that children should have a full PE kit- T Shirt, shorts and daps/trainers. Please can parents of upper KS2 in particular, remind their children to bring their kits to school. Thanks.



Sports' Days. We will be holding separate infant and junior sports' days as organising over 600 primary pupils on one day would be difficult and you may miss watching an infant child if a junior event was taking place at the same time and vice versa.

KS1 Sports' Day (YR-Y2) 9th June 2017

KS2 Sports' Day (Y3-Y6) 16th June 2017

We will send out details separately so that you can come and join us.



Class Assemblies:

Thursday 18th May 9.10am Otter-
Infant Hall

Tuesday 23rd May 2.50pm Flamingo-
Middle hall

Tuesday 23rd May 2.50pm Finch- Upper hall

Thursday 25th May 9.10am Owl- Infant 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

Term Dates 2017-2018

Term 1

(Sept 4th school closed for INSET)

Tues Sept 5th school starts for KS1 and KS2

Wed Sept 6th school starts for new reception.

Term 1 ends Thursday October 19th

(Friday October 20th school closed for INSET)

Term 2

Mon 30th Oct to Fri 15th Dec

Term 3

Wed 3rd Jan 2018 to Thurs 8th Feb (school closed on

Tues 2nd Jan and on Fri 9th Feb for INSET)

Term 4

Mon 19th Feb to Fri 23rd March

Term 5

Mon 9th April to Fri 25th May

Term 6

Mon 6th Jun to Mon 23rd July (school closed Tues 24th

July for INSET)

School will close for all BANK Holidays as normal.



Your Opinion Counts!

Normally at this time of year we send out a parent/carer questionnaire. This year we are asking parent/carers to fill in the OFSTED online questionnaire instead as the questions are very similar to what we would ask you anyway. You can find the survey on the OFSTED website. Thanks for your help.



Governors' Corner: The curriculum, inclusion and standards committee met last week and discussed the support that is put in place to help children in learning their phonics. We also looked at the impact that this support has on children by the time they reach Y6 to check children aren't slipping back. We do not discuss individual children in these meetings.

If your child is struggling with reading please talk to your class teacher.



The Friends are organising a Lego Event on the infant site on 15th May at 3.15 to 4.30pm.

Please book online.

The next Friends' Meeting is 12th May -9am on the infant site. New members are always welcome. Please come along.

English for Speakers of Other Languages.



Come and join our friendly classes

to help improve your English for life in Bristol. Learn to speak with confidence to your doctor, school, employer and other people. The course is being run at Holymead Primary School (junior site) and will run every Thursday from 27th April until 20th July, from 1pm to 3pm. To book a place call the office on 0117 9030377.



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.

The law has changed on holidays taken 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). Any suspicious absence will be investigated.

**EVERY
SCHOOL DAY
COUNTS**



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.

The Year 1 Phonics Check and Y2 re-check will be administered in the week beginning 12th June.

KS1 SATs - Y2 are undertaking statutory assessments in May. We don't make a big deal of SATs at this age and children don't usually notice much difference to normal work. Generally pupils have a reading booklet, a maths' booklet and some writing to do. The work done in a test format is only used to support what teachers already know about your child by working with them all year. A disaster on one booklet due to your child having a headache etc that day will not affect the outcomes that are awarded. Outcomes are given to parents at the end of the school year. It is therefore essential that Year 1 and Year 2 children are in school during these weeks so any requests for holiday/leave of absence during this period will not be authorised. If you need to attend a funeral or have an unexpected emergency during this time please see me or ring school immediately. Thank you.



We are very pleased to announce that over the holidays there was some new playground equipment installed in the junior site playground. The money was part funded by the school and part by the Friends' Group. **Please note the equipment is for use during school time only and children should not be playing on it before or after school. Thank you.**

Children were able to view the plans before the final decision was made and helped to choose which apparatus they preferred. We therefore expect ALL children to respect this equipment and use it properly.



Friends' Activities -Coin Line

This year we are asking parents to help raise money for school funds by organising a Coin line. This is in response to suggestions following our previous copper and silver lines. We are, therefore, requesting that children collect silver and/or copper coins. The children will then lay out the coins and measure their lines. The class with the longest line wins the trophy. We will carry out the activity in June so recommend children start saving their coins now! All legal tender coins welcome! Thanks.

Swim Club News

On 27th April 32 members of swimming club spent 25 mins swimming as many lengths as they could. The target was 1000 lengths but that was kicked into touch with a massive 1222 lengths. Well done to everyone who took part and have supported our team who are representing our school at the ESSA national relay championships at Ponds Forge in Sheffield.



Deputy Head; Following a thorough interview process and up against a very strong field of experienced candidates we are pleased to announce that Mrs Head was successful in her application to become deputy head on the infant site.

Mrs Head will gradually handover her classroom duties to Mr Hough this term. She Will take up her deputy head duties full time from September 2017.

Congratulations to Mrs Head and my sincere thanks to Mr Hough for his eight years of dedicated service as the out going deputy.



Ashton Park Schools' Sports Partnerships Tournament

Our Girls' Football Team have won all 6 of their group games in the Ashton Park Schools' Sports Partnerships Tournament scoring 17 goals and conceding just one. The team will now progress to the play offs in two weeks' time. The girls put together a string of excellent performances, playing with skill, passion and commitment; I would like to thank them all for their hard work and for representing our school with distinction. A huge well done to Paige, Molly S, Lucy S, Yasmin, Katrine, Maddie R, K.T., Kaya, Eloise and Nicole M. I know everyone will join me in congratulating the girls on a fantastic performance and wishing them well for the next round of matches.



PSHE

Miss O'Toole will be leading meetings for parents on how we teach sex and relationship education in school on the following evenings in Salamander Class (Year 6).

- 22nd May at 3.20pm for parents of pupils in Y3/4
- 25th May at 3.20pm for parents of pupils in Y5/6

A crèche will be available in the IT suite.



Holymead Diversity Group.

A group has been set up to represent different cultures within the school. The group meets to discuss ways in which diversity can be celebrated throughout the school. It also gives parents and children opportunities to learn about the different cultures within our community. Parents and carers can become involved by volunteering or attending meetings. Our next meeting is on 12th June at 9.10 am on the infant site. If you would like to join the group, please contact the school office and a member of the group will contact you.

We have recently received some very sad news. Rod Burnett who has engaged children with his wonderful storytelling for many years passed away unexpectedly. Rod was due to come to deliver his amazing Storybox Theatre production to EYFS and KS1 next term. We will try to book something else for these year groups but it may not be until next school year now. Our thoughts go out to Rod's family at this difficult time; he was a warm and talented artist who will be sadly missed.

Yours sincerely
Ms Kate Slatcher



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