Christmas Fayre
We hope that you all enjoyed the Christmas Fayre last Friday. It was lovely to see so many of you attending. Well done to all our raffle prize winners and thank you to the PTA for all their hard work in preparing this event.

KS1 Christmas Production – A Christmas Rose
It has been a fantastic week in school this week with Christmas definitely arriving at Holy Cross! On Monday, we welcomed the senior citizens from the parish into school to watch the dress rehearsal of the Early Years and KS1 performance. Several of our guests were former parents of Holy Cross and were really excited about visiting the school again and they absolutely loved watching the children. The two 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. Well done to all the children and to all the staff who worked so hard to make it such a success.

Photographs for KS1 Christmas Production
If you would like to place an order for a photograph you are required to post your order direct to Academy Photography Ltd.

On Wednesday afternoon, I was lucky enough to accompany the choir, Mr Mayor and Mrs Cutler to The Oaks residential home to entertain the residents. The children sang beautifully and really brought the magic of Christmas to that community. I received many compliments not only about the children’s singing but also their behaviour - well done children!

PTA Christmas Disco
Thank you to the PTA for organising last night’s disco. All the children really enjoyed themselves.
School Choir

Our school choir will be singing at the following events:
Saturday 13 December at 9.45a.m, 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?’

KS1 children are looking forward to going to the Cinema on Monday 15 December. I'm sure they will have a lovely time.

Please remember to send your child in with a snack. EY are meeting at 8.40am at New Hall Vets, Year 1 are meeting at 8.30am at school, Year 2 have been sent a letter with details for their meeting time and place. Please ensure you are prompt. (Letters have been sent to classes with information)

Key Stage 2 Advent Rehearsal

On Monday 15 December KS2 children are rehearsing at Church at 2.00pm. Parents are required to collect children from church at 3.15pm. This will allow anyone with siblings to get back to school in time to collect. Staff will walk Kids’ Club children back to school.

KS2 Advent Service

This will be held in Church on Monday 15 December at 6.00pm. Please ensure your child is at church at 5.30 – 5.45pm; thank you. We hope to see a full church on Monday evening.

EY and Year 6 Geography Trip

On Tuesday 16 December (morning) EY and Year 6 are going on a local walk to New Hall Valley to find a geocache. A geocache is an object or a message that is hidden by the geocaching community for the members of the public to find. Please ensure your child wears a hat, gloves, a scarf and suitable footwear. Look on the blog to see what we find!
Christmas Lunch/Party Day - Tuesday 16 December
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. Monday 15 December is the last day to order a dinner so if your child wishes to have a meal, please ensure office is notified on Monday. Thank you.

Thank you to our PTA who has generously donated Christmas crackers for each child.

As this will be a non-uniform day and children can wear their Christmas jumpers on that day, it seemed an appropriate day for the Christmas parties. Parents are asked for a £1 donation per child towards party food and prizes. Please send this into school in an envelope with your child’s name and labelled “Party”. Thank you for your support.

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. Also please do not send your child in with an electrical toy. The children need to wear full school uniform for this day.

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

Dinner Money
Dinner money is due no later than Friday 9 January 2015, the amount is £61.50. Payments need to be put in a sealed envelope with your child’s name and class, marked ‘dinner money’. Cheques made payable to John Paul II Multi-Academy. Thank you for your cooperation.

Poppy Appeal
Many thanks to everyone that supported this charity - we managed to raise £151.48! Fantastic!
**Computer Xplorers Club**
The Computer Xplorers Club will start for Years 4-6 on 7 January and Years 2-3 on 8 January. An email has been sent out to all parents with details.

**Kids’ Club**
If for any reason your child is not attending for a pre-booked session, please notify Kids’ Club direct on 0121 675 1191 of their absence; otherwise they will be taken over by staff to Kids Club and will be required to be signed out from the care of the setting. Thank you for your co-operation. Mrs K Gordon.

**Tennis Club**
Letters have been sent home with the children (not EYFS) for after school tennis. If your child would like to join this club please complete and return the 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 have been sent home with children. 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.

**Attendance**
Our school strives for 100% attendance. This week the Attendance Award was won by Year 1 with 100%!

The Punctuality Award for the week was won by Year 1, 3, 4 and 5 Well done!

*Due to the Nursery Christmas performance on this morning, there was no Recommendations Assembly.*

Happy Birthday to the following children who have celebrated their birthdays this week: Sebastian H (EYFS), Cassandra G, Erin LF (Y1),
**Dates for your diary - December**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 13 December</td>
<td>9.45am</td>
<td>Choir to House of Fraser Sutton Coldfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 15 December</td>
<td>Am</td>
<td>KS1 - Cinema</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 15 December</td>
<td>1.00pm</td>
<td>Choir to sing at the OAPs Christmas Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 15 December</td>
<td>6.00pm</td>
<td>KS 2 Carol Service at Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 16 December</td>
<td>12.00pm</td>
<td>Christmas dinner for children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 16 December</td>
<td>Pm</td>
<td>Christmas Parties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 18 December</td>
<td>9.15am</td>
<td>Mass in school led by Year 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 19 December</td>
<td>All day</td>
<td>Bring a toy to school day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 22 December</td>
<td>2.00pm</td>
<td>Christmas holiday</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Dates for your diary - January**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 5 January</td>
<td>8.50am</td>
<td>New term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 8 January</td>
<td>8.50am</td>
<td>Mass in Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 9 January</td>
<td>All Day</td>
<td>INSET Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 18 January</td>
<td>10.30am</td>
<td>Mass of Commitment Year 3 and Year 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 21 January</td>
<td>tbc</td>
<td>Grandparents Lunch Surname A-M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 21 January</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
<td>PTA Meeting in school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 22 January</td>
<td>tbc</td>
<td>Grandparents Lunch Surname N-Z</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 26 January</td>
<td>2.00pm</td>
<td>Fire Service coming to see Year 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 27 January</td>
<td>9.15am</td>
<td>Year 5 Class assembly</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Have a lovely weekend!

Yours sincerely

T Cotter

Miss T Cotter
Principal