

Newsletter No 23

Dear Parents and Friends

Friday 11 March 2016



It has been another busy week as we prepare for the season of Easter. Our fundraising is going well - thank you for your support. This week we welcomed Mr Tony McGuigan who spoke about the work of the SVP in our parish and introduced 'Mini Vinnies', the Primary School age part of the Society. We are hoping to launch our Society of 'Mini Vinnies' after Easter.



Mothers' Day Lunch

It was lovely to see so many of you here this week enjoying lunch with your children. We welcomed over 100 special visitors which was amazing! Thank you to all the staff for ensuring everything ran smoothly! Do not worry dads - you are going to be invited very soon!

ALERT

School is Closed

School Closed

We have been notified this week that the school will be used as a voting station for EU Referendum. Therefore the school will be closed for pupils on **Thursday 23 June**. Thank you for your support.



Mass: Year 3 will lead our **Mass on Thursday 17 March, in school**. All welcome.

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 4's turn this week thank you to the children for working so hard. They raised £151.97!

Last week Year 5 managed to raise an amazing £275.36!

Please see the dates below for the Lenten activities:

Monday 14 March - Year 3 and Year 2 and Monday 21 March - Year 1 and Early Years.

Next week, it is Year 3 and Year 2's turn; they will be organising a number of activities; including: guess the name of the teddy; target shoot out; home-made fruit cakes; knock the cans down; home-made cake sale; kick-ups and fresh fruit kebabs and many more. Your child can participate during morning and afternoon playtimes. Thank you for your support.



Year 1 Assembly

We all enjoyed very much Year 1's assembly on Tuesday. Miss Stevens and Mrs Cutler are really proud of how all the class spoke, acted and sang we hope that the parents enjoyed it as much as the children performing it.



Chess Tournament

On Wednesday afternoon the Year 6 chess club took part in the annual chess tournament at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Shannon, Millie, George, Michael, James and Aiden played extremely well and were a brilliant representation of our school. It was a tough afternoon of 6 matches which resulted in a few losses, some draws and some wins! Well done Holy Cross!



Football Match - Monday 7 March

We lost 2-1 in the quarter finals against Holy Name. The children played particularly well and it was a strong first half. In the second half Jake W scored a great goal from an excellent corner taken by Rebecca. Well done to our football team; you represented our school really well.

E Safety

E Safety Workshop Year 5 & Year 6

In order to support the school in educating your child about e-Safety (safe use of the Internet), there will be an 'E-Safety Parent Workshop' on **Monday 14 March at 3.30pm-4.15pm. This is a very important issue and we urge you to make every effort to attend.** A letter has been sent home with children giving further information; please contact the school office if you require a copy. Thank you for your support and we hope to see as many of you as possible on **Monday 14 March.**

YEAR 1



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, diabolos and many more amazing skills. **Children are required to come to school dress as clowns.**



Reconciliation

Year 3 - Sacrament of First Confession

Year 3 will be making their first Confessions on **Tuesday 15 and Thursday 17 March 2016** at Holy Cross and Saint Francis' Church at **3.00pm.**

You are warmly invited to join your child for this important occasion. First Confessions will be preceded by a brief Liturgy of the Word. Once your child has made their First Confession and penance, you are more than welcome to leave the Church. If you have a child or children in other Year groups who do not attend Kids' Club we will make provision for them to stay in school until you collect them. We will walk back with any children who are in Kids' Club.

Don't forget
Parents'
Evening!

Parents' Evening

A letter was sent home with children yesterday giving details of Parent/Teacher Consultations. The deadline to return is **Tuesday 15 March**. Please contact the school office if you require a copy. Thank you for your support.



St Patrick's Day - Thursday 17 March

We wore our daffodils with pride on St David's day on Tuesday and we raised a fantastic £106.50! On 17 March we will celebrate St Patrick's Day by the children wearing green (other than school uniform!) and donating £1 towards our Lenten charities if they wish. Also, children can bring in their Irish dancing costumes if they want to perform to the rest of the school in assembly!



Easter Activities - Friday 18 March

Key Stage 2 children will need to bring in a decorated egg for Easter. Eggs will be on display at end of the school day by the bike sheds for parents to see.

Children in Key Stage 1 will need to bring in their Easter Bonnets. They will parade around the key stage 1 playground at **8.50am**; parents are invited to stay in the playground and watch the parade.



Family Bingo Night

This very enjoyable and popular event will be held on **Friday 18 March** in the school Hall. Doors open at 6.45pm, bingo starts at 7.00pm. Easter Eggs for all winners!



Zumba Club - EYFS, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3

Letters were sent home with children this week. If your child would like to join the Zumba Club please complete and return forms no later than **Monday 21 March 2016**. 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.



Easter Production & Stations of the Cross

The KS2 Easter Production will take place on **Tuesday 22 March at 9.15am**.

On **Wednesday 23 March**, we will be participating in Stations of the Cross at **9.15am** in the hall. On **Thursday 24 March**, we will be holding a Prayer Service at **9.15am** in the hall.

All parents are very welcome at all occasions.



Another Funtime Friday - Adults Only

Holy Cross PTA presents..... another 'Funtime Friday!' **Friday 13 May at 7.30pm** at The Boathouse Restaurant, Bracebridge Pool, Sutton Park. £20.00 per person (non-refundable). A flyer has been sent home with children today; please contact the school office if you require a copy. ***Please come along to this popular event and have a lovely evening.*** Thank you for your support.



Children's Liturgy

We are looking for volunteers to join our Parish Liturgy Group. If you are interested in becoming involved, please contact Mrs Gregory; either at school or Holy Cross Church at 10.00am Sunday Mass. Thank you for your support.

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 Year 6 with 98.52%!

The Punctuality Award for the week: well done to the whole school we had no lates this week - well done everyone!!

Recommendations: EYFS: Cormac K, Alex E **Year 1:** Myles O'D **Year 2:** Alicia I, Sian J, Thomas B **Year 3:** Orlaith G (nominated by Year 6), Anna J, Frank W **Year 4:** Amy M, Frances C, Luke S (nominated by Year 1) **Year 5:** Charlie H, Trinity H **Year 6:** James N-C.

Lunchtime Award: Kieran McC (Y1).

Class of the Week: Year 3.

Sports Award: Kieron McC (Y1), Erin L-F (Y3), Charlotte L (Y3).



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:** Nominated the Chess Team Shannon B, Millie L, George LF, Michael B, James NC and Aiden GW **Year 1:** Joseph M, Heloise C (nominated by Year 2) **Year 2:** Eva H **Year 3:** Whole of Year 3 **Year 4:** Cake makers **Year 5:** Matilda C, Grace B **Year 6:** Matthew N-C.



Happy Birthday to the following children who have celebrated their birthdays this week:
Sam W (Y3), Ricky M, Pierce B (Y5).

Dates for your diary - March 2016		
Monday 14 March	All day	Year 1 Clown Workshop - children to dress up as clowns
Monday 14 March	3.30pm-4.45pm	ESafety Workshop Year 5 & Year 6
Tuesday 15 March	3.00pm at Church	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Y3)
Wednesday 16 March	All day	British Science Day
Thursday 17 March	3.00pm at Church	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Y3)
Friday 18 March	8.50am	KS1 Easter Bonnet Parade KS2 Decorate an Egg
Friday 18 March	After school	Football Match v Moor Hall Primary School (home)
Friday 18 March	6.45pm - 9.00pm	PTA Bingo Night
Monday 21 March	2.00pm	KS2 Easter Production Dress Rehearsal
Monday 21 March	After school	Football Match v Penns Primary School (away)
Tuesday 22 March	9.15am	KS2 Easter Production - All welcome
Tuesday 22 March	3.30pm - 7.00pm	Parents' Evening
Wednesday 23 March	9.15am	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
Friday 15 April		Football match away v Newhall Primary School
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)
Wednesday 18 May	3.30pm	Year 5 Boys Football Festival - Wyndley
Friday 20 May	1.30pm-4.30pm	Tag Rugby - Moseley Rugby Club
Thursday 26 May	3.20pm - 4.30pm	PTA Disco
Friday 27 May	All Day	Inset Day

Dates for your diary - June 2016		
Monday 6 June - Friday 10 June		Music Week - whole school
Wednesday 8 June	10.00am - 2.00pm	Year 4 Cricket - Chance to Shine
Wednesday 8 June	3.20pm	Year 6 Football Festival - Wyndley
Thursday 9 June	6.00pm	Creative Arts Evening
Saturday 11 June	12.00pm	First Holy Communion
Wednesday 15 June	7.30pm	PTA Meeting
Wednesday 22 June	6.00pm	EYFS Induction Evening for September 2016 Reception
Saturday 18 June	12.00pm	First Holy Communion
Thursday 23 June	All Day	School Closed EU Referendum
Friday 24 June	9.00am	Corpus Christi Procession from Church to School
Tuesday 28 June	tbc	Rotary Awards Evening
Wednesday 29 June	tbc	Academy Mass
Thursday 30 June	tbc	Handover Day. New EYFS Parents to attend, teddy bear picnic
Dates for your diary - July 2016		
Friday 1 July	7.00pm	Hollyfields Year 6 Leavers' Party
Friday 8 July	1.30pm	Sports Day/Summer BBQ
Tuesday 12 July	tbc	Year 6 Leavers' Production
Thursday 14 July	3.20pm-4.30pm	PTA Disco
Thursday 21 July	9.15am	Year 6 Leavers' Mass
Friday 22 July	3.20pm	Break up for Summer!

**Other dates available on website*

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely

T Cotter

Miss T Cotter
Principal

What do you want
Lent to be about
for me this year, God?

What do you want ME
to be about for YOU
this Lent, God?

*Having an internal
focus this Lent*

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