



## Newsletter No 13

Dear Parents and Friends

Friday 5 December 2014



Busy! Busy! Busy! This is the first week of Advent and our preparations for Christmas are in full swing. We will keep you informed of arrangements (and requests!) so please read the newsletter and watch out for texts. The children and staff are all working very hard to make Advent a very special time at Holy Cross School and we are all looking forward to sharing these events with you.

'It is beginning to feel a lot like Christmas!'



A very big thank you to the PTA who have worked so hard not only for organising today's fayre but for being so enthusiastic and willing to organise and support school events. We are so lucky to have such a proactive PTA so if you can spare any time to support them in their work, please speak to them. I can assure you that your offer of help will be very gratefully received. Also please remember when you are doing your shopping online that you can raise money for the school at the same time! This is what you need to do:

1. Sign up - go to <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/hccspta> and click on the button to sign up.
2. Shop - from the easyfundraising website, search for the retailer you'd like to shop with and click through to the retailer to make your purchase. This tells the retailer you came from easyfundraising. The price is exactly the same as if you'd visited the retailer directly.

No cost, no catch!

Please be assured that using the easyfundraising website will not cost you a penny. There are no catches or hidden charges and Holy Cross Catholic Primary School PTA benefit from any donations you make once registered.

Thank you for your support.



### Sickness in School

NHS guidelines are very clear: *Vomiting and diarrhoea. Children with these conditions should be kept off school. They can return 48 hours after their symptoms disappear. Most cases of vomiting or diarrhoea get better without treatment, but if symptoms persist, consult your GP.*

I ask for your full cooperation with this serious issue. We are still having children returning to school the following day after sickness. In order to aid the prevention of the spread of such bugs, please ensure that you adhere to this guidance. Thank you for your support.



### Academy Committee News

I am very sad to inform you that due to work commitments, Tony McGuigan will be leaving both the Academy Committee and the Board of Directors at the end of the term. Tony has been a dedicated and hardworking Chair of Governors (now Academy Committee), supporting the school through both challenge and success; he has been a critical friend to the school and is well respected by pupils, parents and staff. He was also a key member of the team who completed the school's conversion to be part of the St John Paul II Academy.

On behalf of all our school and community, I thank him for the very positive contribution he has made to the leadership of Holy Cross and wish him every success for the future.

We are also saying goodbye and thank you to Ian Beauchamp, a Foundation Academy representative, whose term of office comes to an end at the end of this term. We thank Ian for his work for the school during his time on the Governing Body and Academy Committee.

On a positive note, I am very pleased to announce that Mary Hope, our current Vice Chair will be taking over as Chair of the Academy Committee from January. She is looking forward to working even more closely with the school and Academy in the New Year.



### Church on Monday 8 December - Years 3,4,5 and 6

On Monday 8 December children in Key Stage 2 are required to be dropped off at Church at 8.50am.

This is to enable the children to practise for the Advent service. Staff will be there to meet the children. Any children that attend Kids' Club will be walked to Church by staff. Siblings in Early Years and KS1 should be dropped off as normal in time for the start of the school day.



### Tennis Club

Letters were sent home with children yesterday (not EYFS) for after school tennis. If your child would like to join this club please complete and return form with payment no later than **Monday 5 January 2015**. Please note that for organisational purposes, **NO late orders after this date** will be accepted. Thank you for your cooperation.



### Zumba Club - EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2

Letters were sent home with children yesterday. If your child would like to join the Zumba Club please complete and return forms no later than **Monday 12 January 2015**. Please note that there are limited places so it is a first come first served basis. Again please note **NO late orders** after this date will be accepted. Thank you for your cooperation.



### Phonics Workshop

Thank you to all parents who attended the Phonics workshop. From the evaluations received, the workshop was deemed very successful and helpful. We discussed all the sounds that we teach through our RWI programmes and ideas how you can support your child at home. A workshop for Maths Makes Sense will be confirmed for the Spring term.



### Little Red Riding Hood

'The Working Theatre Company' visited the school yesterday to perform a thrilling version of Little Red Riding Hood for us all!



### Christmas Fayre

#### Christmas Fayre on Friday 5 December from 3.30pm to 5.30pm

Don't forget our Christmas Fayre this afternoon. There will be lots of stalls and ideas for Christmas shopping. There will also be hot food available so you do not have to worry about cooking tea! And of course we are expecting a very special visitor!



### KS1 Christmas Production - A Christmas Rose

There will be two performances:

Tuesday 9 December with refreshments served from 1.45pm and the performance starting at 2.00pm.

Wednesday 10 December with refreshments served at 9.15am and the performance starting at 9.30am.

The children (and staff!) have been practising really hard. We look forward to seeing you at one of the performances.



### PTA Christmas Disco

This will be held on Thursday 11 December from 3.30pm to 5.00pm. If you are available to help please contact the school office. Thank you for your support. **This day will be a non-uniform day.**

£2.00 entrance to the disco per child and a maximum £3.00 spending money in a separate purse please.



### School Choir

Our school choir will be singing at the following events:

Wednesday 10 December, 1.30pm at The Oaks (residential home)

Saturday 13 December at 9.45am, House of Fraser in Sutton Coldfield.

Monday 15 December at 1.00pm, OAP Christmas Lunch at the Church Hall.



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.



### KS1 Trip to Empire Cinema 'Nativity 3: Dude Where's My Donkey!'

A letter has been sent home with your child regarding the above. The trip will be on Monday 15 December at a cost of £5.50.



### KS2 Advent Service

This will be held in Church on Monday 15 December at 6.00pm. Please come along to support our children.



### Christmas Lunch

On Tuesday 16 December, we will be having our Christmas lunch in school. All children are 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 has been sent home with children giving further details.

**This will be a non-uniform day and children can wear their Christmas jumpers on that day to get into the Christmas spirit.**



### Toy Day

On Friday 19 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. **The children need to wear full school uniform for this day.**



### Festive Fun Day at Kids' Club

Kids' Club have only 4 places left on our Festive Fun Day. Places have booked very quickly this past week! If you are thinking you might possibly need a place - book now! The Festive fun day runs from 8.00am to 5.30pm and costs £25.00 for the full day or half day £16.00. There will be lots of fun activities and a special visitor for the children! For details contact Ms Gordon direct on 0121 675 1191.



### Mass

Please put a note in your diary that Mass on **Thursday 8 January 2015 will be in Church.** Thank you.



## Every School Day Counts

Attend today, achieve for a lifetime!

### Attendance

Our school strives for 100% attendance. This week the Attendance Award was won by Year 4 with 99.26%!

The Punctuality Award for the week was won by EYFS, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 6 Well done!

**Recommendations:** EYFS: Liam O'T, Heloise C Year 1: Thomas B, Caitlin L Year 2: Cillian K, Cassandra G Year 3: Rosena J, Niamh S Year 4: Nhea R, Michael McG Year 5: Aoife O'C, Leon S Year 6: Sophie H, Ben E

**Lunchtime Award:** Tiah P, Niamh L, Georgia S, Erin D, Missy G.

**Class of the Week Award:** Year 6



### Angel of the Week

A friend is an angel on earth. Many of our children's behaviour and attitude reflects the fact that they are making an extra special effort to do God's work. Each week we will be recognising those children who we feel have made that extra special effort.

This week's winners are: Year 1: George H, Sam F, Christopher H (Year 6) Year 2: Charlotte L, Erin LF Year 4: Qai'Rou M Year 5: Rebecca D, Samuel K, Ellie-Jo L



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

Jack R (Y3), James NC, Michael B (Y5), Julia Z (Y6).

Dates for your diary - December		
Monday 8 December	8.50am	Key Stage 2 to be dropped off at Church
Tuesday 9 December	1.45pm Refreshments 2.00pm performance starts	KS1 Christmas Production
Wednesday 10 December	3.30pm to 4.30pm	First Aid with Mr Hunt
Wednesday 10 December	9.15am Refreshments 9.30am performance starts	KS1 Christmas Production
Wednesday 10 December	1.30pm	Choir to The Oaks
Thursday 11 December	9.15am	Mass in school led by Year 5

Thursday 11 December	3.30pm to 5.00pm	PTA Disco
Saturday 13 December	9.45am	Choir to House of Fraser Sutton Coldfield
Monday 15 December	1.00pm	Choir to sing at the OAPs Christmas Lunch
Monday 15 December	6.00pm	KS 2 Carol Service at Church
Tuesday 16 December	12.00pm	Christmas dinner for children
Thursday 18 December	9.15am	Mass in school led by Year 4
<i>Friday 19 December</i>	<i>All day</i>	<i>Bring a toy to school day</i>
Monday 22 December	Friday 2 January	Christmas holiday
<b>Dates for your diary - January</b>		
Monday 5 January	8.50am	New term
Thursday 8 January	8.50am	Mass in Church
<i>Friday 9 January</i>	<i>All Day</i>	<i>INSET Day</i>
Sunday 18 January	10.30am	Mass of Commitment Year 3 and Year 6
Wednesday 21 January	7.30pm	PTA Meeting in school
Monday 26 January	2.00pm	Fire Service coming to see Year 4
Tuesday 27 January	9.15am	Year 5 Class assembly

*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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