



Newsletter No 7

Dear Parents and Friends

Thursday 20 October 2016

OCTOBER HALF TERM

Half Term

We have come to the end of a very busy first half term. I think that both the children and staff are ready for a well-deserved break! The children return to school on **Monday 31 October 2016**. Thank you.



Harvest Mass

Today we celebrated our Harvest Mass. A big thank you for your generosity in donating harvest goods. We were able to provide many hampers for the SVP and our Mini Vinnies to distribute in the parish as well as provide some food for the Food Bank. I would like to also thank the staff who prepared such beautiful hampers and the children for their lovely prayers.



Get your grown ups growing

Thank you for turning up in such numbers to support this event. It was a real success and weren't we lucky with the weather?! Thank you to Miss Crowley for organising the afternoon and the PTA for providing well deserved refreshments. We managed to raise £99.00 and this will be used to purchase more gardening tools; ready for our next event! We were delighted to welcome Colin Diamond, Executive Director for Education to this event. He commented on how happy and busy all the children were during the afternoon. It was all captured on Twitter - enjoy!



Winter School Uniform

When we return to school on **Monday 31 October** all children must be in their **full school winter uniform**.

Girls: Bottle green skirt/pinafore dress or grey trousers, white blouse and red tie, bottle green cardigan or jumper with school logo, plain white socks or plain red or green tights, sensible dark, low heeled school shoes no trainers/no fashion boots.

Boys: Grey trousers, white shirt and red tie, bottle green jumper with school logo, grey socks, sensible dark school shoes - no trainers. Thank you for your support.



Healthy Lunchboxes

As a 'Healthy School', we are always encouraging children to make healthy choices. Our school meals are planned to be both healthy and nutritious. Parents are reminded that we ask that these healthy choices are also reflected in lunchboxes. It can be difficult to think of ideas to keep lunchboxes healthy and interesting so if you need some new ideas, please see: <http://www.nhs.uk/change4life/Pages/healthy-lunchbox-picnic.aspx>



Mass: Year 3 will lead our Mass in *Church* on **Thursday 3 November**.



Our Early Years children will be attending Mass at Church for the first time on Thursday 3 November. We need volunteers to support Early Years children walk back to school- please tell Miss Stewart or Mrs Hayward if you can. Reminder to all parents - please take your child to Church at normal time unless they are at Kids Club. In order to ensure children are safe, parents **must** stay with their child until the staff arrives at Church. Thank you.



Parent/Teacher Consultations

I hope that you were all able to attend one of the Parent/Teacher Consultation Evenings.

Parents who were unable to attend, should contact the school to make an alternative appointment to see their child's teacher to discuss their progress and how they are settling in to their new year group. Thank you for your cooperation.



Year 4 - Class Assembly

Everyone really enjoyed Year 4's amazing assembly about Roald Dahl on Tuesday. They have really relished this cross curricular topic and the opportunity to share their learning. Well done to both children and staff!



Tag Rugby Competition

On Monday, the Year 5/6 tag rugby team took part in the Sutton schools competition. They battled bravely through the group stages, dancing past Four Oaks school to a thrilling 4-3 victory in the final match. They continued to battle hard in the Quarter Final but unfortunately lost to Little Sutton who eventually finished as runners up for the whole competition. The team played really well and we are very proud of them.

Year 4 Forest School

Next half term Year 4 will be taking part in weekly 'Forest school' sessions every Friday. Children will be required to wear suitable outdoor clothes and footwear. A letter has been emailed home to all parents; please contact the school office if you require a copy. Thank you for your support.



Dinner Money



Dinner money will be due when we return after Half Term. The amount will be given in the next newsletter and the date of the deadline. This will then be put onto Parentpay for parents to pay. Thank you.



Transfer to Secondary School

The closing date for applications to be submitted to the Local Authority for those children transferring to secondary school in September 2017 is **Monday 31 October 2016**.



Bag 2 School – Bags have been sent home with children.

Bags 2 School is a company that specialises in good quality second hand clothing that can be re-used and we have arranged to make a collection from this school. All bags are weighed and we will be paid by the total weight collected. Remember the more you collect the bigger benefit to our school! They will collect the following items for RE-USE: adults and children's clothing, bedding, soft toys, paired shoes, hats, belts and handbags. NO BRIC-A-BRAC PLEASE. **Extra bags welcome – there is no limit.** If you need spare bags please come to the school office. Bags will be collected on **Wednesday 2 November 2016 by 9.00am.** Please only drop off bags on that morning as the school cannot store overnight. Thank you for your support!



Open Day Tuesday 8 November

We are having two open sessions for prospective parents who have children due to start in the Early Years Reception class in September 2017. These will be on Tuesday 8 November 9.15am – 10.15am and 2.30pm – 3.20pm. If you know of any Catholic families who are in this position please let them know. We are looking forward to meeting you all.



Supplementary Forms

Supplementary Forms available now from school office for children who wish to start our Early Years Class in September 2017. These forms need to be signed by Fr Neil; please see him about this when you go to Mass. *The deadline for these to be returned to the school office is **Friday 20 January 2017.** Please note forms received after this date will not be accepted.*



First Holy Communion Meeting

This will be held on **Thursday 10 November at 6.00pm in Church.** *Parent Meetings are an essential part of Sacramental preparation and it is expected that all children will have a parent attending. Thank you for your support. If you cannot attend please contact Father Neil.*



Children in Need 2016

This year's theme is 'Spots' and therefore we are asking children to come to school on **Friday 18 November** dressed in spots, spots on their faces, spots in their hair or anything spotty that you can think of; and **pay £1** to support children and young people who are in need. Thank you for your support.



Reception Intake – September 2017

In October 2016, the local authority will write to parents/carers of children who are on roll at a community or private nursery advising them of how to apply for a Reception Class place for September 2017. To view a copy of the Parents' Information Booklet go online at www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions by **4 December 2016.** The Local Authority will accept applications until the national closing date of **15 January 2017.** Thank you.



Year 2 Trip to Birmingham Thinktank.

On **Monday 21 November**, Year 2 are going on a trip to the Birmingham Thinktank. This is in relation to their Science topic of 'Animals and Humans'. Deadline for payment is **Monday 14 November** this is made payable via Parentpay. A letter was emailed to parents on 10 October; please contact the school office if you have not received a copy.

Birmingham
Museum &
Art Gallery

Year 3 Trip to Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery

On **Tuesday 6 December**, Year 3 are going on a trip to the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery. This is in relation to their topic of 'Ancient Egyptians'. Deadline for payment is **Monday 21 November** this is made payable via Parentpay. A letter was emailed to parents on 6 October; please contact the school office if you have not received a copy.



Woodwind Lessons

If your child is in Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 or Year 6 and would like to start woodwind lessons please contact the office for further details. Thank you.



PTA

The PTA is looking for any local businesses to help support us by donating a bottle of Champagne for our Christmas raffle. We would be grateful if any parent or friend of the school can help provide us with this donation. Please contact the school office if you are able to help. Thank you.



Christmas Fayre

The PTA Christmas Fayre is on Friday 2 December. We are looking for new and interesting stalls. Tables are £10.00 to rent. If you are interested in running a stall please leave your contact details at the school office. Thank you.



Attendance - Our school strives for 100% attendance.

Did you know...? Government legislation states that a child with an attendance of 90% and below is categorised as a "Persistent Absence Pupil". An attendance figure of 90% equates to missing half a day every week that means four weeks of missed school work across the whole year.

Parents should also be aware that referrals to the school nurse will be considered for those children with an attendance rate of below 95% due to health related absences.



This week the Attendance Award was won by Year 1 and Year 3 with 98.11%!

The Punctuality Award for the week: EYFS, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5.

Recommendations: EYFS: Jay M, Addison H-G **Year 1:** Jak McS, Alex E **Year 2:** Lola F, Heloise C

Year 3: Eva H, Isla H **Year 4:** Whole class **Year 5:** Jack H, Ben O'T **Year 6:** Whole class.

Lunchtime Award: Lola F (Y2).

Class of the week: Year 6.

Sports Award: Annie D (Y6).



Virtues and Values

As you know the Archdiocese of Birmingham has introduced a focus on Gospel Virtues and Values. This half term we are concentrating on being '**Curious and Active**'. As a school community we are looking for opportunities in our own lives where we show the virtues. Please discuss this with your children at home; highlighting times when you experience or show these virtues. This will also be the focus for our 'Angel of the Week' awards for this half term.



Angel of the Week

Each week we will be recognising those children who we feel have made that extra special effort and show the virtues in their daily life.

This week's winners are: **Miss Stewart:** Trinity H, Qai'Rou M (Y6) **Miss Stevens:** Connor T (EYFS)

Mr Hunt: Maggie R, Lily H **Mr Mayor:** Francesca L **Miss Crowley:** Jacob D (Y6) **Mr Rowlands:** Niamh S
Madeline L **Miss Cross:** Ben L.



Happy Birthday!



Happy Birthday to the following children who have celebrated their birthdays this week and during half term:

Addison H-G, Tresa B (EYFS), Daniel W (Y1), Lily H, Lola F, Aaron H (Y2),
Dylan G (Y3), Oliver B, Isabel W (Y4),
Sam K (Y5), Niamh P, Chris S (Y6).

Dates for your diary - October 2016

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| Monday 31 October | 8.50am | Return to school |
| Monday 31 October | 1.00pm | HSBC in school |

Dates for your diary - November 2016

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| Wednesday 2 November | 9.00am | Bags2School |
| Thursday 3 November | 7.00pm-10.00pm | Shakespeare Performance The Old Rep |
| Monday 7 November - Friday 11 November | All week | Kindness Week |
| Tuesday 8 November | 9.15am-10.15am 2.30pm-3.20pm | Open day sessions for prospective parents for EYFS September 2017 |
| Tuesday 8 November | 4.00pm-6.00pm | Multi Skills Sports |
| Wednesday 9 November | 7.30pm-8.30pm | PTA Meeting |
| Thursday 10 November | 6.00pm-7.00pm | First Holy Communion meeting Year 3 parents in Church |
| Friday 11 November | All day | Takeover Day (Please note change of day) |
| Monday 14 November | 1.00pm | HSBC in school |
| Tuesday 15 November | 9.00am-10.00am | Year 1 and Year 2 Inspire Workshop |
| Wednesday 16 November | 3.20pm-5.00pm | PTA Film Night |
| Friday 18 November | All day | Children in Need Day - theme this year will be 'Spots' |
| Sunday 20 November | 10.30am-11.30am | Mass of Commitment for Year 3 |
| Monday 21 November | All day | Year 2 trip to Thinktank Science Museum |
| Tuesday 22 November | 9.15am-10.00am | Year 3 Assembly |

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| Monday 28 November | 1.00pm | HSBC in school |
| Tuesday 29 November | | Academy Photographers Families, siblings & individuals |
| Wednesday 30 November | All day | Non school uniform day - wear blue for St Andrew's Day |
| Dates for your diary - December 2017 | | |
| Friday 2 December | 3.20pm-5.20pm | PTA Christmas Fayre |
| Tuesday 6 December | All day | Year 3 trip to Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery |
| Wednesday 7 December | 4.00pm-6.00pm | Indoor Athletics |
| Friday 9 December | 8.00pm-9.30pm | An Advent & Christmas celebration with Jo Boyce & Friends at Holy Cross & St Francis Church |
| Monday 12 December | 1.00pm | HSBC in school |
| Tuesday 13 December | 12.00pm | Christmas dinner for children and staff |
| Tuesday 13 December | 2.15pm refreshments 2.30pm start | EYFS/KS1 Christmas Production |
| Wednesday 14 December | 9.00am refreshments start 9.15am | EYFS/KS1 Christmas Production |
| Wednesday 14 December | 1.30pm-2.30pm | The Choir singing at The Oaks Residential Home |
| Thursday 15 December | 3.20pm-4.30pm | PTA Christmas Disco |
| Saturday 17 December | 9.45am-10.15am | Choir singing at The House of Fraser |
| Monday 19 December | 6.00pm-7.00pm | Advent Service of Nine Lessons and Carols KS2 at Church |
| Tuesday 20 December | 1.45pm-3.30pm | Wizard of Oz Pantomime in school |

***Other dates available on website**

Enjoy the half term break.

Yours sincerely

T Cotter

Miss T Cotter
Principal



As we start our half term break - a prayer for the grateful!

Dear God,
I am grateful for.....
Early wakeups = Children to love
House to clean = Safe place to live
Laundry = Clothes to wear
Dirty dishes = Food to eat
Crumbs under the table = Family meals
Shopping to do = Money to use
Toilets to clean = Indoor plumbing
Lots of noise = Kids having fun
Endless questions = Kids learning
Getting into bed sore and tired = I'm still alive



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