



Holy Cross
Catholic Primary School

We share in Christ's life so He can guide our thoughts, words and actions.

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Newsletter No 10

Dear Parents and Friends

Friday 18 November 2016



Children in Need 2016

We have enjoyed a very spotty day today! Thank you for embracing the theme so imaginatively. We will let you know how much was raised next week.



PTA Film Night

Wednesday night was very successful, with the children having a lovely time watching a film with their popcorn! The fantastic amount of £300.00 was raised! Many thanks to the PTA members for organising this.



Mass of Commitment for Year 3 and Year 6

The Mass of Commitment for those children who will be receiving the Sacraments of First Holy Communion or Confirmation will be held **this Sunday at 10.30am in Church.**

This is a very important part of Sacramental preparation and it is expected that all children shall attend. Any parents who cannot attend MUST contact Fr Neil. Thank you for your support.



Mass: Year 6 will lead our Mass in school on Thursday 24 November.



Careful Parking - URGENT REMINDER

Unfortunately I am again writing to you, asking for more care and consideration to be shown when dropping off and collecting your children. There has been an incident this week outside the gates by Kids' Club where a driver was reversing their car and did not see a child behind them; an Early Years child was extremely fortunate not to be seriously hurt. I urge parents to please be aware of pedestrians when they park, putting safety before convenience and being prepared to walk a short distance rather than parking precariously or in clearly designated no parking/stopping zones. Please give this matter your full cooperation - ***next time, it might be your child. Thank you.***



Request for Books

Have you got any children's books that you can donate to our school? We would be really grateful, thank you for your generosity.



Inspire Workshop Year 1 and Year 2

Thank you to the large number of parents who attended this workshop; we hope you found it both enjoyable and useful.



Year 3 - Class Assembly

On **Tuesday 22 November at 9.15am** our Year 3 class will be performing their assembly about 'Ancient Egypt'. Please come along and support our children. Thank you.



PTA Meeting

There will be a PTA meeting on **Wednesday 23 November at 7.30pm** in school. We would love to welcome new members; please come along and find out more details. The more the merrier!



Vocation Day - Year 6

On Thursday 24 November Year 6 will be taking part in 'Vocation Day.' A letter has been sent home with children giving more details. Please contact the school office if you require a copy. Thank you.



Advent Prayer Service

We will be having our 'Advent Prayer Service' on Friday 25 November at 9.15am please come along and join us. All welcome; thank you.



School Photographer

The photographer will be in school on the morning of **Tuesday 29 November** to take both individual and family photographs.

There will also be a before school session where there is an opportunity for family photographs with siblings who do not attend Holy Cross School. Parents wishing for these types of photograph please arrive at school for **8:15am prompt**. As these are formal school photographs, I ask that the children are in full winter uniform. Thank you.



Google Team

On Friday 2 December the Google Team will be visiting our school to work with KS2 children. The team will take our children on a 'Virtual Google Expedition.' This looks a fantastic learning experience for our children. For further information please see: <https://www.google.co.uk/edu/expeditions>



Christmas Fayre on Friday 2 December from 3.20pm to 5.20pm

Please put this important date in your diary.

To support our Christmas Fayre please note the following dates will be **non-uniform days** and each child is asked to bring in the following items on those days:

Friday 25 November - Chocolate [Boxes, bars or whatever you have, all in date, thank you] Tombola donation

Friday 2 December - Yule logs from KS1 and Mince pies or homemade cakes from KS2.

Thank you once again for your support it is appreciated.



Volunteers

Calling any volunteers! Please come and help out at our Christmas Fayre, we would be extremely grateful, even half an hour to help with washing up would be gratefully appreciated. Please contact the school office and leave your details. Thank you for your support.



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.



Traditional Christmas Wreaths

An order form was sent home with children last week for traditional Christmas wreaths, £6.00. If you would like to place an order please return the slip to the school office no later than **today**. These will be available to collect at the Christmas Fayre. Thank you.



Year 3 Trip to Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery

On **Tuesday 6 December**, Year 3 is 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, payment is made via Parentpay. A letter was emailed to parents on 6 October; please contact the school office if you have not received a copy.



Prepare The Way an Advent Christmas Celebration

Children from Holy Cross are invited to take part in PREPARE THE WAY: An Advent Celebration on **Friday 9 December, 8.00pm** at Holy Cross and St Francis' Church. An uplifting and lively festive concert for all the family, with Jo Boyce and friends. Letters have been sent home with children who have shown an interest in this event. If you would like a copy please contact the school office. If your child is attending and you can volunteer to look after children after rehearsal and before the concert starts please speak to people at the event on arrival. Please see attached flyer giving further information. Thank you.



School Choir

Our school choir will be singing at the following events:

Monday 12 December at 1.30pm, OAP Parish Christmas Lunch at the Church Hall.

Wednesday 14 December, 1.30pm at The Oaks (residential home).

Saturday 17 December at 9.45am, House of Fraser in Sutton Coldfield - parents are welcome to watch.

These are lovely opportunities for the children to perform to a variety of audiences and show the rewards of their hard work. I look forward to a high participation at all these events.



Christmas Dinner for Children and Staff

On Tuesday 13 December, we will be having our Christmas lunch in school. Every child is invited to take part, so if your child does not usually have a school meal, they are more than welcome to have one on that day. A letter was sent home with children on Tuesday; if you require a copy please contact the school office. If your child has sandwiches the deadline for ordering a dinner is **Tuesday 6 December**. **Please note that late payments will not be accepted due to ordering of food.** If your child is in KS1 and normally has sandwiches you will need to order a child's meal but no payment is required due to the universal free school meal entitlement.



Rights Respecting Schools Award

Holy Cross Catholic Primary School is working towards achieving the 'Rights Respecting Schools Award'. In order to achieve Level 1 we have put together a 'steering group' to plan and implement the rights of the children in Holy Cross School. Miss Crowley is leading this group and is asking for parents to volunteer and attend meetings. The meetings will be held termly where ideas will be discussed to implement throughout the school and an action plan put in place to support the school to move forward and hopefully achieve this award.

The next steering group meeting will be held on **Monday 21 November at 2.30pm** this is in preparation for our Level 1 assessment visit on Wednesday 30 November; please come along and join. Thank you for your support.



Year 6 Trip to St Chad's Cathedral

On **Tuesday 10 January**, Year 6 are going on a trip to St Chad's Cathedral. Deadline for payment is **Monday 12 December** this is made payable via Parentpay. A letter was emailed to parents on 8 November; please contact the school office if you have not received a copy.



Online Safety

Online Safety (we respect the right to keep children safe) - In response to the 'Online Safety Audit for Parents' completed in the summer term, it was requested that we support you in where to find information to set up filtering and privacy settings. Please follow this link to the safer internet website where it gives clear instructions on filtering and privacy settings for different providers-

<http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers/parental-controls-offered-your-home-internet-provider>

Alongside this, NSPCC has recently started a 'Share Aware' campaign to raise awareness of Online Safety. They have set up an Online Safety helpline to answer any queries you may have- from social networking, to online games, to privacy settings - [0808 8005002](tel:08088005002)

They have also released a Parents Guide to support you at home! Copies of the booklet are available from the school office if you require a hard copy. Thank you for your support in ensuring our children are safe online.

Here is the link to the booklet- <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/globalassets/documents/advice-and-info/share-aware.pdf>



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 3 and Year 5 with 100%!

The Punctuality Award for the week: EYFS, Year 2 and Year 6.

Recommendations: EYFS: Eliza H, Michael B Year 1: Jak McS, Salvio J, whole class Year 2: Sebastian H, whole class Year 3: Emma McK, Harry M Year 4: Thomas S, Erin P Year 5: Keane S, Niamh S, Jack H Year 6: Jessica P, Charlie B-H (Y5).

Lunchtime Award: Charlie S (Y5).

Class of the week: Year 6.

Sports Award: Eloise H (Y3).



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 'Intentional and Prophetic'. 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:** Patrick M **Miss Stevens:** Gracie D **Mr Hunt:** Megan P
Mr Mayor: Finbarr McG, Jake M-B, Thomas B **Miss Crowley & Miss Lovelock:** Erin L-F
Mr Rowlands: Stephene A, Pablo B **Miss Cross:** Chris S, Niamh P.



Happy Birthday to the following children who have celebrated their birthdays this week:
 Jack B (Y1).

Dates for your diary - November 2016		
Monday 21 November	All day	Year 2 trip to Thinktank Science Museum
Tuesday 22 November	9.15am-10.00am	Year 3 Assembly
Wednesday 23 November	7.30pm	PTA Meeting - Please note new date
Thursday 24 November	All day	Vocations Day Year 6
Friday 25 November	9.15am	Advent Prayer Service - all parents are welcome
Friday 25 November	All day	Non school uniform - children to bring in chocolate
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	All day	Non school uniform - KS1 Yule logs, KS2 mince pies or homemade cakes
Friday 2 December	All day	Google Team in school to work with KS2
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
Monday 12 December	1.30pm	Choir singing at Parish Christmas dinner
Tuesday 13 December	12.00pm	Christmas dinner for children and staff non-school uniform - children can wear Christmas jumpers
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	Pantomime company in school - Wizard of Oz
Thursday 22 December	All Day	Toy Day - children to wear full school uniform

***Other dates available on website**

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely

T Cotter

Miss T Cotter

Principal



ST. JOHN PAUL II

Multi-Academy Company

Bishop Walsh Catholic School | Holy Cross Catholic Primary School | St Joseph's Catholic Primary School | St Nicholas Catholic Primary School



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