

Newsletter No 21

Dear Parents and Friends

Friday 26 February 2016



Welcome back! I hope that you all enjoyed the half term break. Thank you for supporting our Lenten charities this week. Year 6 have worked hard to give our fundraising for Rwanda and the SVP a successful start. I can assure you that the future of 'The Great British Bake Off' is secure!! I took a group of Y5 children to the Parish Centre today as we are supporting the Parish in their Lenten Friday soup lunches; helping to serve our local community.

Mr Tim Felles

We were very sad to hear that one of our ex pupils, Tim Felles, aged 23, passed away so unexpectedly during half term. He and his siblings all attended Holy Cross Catholic Primary School. Please remember his family in your prayers at this very difficult time.

Disability Awareness Workshop

Thinking Day - Tuesday 23 February

We welcomed Mr John McCormack to school this week for our Disability Awareness Day. John has cerebral palsy and he gave the children a real insight into his daily life. Each class enjoyed a workshop of activities including trying to manoeuvre in a wheelchair. It was very informative and we sincerely thank John for being so candid about his life experiences.

Term Dates 2016-17

A letter from Fr Neil regarding next year's term dates have been distributed to each family. Please note that this letter has been sent to **all** schools in the St John Paul II Academy.

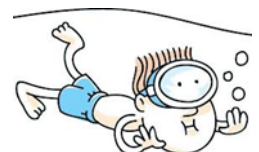


Twitter

A reminder that we are now on Twitter so please request us! I've tweeted this week; it's very exciting #modern woman!!



Mass: Year 4 will lead our Mass on *Thursday 3 March, in Church*. All welcome.



Catholic Swimming Gala

Good luck to our children who are taking part in the Catholic Swimming Gala tomorrow!



Lenten Charities

During Lent our children will be raising money for children in Rwanda and the Society of St Vincent de Paul in our own parish. Please remember to send your child in to school with a small amount of money so that they support their friends' activities.

It was Year 6 this week and they managed to raise a fantastic £250.00! Well done!

Please see the dates below for the Lenten activities:

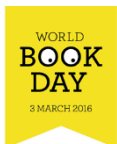
Monday 29 February - Year 5, Monday 3 March - Year 4, Monday 14 March - Year 3 and Year 2, and Monday 21 March - Year 1 and Early Years.

Next week, it is Year 5's turn; they will be organising a number of activities; including: Guess the baby, penalty shoot-out, cake sale, guess how many sweets in the jar and many more. Your child can buy these during morning and afternoon playtime. Thank you for your support.



Mothers' Day Lunches - Wednesday 2 March and Tuesday 8 March

We will be holding our first Mothers' Day Lunch on Wednesday 2 March. Mothers, grandmothers, aunties or a female family friend need to arrive at **11.45am** and will enter through Key Stage 1 gate. We are really excited and looking forward to visitors coming to our school and enjoying a meal with the children and we know the children are just as excited. Thank you for your support; we hope to see many of you on Wednesday.



World Book Day

We will be celebrating World Book Day on **Thursday 3 March 2016**. Children can come to school dressed as their favourite character from a book.



Bedtime Stories Thursday 3 March

To celebrate World Book Day members of our staff will be reading their favourite stories in two sessions between 5.45pm - 7.00pm. Children are invited to return to school in their pyjamas and with their favourite teddy if they wish. The cost is £1.50 per child. Accompanying adults can relax in our school hall where refreshments will also be provided. This should be a lovely event.



School Nurse - EYFS

The school nurse will be coming into school on Wednesday 2 March to carry out height and weight checks for our Early Years children. Letters and questionnaires have been sent home with parents' this week. Please complete and return the questionnaire in the envelope provided to the school office no later than **Monday 29 February**. Thank you for your support.



St David's Day

On **Tuesday 1 March** we celebrate St David's Day by asking the children to wear full school uniform with a daffodil and donating £1 towards our Lenten charities if they wish. Thank you for your support.

Dinner Money

The deadline for the payment of **£48.30 is Thursday 3 March 2016**. Please make payment using Parent Pay. Thank you for your support.



S.A.T.S

SATs Meeting for Year 6 and Year 2 Parents

There will be a SATs meeting for **Year 2** parents on **Monday 7 March at 3.30pm** and **Year 6** parents on **Wednesday 9 March at 3.30pm**. It will be opportunity to go through the updated guidance for your child to reach national expected standard at the end of the key stage. We hope that you can attend.



HSBC Bank

A member of the HSBC Bank will visit our school on **Monday 7 March**. We try to encourage our KS2 children to open and be responsible for their own bank account and manage their money.



Year 1 Assembly

On **Tuesday 8 March at 9.15am** our Year 1 class will be performing their assembly about 'The Circus.' I hope that you will be able to attend. Thank you.



Football Match

Our football team are playing away against St Nicholas tonight - nothing like a local derby!

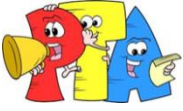
They also have a match on **Friday 4 March**, 3.30pm away against Newhall Primary School and again at home on **Friday 11 March** against Mere Green Primary School.

Please try to come along and support, all welcome.



Circus Workshop - Year 1

We are arranging to hold a 'Circus Skills Workshop' for our Year 1 children in school on **Monday 14 March** to perform juggling, spinning plates, diablos and many more amazing skills. Children are required to come to school dress as clowns. A letter has been sent home to parents giving further information if you require a copy please contact the school office.



School Library

Would you like to help update the school library? We are asking families to donate £5.00 which will enable you to dedicate a book to someone. Please send your money in an envelope marked 'School Library' with all the details of your dedication to the school office. Thank you for your support.



Good Shepherd Appeal

Good Shepherd Appeal boxes were sent home with all children this week. Please help to make a difference by raising funds for children, families and adults in need. Please contact the school office if you require another box. Thank you for your support.



Purple Pinkie Day

Holy Cross, along with other Sutton Primary schools, took part in 'Purple Pinkie Day' on **Friday 12 February**. This is the Rotary Club's charity supporting work to eradicate Polio overseas. The children raised £145.04 for this fantastic charity well done!



Attendance

Our school strives for 100% attendance.

Did you know...? Under new Government legislation, 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.

This week the Attendance Award was won by with EYFS, Year 5 and Year 6 with 100%!

Class Termly Attendance for Autumn Term: EYFS: 95.78% Year 1: 96.21% Year 2: 98.38% Year 3: 97.38% Year 4: 95.46% Year 5: 97.27% Year 6: 97.41% Overall Attendance: 96.85%.

Class Termly Attendance for Spring 1 Term: EYFS: 97.89% Year 1: 97.78% Year 2: 97.67% Year 3: 98.37% Year 4: 96.50% Year 5: 95.72% Year 6: 96.11% Overall Attendance: 97.15%.

The Punctuality Award for the week: Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4 and Year 6.

Recommendations: EYFS: Sienna M, Alex S Year 1: Ella P, Eden H Year 2: Christie W, Eva H Year 3: Johnny G, Oliver B Year 4: Stephene A, Regine W Year 5: Michael McG, Jess T Year 6: Caitlin M, Lizzie H, Olivia S, Aoife O'C, Millie L, Alice H.

Lunchtime Award: Daisy C (Y3).

Class of the Week: Year 3.



Virtues and Values

As you know the Archdiocese of Birmingham has introduced a focus on Gospel Virtues and Values. This half term we are concentrating on showing 'Faith-Filled and 'Hopeful'. 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 half term we are try to be attentive and discerning.

This week's winners are: **EYFS:** Year 1: Aaron H, Niamh C **Year 2:** Year 3: Nominated all of Year 1 **Year 5:** Aiden G **Year 6:** Ryan B, Abigail W.



Happy Birthday to the following children who have not only celebrated their birthdays:
Sophia J (EYFS), Orlaith F, Christie W (Y2).

Dates for your diary - February 2016		
Saturday 27 February	6.30pm	Catholic Sutton Schools swimming gala
Monday 29 February		Book Week
Dates for your diary - March 2016		
Tuesday 1 March	All Day	Children to wear a daffodil to celebrate St David's Day
Wednesday 2 March	11.45am	Mothers' Day Lunch (surnames A-K)
Wednesday 2 March	afternoon	Nishkam School visiting our school
Thursday 3 March	5.45pm - 7.00pm	PTA Bedtime Story
Thursday 3 March	All Day	Children to dress as their favourite character from a book
Friday 4 March	3.20pm	Football Match away vs Newhall Primary School
Monday 7 March	am	HSCB Bank in School
Monday 7 March	3.30pm - 4.30pm	Year 2 Parents' SATs Meeting
Tuesday 8 March	9.15am	Year 1 Assembly
Tuesday 8 March	11.45am	Mothers' Day Lunch (surnames L-Z)
Wednesday 9 March	3.30pm - 4.30pm	Year 6 Parents' SATs Meeting
Friday 11 March	3.20pm	Football Match home vs Mere Green Primary School
Monday 14 March	All day	Year 1 Clown Workshop - children to dress up as clowns
Tuesday 15 March	Time tbc	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Y3)
Thursday 17 March	Time tbc	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Y3)
Friday 18 March	8.50am	KS1 Easter Bonnet Parade KS2 Decorate an Egg
Friday 18 March	7.00pm - 9.00pm	PTA Bingo Night
Monday 21 March	2.00pm	KS2 Easter Production Dress Rehearsal
Tuesday 22 March	9.15am	KS2 Easter Production - All welcome
Tuesday 22 March	3.30pm - 7.00pm	Parents' Evening

Wednesday 23 March	10.00am	Stations of the Cross - All welcome
Wednesday 23 March	3.30pm - 6.00pm	Parents' Evening
Thursday 24 March	9.15am	Prayer Service - All welcome
Thursday 24 March	3.20pm	School breaks up for Easter
Dates for your diary - April 2016		
Monday 11 April	8.50am	Back to School
Wednesday 13 April	am	Academy Photographers in school class, group photos
Wednesday 13 April	7.30pm	PTA Meeting
Thursday 14 April		Edgbaston Cricket for Year 4 and Year 5
Thursday 28 April	8.50am	Bags 2 School
Dates for your diary - May 2016		
Monday 2 May	All Day	Bank Holiday school closed
Thursday 5 May	All Day	School closed Elections
Monday 9 May - Thursday 12 May		KS2 Sats week
Friday 13 May	7.30pm	PTA Fun Time Friday (Adults Only)
Thursday 26 May	3.20pm - 4.30pm	PTA Disco
Friday 27 May	All Day	Inset Day

**Other dates available on website*

Have a lovely week end.

Yours sincerely

T Cotter

Miss T Cotter
Principal

Dear Father,
We want to follow the example that Jesus set.
We want to give up our selfish ways and give our lives in love and service to others.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



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



Registered Office: Bishop Walsh Catholic School, Wyld Green Road, Sutton Coldfield B76 1QT
T: 0121 351 3215 enquiry@bishopwalsh.net Company No. 08706247