

Newsletter No 35

Dear Parents and Friends

Friday 24 June 2016



First Holy Communion - Saturday 18 June

On Saturday the second group of children received the Sacrament of First Holy Communion. Both weeks have been very special and reverent occasions. I would like to thank Mr Mayor and Miss Marron for preparing the children so well; they were a credit to their families and the school. Thanks also to the children (and parents!) who sang in the choir, our altar servers, the parish choir, the school staff and of course Fr Neil. These were very special days for everyone in our Holy Cross Family.



Holy Communion Photographs

Your child was given their Holy Communion photographs to take this afternoon. There is a pre-paid envelope in the pack. *Please send your order direct to Academy Photography Ltd; the deadline is the 18 July. Thank you.*



This morning we participated in a beautiful Thanksgiving Mass, Corpus Christi procession and Benediction. These traditions are not seen frequently these days so it was lovely for the children to have the opportunity to take part. They behaved so reverently so well done children! It was lovely to see so many parents at the Mass and taking part in the procession. This afternoon Year 3 children planted trees in our prayer garden to mark this special event in their lives.

The children who had recently received their First Holy Communion enjoyed their Celebration breakfast prepared by the PTA and their beautiful cake made by Alyson Pratt - thank you to all of you for helping to make this a special day.



Mass:

Please note that due to the academy Mass on Wednesday, there will be **no** Mass on Thursday 30 June.



Letters emailed to parents this week:

Year 5: Bishop Walsh letter.

Please contact office if you have not received copy



Ice Lollies For Sale

School Council and ECO Warriors will be selling ice lollies (20p each) on Wednesdays and Fridays at morning break time. This is to raise money to buy a willow cross for the KS2 Prayer Garden. Please send money in with your child to support our fundraising. Thank you.





Safety

Polite reminder to parents. Children riding bicycles or scooters to school must ensure that they ride safely and are aware of pedestrians using the footpaths; we have had a few near misses. Parents are also reminded that children must walk and not ride bicycles or scooters on the school premises. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



Plastic Drinking Bottles

As requested by parents, when we return to school in the Autumn term, children are to bring their own water bottles in every day; the school will no longer provide plastic drinking bottles for children. Please send your child with a drink of water in a transparent plastic non spill bottle; cans or glass bottles are not allowed for safety reasons. Thank you.



Paralympic Games

On Tuesday, the school participated in our first Paralympic Games to get us ready for Rio 2016. Our houses changed into nations, as Great Britain, Russia, China and the Ukraine did battle across a range of sports. The children experienced events where they became visually impaired or had lost the use of their limbs. The children were excellent and we all had a fun filled afternoon. Our final winners were Fisher house and so the Ukrainian flag flew proudly across the school.



Book Fayre

The last day for this will be Monday 27 June from 3.20pm. Please come along and have a look at all the wonderful books on offer! Thank you for your support.



Mission Week - 27 June - 1 July 2016

The Academy is organising a Mission Week with the theme 'As One.' During this week the children will be participating in different events, e.g. a KS2 retreat day and KS1 activity with Bishop Walsh Chaplaincy team. The whole Academy will celebrate Mass on 29 June and there will be a closing liturgy on **Friday 1 July at 2.30pm in school, to which parents are very warmly invited to attend.**

As part of this, we will be holding Parent Workshops. Your child is preparing an invitation for you which you will receive shortly so please make every effort to attend. These workshops are a lovely opportunity to work with your children.

Parent Workshops

Mission Week - Parent Workshops

Thank you to those parents who attended the Year3/4 Workshop last week. We look forward to welcoming the rest of you over the next couple of weeks:

Tuesday 28 June 9.00am - 10.00am Early Years

Tuesday 28 June 2.15pm - 3.15pm Year 1 and Year 2

Wednesday 6 July 9.00am - 10.00am Year 5 and Year 6



Violin and Guitar Lessons

There will be no violin lessons in school on Tuesday 28 June. Thank you.

There will be no guitar lessons in school on Thursday 30 June. Thank you



Whole Academy Mass at Bishop Walsh

On **Wednesday 29 June** all staff and children from the four Academy schools will be attending Bishop Walsh school for a very special Mass. Parents are asked to ensure that children have sun cream applied before they come into school. Also, children will need to have a sun hat/cap to wear and are required to bring in a packed lunch clearly marked with the child's name and class in a disposable bag.

Early Years Year 1 Year 2

Early departure

Early Years and Year 1 are the first being transported by coach to Bishop Walsh and so we need these two classes to arrive in school at 8:30am. Siblings of Early Years and Year 1 children may also arrive at 8:30 if needed. All other years please arrive normal time.

Packed Lunch

If your child is in Early Years, Year 1 or Year 2 and you would like the school kitchen to provide a packed lunch; please contact the school office. Deadline is **Monday 27 June** thank you.



Handover Day Thursday 30 June

On Thursday, our Year 6 children will visit their new Secondary schools and the rest of the school will send the day with their new teachers. We also welcome our new Early Years children into school for a Teddy Bears' Picnic. I cannot believe we have reached that this time of year again!



LITURGY

Closing Liturgy

As part of Mission week there will be a Closing Liturgy. This will take place on Friday 1 July in school at 2.30pm. All welcome, thank you for your support.



Early Years Assembly

On **Tuesday 5 July** our Early Years class will be presenting their assembly. They have been rehearsing really hard and they look fantastic! Please come along and support our children.



Non School Uniform Day - Friday 1 July the PTA has requested that the children bring in a pre-filled jar. This can be anything from sweets, hair bobbles, please look at our recent tweet for ideas! If you require a jar to fill please contact the school office.



Non School Uniform Day - Bottle of Wine in a Bag

On **Friday 8 July** the PTA have requested that the children bring in a bottle of wine (one per family) in a gift bag for our Summer Fayre.



Appeal for Gazebos

We are appealing for gazebos to use at our Summer Fair. Please contact the school office if you can help, Thank you for your support.



Appeal for help

The PTA is asking for volunteers to help at the Summer Fayre. If you can spare a bit of time please speak to Alyson Pratt, Zoe O'Toole, Caroline Wall or come to the school office.



Early Years Graduation

Our Early Years children will be celebrating their Graduation on **Friday 22 July at 2.00pm**. Parents are invited to join in this fantastic celebration!



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 1 with 99.17%!

Parents should also be aware that referrals to the school nurses will be considered for those children with an attendance rate of below 95% due to health related absences.

The Punctuality Award for the week: Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6.



Recommendations: EYFS: Iris A, Charlie G **Year 1:** Myles O'D, Daniel S, Joseph M **Year 2** Orlaith F, Mia B **Year 3:** Enya B, Imogen A, Ava A **Year 4:** Pablo B, Marcus PW **Year 5:** Qai'Rou M, Annie D, Jessica T **Year 6:** Lewis P, Ruby H.

Lunchtime Award: Alex H (Y5).

Sports Award: Milly L, Ciaran F (Y6).



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 being " **Learned and 'Wise'**". 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 week's winners are: **Miss Stevens:** Phoebe F **Mr Hunt:** Alice H, Elizabeth H, Lewis P (Y6), Isla H **Mr Mayor:** Daisy C **Mr Howell:** Kyle W **Mr Rowlands:** Matilda C, Charlie H, whole class **Miss Cross:** Johnny G (Y3), Andrea T.



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



Ellen Y (EYFS), Olivia S, Ryan B (Y6).



Dates for your diary - June 2016		
Tuesday 28 June	All Day	Year 5 Cricket - Sutton Coldfield Cricket Club
Tuesday 28 June	All Day	Year 4 Trip to Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery
Wednesday 29 June	11.00am	Whole Academy Mass (children only)
Tuesday 28 June	6.00pm	Rotary Awards Evening
Tuesday 28 June	9.00am-10.00am	Mission Week - Parent Workshop (Early Years)
Tuesday 28 June	2.15pm-3.15pm	Mission Week - Parent Workshop (Years 1 & 2)
Wednesday 29 June	11.00am	Academy Mass
Thursday 30 June	7.00pm - 8.30pm	Football Presentation Evening Sutton Coldfield Town Hall
Thursday 30 June	All day	Handover Day. Year 6 to Secondary schools. new EYFS parents to attend teddy bear picnic
Dates for your diary - July 2016		
Friday 1 July	2.30pm	Closing Liturgy in school all welcome
Friday 1 July	7.00pm	Year 6 Leavers' Party at Hollyfields

Tuesday 5 July	9.00am	EYFS Class Assembly
Wednesday 6 July	9.00am - 10.00am	Mission Week - Parent Workshop (Years 5 & 6)
Friday 8 July	1.30pm - 5.30pm	Sports Day/Summer BBQ
Tuesday 12 July	6.00pm	Year 6 Leavers' Production 'Good-Bye My Friend'
Thursday 14 July	3.20pm-4.30pm	PTA Disco
Monday 18 July		HSBC in School
Tuesday 19 July	All Day	Year 6 Trip to Safari Park
Thursday 21 July	9.15am	Year 6 Leavers' Mass
Friday 22 July	2.00pm	Early Years Graduation parents welcome
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



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



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