

## News 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018

**Safeguarding at the gate** - Please don't helpfully open the gate for deliveries, or allow anyone to 'tailgate' in behind you. We know it seems rude to shut the gate in someone's face but it's essential that the office staff know who is coming on site. All visitors and delivery drivers need to buzz the intercom so we can see who they are. This is very important to keep the school a safe place for everyone. Thank you for your help.

**Congratulations to our Swimming and Athletics teams!** It's been a week of sporting success with our swimmers sweeping the board to come first in the BNSC schools gala on Wednesday and our athletes coming a very creditable second out of twelve schools in a big Sports Hall Athletics tournament yesterday. Read more on the website [here](#) and [here](#).

**Parent Volunteer Librarians** - We would like to make even better use of our lovely libraries by opening up for after-school Lending Library sessions. If you are passionate about books and could spare half an hour after school from time to time please see the letter below.

**Calling our Jewish families** - On RE Day next Friday (7th December) we will all be looking at various aspects of the Jewish faith. Would you, or anyone you know in the local community, like to help or contribute in any way? We have a visitor coming in to lead an assembly at 9am but if any parents/relatives feel they could lead a class discussion or just talk to the children about their faith please let the school know by Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December. Thank you.

**PE Kit** - Please make sure that your child has their full kit in school on PE days. You can check when their class have PE in their Year Group's newsletter at the start of each term.

**Thank you to Friends of Hillcrest** for subsidising the Old Vic theatre trip for Reception and Yr 1 today.

**Dress Down Day, Friday 7th December** - No need to wear school uniform! Just bring in a Tombola prize for the Christmas Fair. It can be something for adults or children - wine, beer, chocolate, toiletries, toys, cuddlies and games (new or as new) etc.

**Christmas Trees** - Friends are selling high quality, Mendip-grown, Nordmann Fir trees again this year to raise funds for Hillcrest. Download the order form below or pick one up from the rack in the lobby. The deadline for orders is next Tuesday.

**On a less festive note... head lice** seem to be on the march right across the school. Please have a thorough check this weekend. See letter below for what to look for and how to treat.

### **School Gateway news**

**Are you still using the Gateway app?** Please delete the app from your devices and use Gateway's website instead. The app is the source of most of the problems and queries that parents have about Gateway. It has become very glitchy and does not support Gateway's Clubs module. We no longer use it to send text messages.

You can access the Gateway website using the button on the school website's home page or by typing 'School Gateway' into your search engine.

**Not *that* instant** - If you pay for something on Gateway using the 'Instant Bank Transfer' option, instead of the 'Credit or Debit Card' option, please be aware that 'instant', in this instance, can mean

up to 5 days! (This has caused problems for a few people when they thought their payments had already gone out.)

**Paying for school dinners** - Please note that there are two options on Gateway. You can either pay for a single meal (£2.10) or pay for a block of meals (minimum payment £10.50 - five dinners).

**Reception parents** - You may already have registered on our on-line payment and booking system, School Gateway, to give permission for today's Old Vic theatre trip. If not, please make sure you register on Gateway now. Click [here](#) to get started and select the 'New user' tab. It is pretty straightforward - just make sure you use the same title (Mr, Ms, Miss, Mrs), name, mobile number and email address that we have on file for you. If you have any difficulty, please pop to the office. We have a tablet that you can use and we can take you through it.

## Letters

[Parent Librarian Volunteers letter](#)

[Yrs 1 - 6 African Drumming lessons letter](#)

[Friends Festive Film Night flyer](#)

[Friends Christmas Tree order form](#)

[Great Hillcrest Christmas Bake Off flyer](#)

[All Year Groups Head Lice](#)

## Community Notices

Don't miss [St Martin's Church Bazaar](#) this Saturday. The pickled onions and jams are legendary!

**Look out for your next Mailbag on Tuesday.**