

Newsletter No 9

Dear Parents and Friends

Friday 13 November 2015



Children in Need 2015

We have enjoyed a very heroic day today with all our little superheroes! Thank you for embracing the theme so imaginatively. We will let you know how much was raised next week.

Staffing

After seven years, Mr Andrew Spindlow will be leaving us at the end of the Autumn term to take up a promotion as Faculty Leader at Guardian Angels Primary School. He has been a very energetic and enthusiastic member of staff and will be greatly missed. Holy Cross is very successful at developing school leaders; we thank him for everything he has done for our school and wish him every success as he moves on to the next stage of his career.

In January we will welcome Miss Hayley Cross to the staff team when she joins us as Year 6 class teacher and part of the Leadership team. I am also pleased to inform you that from January, Mr Dan Howell will be joining us as a full time member of staff; he will be the Year 4 class teacher. We sincerely thank Mrs Bloxham for all her hard work this term and hope that we will welcome her back again at some time in the future!



School Prayer Book

As part of our focus on prayer last year, children wrote different types of prayers; some of which have been included in the first edition of the Holy Cross Catholic Primary School Prayer Book. This prayer book not only contains prayers written by the children but also the traditional prayers that children should know as they grown in the faith. It has been beautifully produced and I especially thank the parish and the PTA for paying the publication costs. Each family will receive a copy today; please treasure it.



Mass: Year 4 will lead our Mass in school on **Thursday 19 November**. Everyone is welcome.



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 need to 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. If you wish to become part of the steering group please contact Mrs Knibbs in the school office. Thank you for your support.



First Holy Communion Meeting

Thank you to all parents that attended. Those parents who did not attend, need to contact Fr Neil to confirm that they do wish their children to receive the Sacraments of First Confession and First Holy Communion



Health and Safety - Parking

I am afraid that yet again I am asking for your cooperation regarding parking when dropping of or collecting children at the beginning or end of the school day. Parents are parking in clearly marked no stopping zones to drop off/collect children. These areas are marked for a reason; it is not safe to stop in these areas and could result in an accident. The Community Police team are aware of this situation and will be monitoring closely. Please put safety before convenience. Thank you.

Inspire Workshop for 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.



Football Match

Last Friday, our football team defeated English Martyrs 5 - 2. It was a great game and the team was fantastic well done! We are now through to the next round in the cup competition. Thank you to all that came to support.



Year 3 Class Assembly

It is Year 3 class assembly on Tuesday 17 November at 9.15 a.m. This is about Ancient Egyptians and Tutankhamun. They have been rehearsing very hard; we hope that you will be able to attend and support the children. Thank you.



Takeover day Friday 20 November

Next Friday we are being taken over by Year 6! Takeover Day is a national initiative to help young people deepen their understanding of roles and responsibilities. Mr Andrew Mitchell MP will be talking to the children at assembly about his role and responsibilities and Year 6 will be taking over all the adult jobs in the school; yes, including mine!!

It should be a very interesting day so we thank you all in advance for your cooperation and patience in making this day a success.



Supplementary Forms

If you have a child who is due to start Early Years in September 2016, the deadline for the supplementary forms to be returned is **Friday 4 December**. Thank you.



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 on **Sunday 22 November at 10.30am in Church**.

This is a very important part of Sacramental preparation and it is expected that all children shall attend.

Thank you for your support.



History/Drama Topic Day for Year 2 Tuesday 24 November

A letter has been sent home with year 2 children regarding the above. Please contact the school office if you require a copy. Thank you.



Traditional Christmas Wreaths

An order form was sent home with children yesterday for traditional Christmas wreaths, £6.00. If you would like to order one please return slip to school no later than **Friday 20 November**. Thank you.



Christmas Fayre on Friday 4 December from 3.20pm to 5.20pm

Please put this important date in your diary.

Towards our Christmas Fayre please note the following dates will be **non-uniform days** and each child is asked to bring in the following on that day:

Thursday 19 November - Bottle Tombola Donation, any bottles from ketchup to bubbly!

Friday 27 November - Chocolate [Boxes, bars or whatever you have, all in date, thank you] Tombola donation

Friday 4 December - Mince pies or homemade cakes from KS1 and yule logs 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.



Attendance

Our school strives for 100% attendance.

Did you know...? Whilst an attendance figure of 90% does appear to be good, this is equal to missing half a day every week and across the whole year, is equal to four weeks of missed school work!

This week the Attendance Award was won by Year 2 with 97.79%!

The Punctuality Award for the week: Year 5 and Year 6

Recommendations: EYFS: Sienna M **Year 1:** Liam B, Maggie R **Year 2:** Josh W, Eva H **Year 3:** Nathan G, Alex H **Year 4:** James R, Sam K **Year 5:** Jessica T, Trinity H **Year 6:** George LF, Aiden GW.

Lunchtime Award: Tyrese L (Y1).

Class of the Week: EYFS.



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 half term we are try to be attentive and discerning.

This week's winners are **EYFS:** Jak McS **Year 1:** Aaron H, Tyrese L **Year 2:** Finbarr McG **Year 3:** Orlaith G **Year 4:** Marcus PW, Christien J, Jack McK **Year 6:** George LF.



Happy Birthday to the following children who have celebrated their birthdays this week:
Ben O'T (Y4) and Jake W (Y5).

Dates for your diary - November		
Monday 16 November	10.00am	Farm to Fork Talk for EYFS
Tuesday 17 November	9.30am	Year 3 Class Assembly
Thursday 19 November	all day	No school uniform - donation of bottles from ketchup to bubbly
Friday 20 November	all day	Takeover Day
Friday 20 November	9.15am	Andrew Mitchell to attend school assembly
Sunday 22 November	10.30am	Mass of Commitment for Year 3 and Year 6
Monday 23 November	am	HSBC in school
Wednesday 25 November	10.00am	Child Line Assembly for Year 5 and Year 6
Friday 27 November	all day	No school uniform - donation of chocolate
Monday 30 November	all day	Non school uniform day children to wear blue for St Andrew's Day
Dates for your diary - December		
Tuesday 1 December	9.15am	Computer Xplorers assembly for children
Friday 4 December	3.20pm - 5.20pm	Christmas Fayre
Friday 4 December	all day	No school uniform - donation of cakes
Tuesday 8 December	1.30pm	Choir to sing at senior citizens lunch Church hall
Tuesday 8 December	2.30pm	KS1 Christmas Production
Wednesday 9 December	9.15am	KS1 Christmas Production
Wednesday 9 December	12.30pm	Choir to sing at 'The Oaks'
Thursday 10 December	1.30pm	KS2 Carol rehearsal in Church

Thursday 10 December	3.20pm - 4.30pm	PTA Christmas Disco
Saturday 12 December	9.45am	Choir singing at House of Fraser, Sutton Coldfield
Monday 14 December	am	HSBC in school
Monday 14 December	1.30pm	KS2 Carol rehearsal in Church
Monday 14 December	6.00pm	KS2 Carol service in Church
Tuesday 15 December	am	Flu Busters! Immunisation for Year 1 and Year 2
Tuesday 15 December	12.00pm	Christmas dinner for staff and children
Thursday 17 December	2.00pm	Pantomime company in school - Cinderella
Friday 18 December	All day	Toy Day children can bring one toy to school

Dates for your diary - January 2016

Monday 4 January		Children return to school
Tuesday 12 January	All day	Life Education in school for KS2
Tuesday 19 January	9.15am	Year 4 Assembly
Tuesday 19 January	am	School nurse in school Year 6 height and weight check
Thursday 21 January	All day	School Council to London! Houses of Parliament
Saturday 30 January	time tbc	Swimming Gala at Stechford Cascades
Tuesday 2 February	9.15am	Year 5 Assembly
Thursday 4 February	7.00pm	Confirmation for Year 6

** 2 further Inset days to be confirmed*

**Other dates available on website*

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely

T Cotter

Miss T Cotter
Principal

Hold my Hand in Weakness

Lord God, you are my strength.

Hold my hand in my weakness and teach my heart to fly.

With you, there's nothing to fear, nothing to worry about.

Hold me tight in your embrace, so that I can be stronger than the challenges in my life.

Amen.



ST. JOHN PAUL II
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