

Colston's Primary School, Tel: 3772610
Newsletter 20th March 2009



School News

Dear Parents,

This is a reminder of the importance of regular school attendance. For this school year our attendance is at present 94%. If this were to continue until the end of the year then it would mean the *average* Colston's pupil was absent from school for **two full weeks**.

We have a significant number of children with absence rates of 85% or more. This means that over a school year your child may be missing *one full term* of school.

We have found that low attendance at our school can be linked to low achievement so please make every effort to ensure your child attends.

Meanwhile, we have many children who have an attendance rate of or very near to 100%. Thank you for supporting the school.

Late arrival at school is also a growing problem. The school gates close at 9.00am and this is being delayed by the late arrival of children "strolling" into school. After 9.00 am, entrance to the school is through the school Reception only.

I recently sat with a Key Stage 2 class during morning registration. Only 14 children "lined – up" with the teacher in the playground at 8.50 am and only 20 children had arrived by 9.00am. This lateness delayed the start of morning lessons and must be very frustrating to those children who are ready to learn at the correct time.

Sun Safe

The recent weather reminds me that we must take care to protect children from the sun. Our lunchtimes are very long compared to many primary schools so it is important for children to wear hats in sunny weather. Sun blocks and other similar protection must be applied before coming to school.

Clothes for a Cause Fundraising

Your child(ren) should come home today with a clothes for a cause recycling bag. Please find time to fill this with your unwanted clothes, shoes, bedding and curtains and return it to the school hall between Monday 23rd and Tuesday 31st March. Additional bags are available from the School Office.

Term and Holiday Dates 2008/2009

Term 4 Monday 23 February to Friday 3 April 2009

Term 5 Monday 20 April to Friday 22 May 2009

Term 6 Monday 1 June to Friday 24 July 2009

Yr 6 SATs Week May 11 – May 15 2009

Inset Days

Friday 3 July 2009

Friday 24 July 2009

School closed for election 4 June 2009

Parent Notices & Local Events

Spring Clean Montpelier: On Saturday 28th March, four neighbourhood groups in Montpelier with support from the Bristol "Clean and Green" Team are organising a spring clean of the neighbourhood. We are meeting by the various local notice boards at 10am. Fairfield area: Rainbow Railway Bridge notice board York, Richmond and St Andrews Roads: Montpelier Park notice board Ashley Green:

Ashley Green Park notice board Tagging can be removed from painted walls, stone and rendering with the prior written permission of the owner. Contact Dan 9414668 for details and forms. After all the hard work, we will be meeting in the Cadbury House for lunch at 1.30. Get to know your neighbours and make a practical improvement in your local area.

Private Tuition: I have a limited amount of availability for private tuition. This is available during term time and the holidays, or for a more intensive course during school holidays. I am an experienced local teacher, with 23 years of teaching experience across the primary age range. Mrs Julie McMahon. Mobile: 07932735352 or please leave a written message for the attention of Julie McMahon in the school office.

Year 3 Camping Weekend: The parents are organising a Year 3 camping weekend from 2nd July to 5th July. Friday 3rd July is an inset day which makes this an ideal, long weekend.

Tommytaylor's are holding another sale of 2nd hand first class children's clothes, quality toys and equipment at St Michaels & All Angels church 160a Gloucester Road from 12pm till 2.00pm on Tues 24th March and Wed 25th March. Children's clothes, age range 0 -7 - all in excellent condition from Gap, Next, Mini Boden, Monsoon, Petit Bateau, Blooming Marvellous as well as many designer makes. All clothes in excellent condition. Also a large range of quality toys and equipment. Any questions please contact either Trish or Alison or email info@tommytaylor's.co.uk Contact Trish on 07982259943 or Alison on 07818047234

Really, really cute baby bunnies for sale £5 o.n.o tel: 9879497.

Saturday Morning Playtime 21 March 9.30-11.30

Toys, crafts and storytime for children (from babies to approx 6 years) with their carers. Cooked breakfast. £1 for adults, 50p for children. St Matthew's Church, Clare Road, Kingsdown.

Nanny seeking employment:

I am a hard working, very enthusiastic nanny with many years of experience looking after children of varying ages. CRB checked and references available. Please call Marcia Wood 07825154281 or 0117 9557059.

A Hopkins Maintenance Services:

Carpentry and flooring, plumbing etc. Please call for a quote – Andy (a Colston's parent) on 07766754422 or e mail andreas@bristol-houses.co.uk.

PTAF Meeting

The next meeting of the PTAF will be on Monday 30th March at 7.30 pm in the School Library. All are welcome.

Animal Mania: Children's parties and holiday care for small animals please call 01905 757136 or www.animal-mania.co.uk