



# 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 17

Dear Parents and Friends

Friday 16 January 2015

*The new term is in full swing, Christmas is a distant memory! This afternoon we are welcoming the Rt Hon Andrew Mitchell MP to school. He is supporting the work of the British Heart Foundation and will speak to the children who recently completed First Aid training with Mr Hunt and Mrs Harper.*



*Today we say good bye and good luck to Mrs Blair as she begins her maternity leave; please pray for her as she awaits her new arrival.*

#### **INSET Day**

*Please note that the INSET Day provisionally planned for the start of June will now be on Monday 1 June and **not** Wednesday 3 June.*



#### **Mass of Commitment**

This will be held on Sunday 18 January at 10.30am in Church for Year 6 and Year 3 children. *This is an essential part of Sacramental preparation and it is expected that all children will attend. Thank you for your support.*



#### **PTA Meeting**

There will be a PTA meeting at 7.30pm on Wednesday 21 January. New members always welcome so come along; the more the merrier!



#### **Grandparents' Lunch**

These lunch days will be held on Wednesday 21 January (children with surname A-K) and Thursday 22 January (children with surname I-Z). Grandparents need to arrive at **11.45am** and will enter through Key Stage 1 gate. We are really excited and looking forward to grandparents coming to our school and enjoying a meal with the children and we know the children are just as excited.



**Mass:** Year 5 will lead our Mass in school on Thursday 22 January. Everyone is welcome. On Thursday 5 February Mass will be held in school **not** in Church.



### Music Lessons

If your child takes part in music lessons an invoice has been sent home this week. The deadline for payment is Friday 23 January. If you have any queries please contact the school office. Thank you.



### Football Training

The football team must attend training every Friday. They will be notified by text if training is off on the day due to poor weather conditions. Please ensure their football kit and football boots are in school on a Friday. If your child cannot attend then please inform Miss Crowley or the school office.



Active Kids

### Active Kids

We are collecting Sainsbury's vouchers again, please ask your family, neighbours and anybody you know so we can get lots of equipment for our school. Thank you for your support.



### KS2 Lunchtime arrangements from Monday 13 April 2015

From the Summer term, KS2 lunchtime will increase by 10 minutes to 55 minutes rather than the current 45 minutes. In line with other schools, there will no longer be an afternoon break (15 mins). This change will enable us to have time to organise learning for children more effectively and for children to participate in wider activities at lunchtime. This will also enable more effective use of Teaching Assistant time to support learning. Thank you for your cooperation.

### Change to time of the end of school day.

We are proposing to change the time of the end of the school day from 3.30pm to 3.20pm from the Summer term 2015. The purpose is to ensure time is used productively to ensure the best outcomes for children. This change is as a result of a more productive use of time at the start of the day and the removal of afternoon break for KS2. This change will enable us to use time more effectively and be more in line with our Academy Schools and our other local Primary Schools.

### The reasons for these proposals are:

1. To support the national and wider curriculum more effectively - the changes will enable us to have time to organise learning for children more effectively.
2. The new curriculum has an emphasis on creative learning and transfer of skills. As Holy Cross has already developed this approach, there is not the need to always teach individual subjects in discrete lessons which previously overloaded the timetable. With the removal of afternoon break (KS2) and shortened break for KS1, there will be a productive and uninterrupted two hour long quality teaching and learning opportunity.
3. More effective use of Teaching Assistants' time to support learning.
4. Taking into account movement time at either side of break and time already saved by the more efficient start to the school day, in practical terms there will be no loss of teaching time.
5. To coincide the end of the day timings for parents with children attending Holy Cross Pre School

Nursery.

*Please note there will be no increase in Kids' Club charges due to earlier end to school day.*

These changes will enable Holy Cross Catholic Primary School's hours to be in line with the Academy and neighbouring schools.

We welcome any feedback on this proposal. Please send any comments you have regarding this matter to the school office before the end of February and they will be considered before a final decision is made.



### 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 winner is: **Year 1: Fraser C.**



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

Eloise H (Y1), Trinity H (Y4), Missy G (Y6).

Dates for your diary - January		
Sunday 18 January	10.30am	Mass of Commitment Year 3 and Year 6
Wednesday 21 January	11.45am	Grandparents' Lunch Surname A-K
Wednesday 21 January	7.30pm	PTA Meeting in school
Thursday 22 January	11.45am	Grandparents' Lunch Surname L-Z
Monday 26 January	2.00pm	Fire Service coming to see Year 4
Tuesday 27 January	9.15am	Year 5 Class assembly
Dates for your diary - February		
Monday 2 February	All day	EYFS trip to Flight School Birmingham Airport
Tuesday 3 February	12.30pm - 3.30pm	Year 5 to Bishop Walsh to watch 'West Side Story'
Thursday 5 February	9.15am	Mass in school not Church
Friday 6 February	2.30pm	Parent Council Meeting
Friday 6 February	3.30pm	Football match Sacred Heart
Wednesday 11 February	3.30pm - 4.30pm	Reconciliation drop in session for Year 3
Thursday 12 February		No Mass
Thursday 12 February	7.00pm	Confirmation
Monday 16 February to Friday 20 February		Half Term Holiday
Monday 23 February	All Day	School closed - Teacher training day
Dates for your diary - March		
Monday 2 March to Friday 6 March		Creative Week
Tuesday 3 March	9.15am	Year 3 Class assembly
Wednesday 18 March	8.30am - 9.00am	Bags 2 School
Friday 20 March	(tbc)	Easter Egg Bingo Night
Tuesday 24 March	9.30am	Easter Production
Wednesday 25 March	3.45 pm - 6.00pm	Parents' Consultation Evening
Thursday 26 March	3.45 pm - 7.00pm	Parents' Consultation Evening
Monday 30 March to Friday 10 April		Easter Holiday
Wednesday 22 April	All day	Photographers in school
Wednesday 22 April	7.30pm	PTA meeting in school
Dates for your diary - May		

Wednesday 6 May	3.30pm - 4.30pm	Holy Communion drop in session
Thursday 7 May	All day	School closed Local Elections
Monday 11 May - Friday 13 May		SATS week
Tuesday 19 May	All day	Year 6 visit to St Chad's Cathedral
Monday 25 May to Friday 29 May		Half Term Holiday
<b>Dates for your diary - June</b>		
Monday 1 June	All day	School closed - Whole Academy training day
Saturday 6 June	12.00pm	Holy Communion
Tuesday 9 June	9.15am	Year 1 Class assembly
Wednesday 10 June	7.30pm	PTA Meeting in school
Saturday 13 June	12.00pm	Holy Communion
Tuesday 23 June	9.15am	Early Years Class assembly
<b>Dates for your diary - July</b>		
Wednesday 1 July	All day	Handover day
Thursday 2 July	3.30pm	End of term disco
Tuesday 7 July	PM	Year 6 Leavers' Production
Friday 10 July	Evening	Year 6 Leavers' Party
Thursday 16 July	9.15am	Leavers' Mass led by Year 6
Friday 17 July	3.30pm	Children break up for summer holidays
Monday 20 July	All day	School closed - Teacher training day
Tuesday 21 July		Summer holidays 2015

*Have a lovely weekend!*

Yours sincerely

*T Cotter*

Miss T Cotter  
Principal

In preparation for next week!



**ST. JOHN PAUL II**  
Multi-Academy Company  
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