



**Newsletter No 39**

Dear Parents and Friends

Friday 22 July 2016



**Goodbye, Good Luck and Thank You**

Today we say good bye and good luck to Mr Howell who is leaving us to take up a post at Greet Primary School and to Mrs Gibson, one of our Lunchtime play coordinators who is also leaving us today. We thank them both for their hard work and enthusiasm in their time here at Holy Cross and wish him every success in their new ventures.



We celebrated a lovely Mass yesterday. We thank Fr Neil for his unconditional support throughout the year. Well done to our two Mission Award recipients: Lewis P and Rebecca D (Y6) and to all of you in Year 6 for the contribution you have made during your time at Holy Cross Catholic Primary School. We wish you every success in the future.

**Term Dates**

As promised, following the Parents' consultation regarding earlier publication of term dates, the term dates for 2017-18 are attached. I have also included 2016-17 dates as a reminder.

*I would like to thank all the staff from all areas of the school for their hard work, in what has been a very challenging year. Everyone works so effectively as part of a very hard working team to ensure that your children are safe, happy and enjoy exciting learning experiences. I hope that they all enjoy a well-deserved break.*



**Mass: Year 4** will lead our Mass in school on Thursday 8 September. Everyone is welcome.



**Sutton Coldfield District Football Team**

Congratulations to Michael McG and Milly B for successfully getting through the trials! They will be representing Holy Cross next year in the Sutton Coldfield District teams - amazing news!



**Fire Survival Day**

Last Friday we invited the reception class from St Joseph's to come and enjoy our lovely forest school. It was a busy and fun day which all children thoroughly enjoyed. We completed environmental art outside using natural materials; we made leaf crowns choosing things that God has made in the natural area that we are thankful for. Then in the afternoon we took part in shelter building, cooked marshmallows over the open fire, talked about the uses and dangers of fire and drank a warm cup of hot chocolate! It was a fantastic day and their behaviour was exemplary.



### **Year 2 Visit to Sutton Park**

Year 2 had a fantastic day in Sutton Park supporting their Science topic. Despite the heat, the children were able to complete their mini beast hunt, even finding a frog in the process! They also explored the visitor centre looking at different Victorian taxidermy specimens.

Their behaviour was excellent and all the staff were very proud of them.



### **Year 6 Visit to West Midlands Safari Park**

Year 6 enjoyed a wonderful final trip to the West Midlands Safari Park. The children first explored the animals on safari and the coach even had to navigate its way past a very stubborn deer!

Their behaviour was excellent and was commented on by both staff and members of the public. It was a lovely final trip and we wish them all the best in the future.



### **My Annual Reminder!**

If you are considering having your child's ears pierced over the holidays, the beginning of the holidays is ideal as they will have the 6 weeks of wearing them and be ready to remove them for PE in the Autumn term. The Summer holidays are the time when children enjoy different hairstyles e.g. braiding or patterns cut into hair. Please ensure that by the 6 September children's hairstyles are in line with our School Uniform Policy - thank you.



### **Graduation for our Early Years Children**

This was a wonderful celebration, enjoyed by our children, parents, family and staff. The children proudly graduated from their first year in school wearing a cap and gown, each being presented with a scroll. Thank you to Miss Lovelock, Miss Crowley and Mrs Hayward for organising this lovely occasion and ensuring the children are so ready to join Key Stage One in September.

### **Educational Visits**

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Thank you to those parents who attended the meeting last night - we do appreciate your thoughts and suggestions.



#### **Twitter**

As we are now regularly using our Twitter page to highlight what the children are learning and experiencing during the day, classes will no longer be blogging. So if you have not done so already, please request to follow us on Twitter!



### Goodbye and Good Luck

We wish Year 6 all the best as they move on to their Secondary Schools.

This year we also say goodbye to several families who have been involved with the school for many years. They have been active members of the PTA and have supported all aspects of school life. We thank them for their support throughout the years and hope that they will have many happy memories of their time at the Holy Cross.

Goodbye and thank you to the following families:



The Bowden family  
The Boyce family  
The Dolphin family  
The Hender family  
The Horton family  
The Knowles family  
The Leonard family  
The Levell family  
The Lord family  
The Moylan family  
The O'Connor family  
The Rundle family  
The Shelley family  
The Thapa family  
The Thomas family



### Ordering School Uniform

Parents are reminded that school uniform should be ordered as early as possible to avoid disappointment. As you can appreciate this will be an extremely busy time for our suppliers Clive Mark and Mapac.



### Summer Uniform

Reminder to parents when we return to school in September children are required to wear full **summer uniform**. They will change to winter uniform after October half term, thank you for your support.



### 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.



## Office Opening Times

From September the school office hours will change. Monday to Thursday 8.30am - 4.30pm Friday 8.30am - 3.45pm. Thank you.



## Year 4- Roald Dahl Day

To celebrate their new topic 'Roald Dahl' **Year 4** will be celebrating 'Dahlicious Dress Up Day' on **Tuesday 13 September 2016**. We are asking the children to dress up as their favourite Roald Dahl character and asking the children to bring in a donation towards the [Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity](#). It will be a fantastic day to celebrate their new topic!

## ATTEND TODAY ACHIEVE TOMORROW



### 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.

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

This week the Attendance Award was won by Year 5 with 100%!



### 100% Attendance

Congratulations to the following children for achieving an amazing 100% attendance this year:

**EYFS:** Oskar C, Nathaniel C, Ruth H, Christopher K, Alexander S, Daniel W **Year 1:** Lola F, Eden H, Joseph K, Caitlin K, Joseph M **Year 2:** Mollie-Mae H, Olivia W **Year 3:** Thomas S **Year 4:** Alan J, James R, Regine W **Year 5:** Jacob D, Alexandra H, Nhea R, Thomas T **Year 6:** George L-F, Milly L.

*Please see below whole school attendance for academic year 2015-2016.*

**EYFS** 97.16%

**Year 1** 96.75%

**Year 2** 98.11%

**Year 3** 97.04%

**Year 4** 95.87%

**Year 5** 96.66%

**Year 6** 97.67%

**Overall School Total** 97.03%

**The Punctuality Award for the week:** EYFS, Y1, Y4, Y5 and Y6.



**Recommendations:** The Whole School!

**Class of the Week:** Year 6.

**Lunchtime Award:** Millie McC (Y5).





### 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 winner is: The Whole School!



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY



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

Daniel B, Reuben R, Alexander S, Jack M.C.s, Ella B (EYFS),  
 Keel K, Jack C, Myles O'D, Ella P (Y1),  
 Mollie-Mae H, Harry M, Ryan K, Francesca L, Erin P, Olivia W (Y2),  
 Daisy C, Wraith G, Harrison S, Samuel S, James D, Maria L (Y3),  
 Isobel H, James R, Abigail E (Y4),  
 Hannah E, Grace B, Jacob D, Clark T, Jack MI (Y5),  
 Lewis P, Joseph S, Sadie Mock, Roan D Shannon B (Y6).

Dates for your diary - September 2016		
Monday 5 September	All day	Inset Day
Tuesday 6 September	8.50am	Return to school
Wednesday 14 September	3.20pm - 4.20pm	Rotary Meeting for Year 6
<b>Tuesday 13 September</b>	<b>All day</b>	<b>Year 4 - 'Dahlicious Dress Up Day!'</b>
<b>Thursday 15 September</b>	<b>1.00pm</b>	<b>Year 3 start swimming</b>
<b>Thursday 22 September</b>		<b>School nurse to see Year 6 children</b>
Dates for your diary - October 2016		
<b>Tuesday 4 October</b>	<b>9.00am - 10.00am</b>	<b>Year 2 assembly</b>
<b>Wednesday 12 October to Friday 15 October</b>		<b>Year 6 visit to Alton Castle</b>
<b>Tuesday 18 October</b>	<b>9.00am - 10.00am</b>	<b>Year 4 assembly</b>
<b>Wednesday 19 October</b>	<b>3.30pm - 7.00pm</b>	<b>Parents' Evening</b>
<b>Thursday 20 October</b>	<b>3.30pm - 6.00pm</b>	<b>Parents' Evening</b>
Dates for your diary - April 2017		
<b>Wednesday 5 April</b>	<b>3.30pm - 7.00pm</b>	<b>Parents' Evening</b>
<b>Thursday 6 April</b>	<b>3.30pm - 6.00pm</b>	<b>Parents' Evening</b>

*\*Other dates available on website*

On behalf of the Academy Committee and Staff of Holy Cross Catholic Primary School, we thank you all for your support this year. We hope you all have an enjoyable and restful summer break.

Happy Holidays!

Yours sincerely

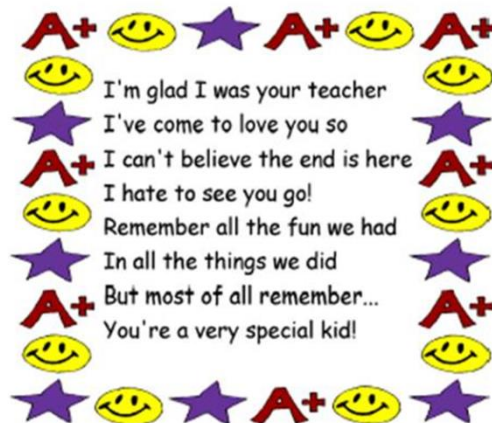
*T Cotter*

Miss T Cotter  
Principal

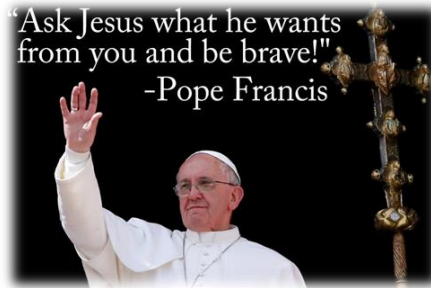


**Goodbye, Good Luck and Thank You to the Leavers of 2016**

*Vanessa, Michael, Ryan, Shannon, Rebecca, Roan, Ciaran, Aiden, Ruby, Ashlee, Alice, Lizzie, Sam, George, Milly, Ellie-Jo, Joseph, Millie, Sadie, Caitlin, Matthew, James, Aoife, Lewis, Nina, Olivia, Joseph, Rhea, Andrea, Abigail.*



"Ask Jesus what he wants from you and be brave!"  
-Pope Francis



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