



Newsletter No 14

Dear Parents and Friends

Friday 15 December 2017



Thank you for sending the children into school in these difficult weather conditions. Mr Martin has worked very hard in ensuring the school site is safe. We always endeavour to keep the school open, but obviously as this week and even as this morning showed, the weather can deteriorate rapidly and therefore as an Academy, we have to make decisions on the grounds of the health, safety and wellbeing of all our school community.

Parents are reminded that notification of any unexpected closure will be announced through our texting service, Twitter and also on the school website. Twitter is a very immediate mode of communication, so if you are not following us yet; please do so as it has proven to be a very efficient method of notifying you of important information.



KS1 Christmas Production - Follow the Star! And KS2 Carol Concert

This week may have had a challenging start but it has been a fantastic week in school with Christmas definitely arriving at Holy Cross! The two EYS/KS1 performances were a great success. It is amazing to see how confident the children have become and lovely to see so many happy and proud faces in the audience-our stars of tomorrow!



KS2 enjoyed their first performance today and again we were very proud of each and every child who took part. I will not say anything else about it because I do not want to spoil it for those of you coming to watch it on Monday!

Next week is really busy so please check the dates and times at the bottom of this letter so that you know exactly what is happening. We are nearly there!



Toy and Class Christmas Party Day

On **Friday 22 December** children can bring a toy into school. Please do not send your child with an expensive toy as the school will not accept responsibility if this gets broken.



This will also be the day the children will be having Christmas class parties. Parents are asked for a **£1 donation** per child towards party food and prizes. Please send this into the class teacher in an envelope with your child's name and labelled "Party". Deadline for payment **is Monday 18 December**. Thank you for your support. **The children need to wear full school uniform for this day.**



Mass: Year 6 will lead our Mass in school on **Thursday 21 December**, all welcome



Sutton Schools Football Tournament

Last night the girls' football team reigned victorious in their Sutton schools football tournament. Victory in the 1st match against St Joseph's was assured with a last minute goal from Enya. Our next match saw victory over Maney Hill courtesy of a strike from Erin. The girls' performance was fantastic; they never gave up and showed great team spirit to support an injured teammate. We are very proud of them - well done girls!



School Choir

Our school choir will be singing at the following events:

Saturday 16 December at 9.45am - House of Fraser in Sutton Coldfield (children to wear school uniform) - parents are welcome to watch.

Tuesday 19 December at 10.30am - Parish Pensioners' Christmas Lunch at the Church Hall.

Thursday 21 December, 1.30pm - The Oaks (residential home).

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.



Recycle Used Christmas Trees

We are asking parents to donate their real Christmas trees to the school as a Forest School resource.

The Christmas trees would be great resources as the branches are great for den building and once dried they are a great fire lighting resource. The main trunk can then be used for den building and smaller activities requiring wood. Within our forest setting there is a limited availability of materials for the children to work with and this would be a simple activity recycling old Christmas trees and doesn't cost the school a penny. Please bring your Christmas trees to school on **Friday 12 January** and leave them on the grass next to the ramp to the school office. Thank you.

KS2 Carol Service

The second performance of the KS2 carol service will be held in the school hall on **Monday 18 December** - refreshments at 2.15pm and the carols will start at 2.30pm. (Please note change of time.)

All parents are welcome to come along to join in our carol service. Thank you.





Christmas Trip to watch Paddington 2

EYFS and KS1 = Monday 18 December (Meeting at Empire Cinema)

KS2 - Wednesday 20 December (Travelling from school)

We are all going on a trip to Empire Cinema, Sutton Coldfield. Deadline for payment is **Thursday 7 December** this is made payable via Parent Pay. A letter was emailed to parents giving further details; please contact the school office if you have not received a copy.



Christmas Dinner for Children and Staff

On **Tuesday 19 December**, we will be having our Christmas lunch in school. **This will be a non-school uniform day.** Children can wear their Christmas jumpers on that day to get into the Christmas spirit. A letter has been sent home with children who bring in packed lunch from home. Please contact the school office if you have not received a copy. Thank you.



No Music Lessons

There will be no music lessons on **Friday 22 December**. Thank you.



Year 6 Trip to St Chad's Cathedral

On **Tuesday 9 January**, Year 6 is going on a trip to St Chad's Cathedral. A letter has been emailed to parents; please contact the school office if you have not received a copy.

THREE FAITHS FORUM



Year 4 Trip to West Bromwich Football Ground

The 'Three Faiths Forum' (3FF), is Europe's leading, and the UK's largest Interfaith Organisation. For over 20 years, they have continued to work and build understanding and lasting relationships between people of all faiths and beliefs. By taking part in this 'School Linking Project' we aim to prepare our children to be able to interact positively with anyone they meet with the skills and attitudes to be able to cultivate meaningful relationships. As part of the project we have been linked with Niksham Primary School.

The 'School Linking Project' will consist of three 'Link Days' with Niksham Primary School and the first will be on **Monday 15 January 2018** with Year 4 going on a trip to West Bromwich Football Ground. A letter has been sent home with all year 4 children. If you require a copy please contact the school office. Please complete and return the proforma to the School office no later than **today**.



'Heartstart' Programme Year 5 and Year 6

Holy Cross Catholic Primary School is affiliated with the British Heart Foundation's 'Heartstart' programme. A letter was sent home yesterday with children please contact the school office if you require a copy. This course will be open to those children from Year 5 and 6 in an after school club with Mr Hunt. The course will take place on a Monday, 3:20-4:20pm. There are only 12 places available and so there is a first come, first serve basis. This course will run on Monday 15, 22 and 29 January and the 5 and 12 February. The deadline to return consent slips is **Thursday 21 December 2017**. Thank you.



Attendance - Our school strives for 100% attendance.

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 6 with 100% Well done!



The Punctuality Award for the week: EYFS, Year 1, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6!

Recommendations

Recommendations: EYFS: Whole class, Nancy W, Sofia H **Year 1:** Whole class, Ronan L, Connor T
Year 2: Whole class, Alfie J, Reuben R, Salvio J **Year 3:** Liam B, Lola F **Year 4:** Nevin R, Eloise H
Year 5: Bonnie T-M, James M **Year 6:** Charlie B-H, Madeline L .



Class of the Week: Year 2.

Lunchtime Award: Nancy W (EYFS).



Virtues and Values

This half term we are concentrating on being **'Learned and Wise'**. 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:** Whole class **Miss Stevens:** Whole class, Bethany McK
Mr Hunt: Harry W **Mr Mayor:** Lily H **Miss Lovelock/Mrs Howes:** Sian J **Mr Rowlands:** Ben B
Miss Cross: Isobel H, Christien J.



Happy Birthday to the following children who have celebrated their birthdays this week:

James W, Bethany McK (Y1), Alexandra E, Anaha P (Y2), Mia B (Y4), William H, Matthew N-C (Y6).

Dates for Diary - December 2017		
Saturday 16 December	9.45am-10.15am	School choir singing at House of Fraser (children to wear school uniform)
Monday 18 December	2.15pm refreshments start 2.30pm-3.15pm	KS2 Carol Service in school hall
Monday 18 December	9.00am-11.30am	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Trip to Empire Cinema to see 'Paddington 2'
Tuesday 19 December	10.30am-11.30am	School choir to sing at The Parish Hall for OAPs
Tuesday 19 December	12.00pm-1.00pm	Children and staff Christmas dinner - non-school uniform day children to wear Christmas jumpers
Wednesday 20 December	9.00am-11.30am	KS2 Christmas Trip to Empire Cinema to see 'Paddington 2'
Thursday 21 December	11.00am-11.30am	High Tea with Miss Cotter and Mrs Hope
Friday 22 December	All day	Toy Day - children must wear full school uniform
Dates for Diary - January 2018		
Monday 8 January		School reopens
Tuesday 9 January	All day	Year 6 Trip to St Chad's Cathedral
Monday 15 January	All day	Year 4 Trip to West Bromwich Football Ground
Friday 19 January	All day	Music lessons start

**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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