



**Newsletter No 1**

Dear Parents and Friends

Friday 9 September 2016



Welcome Back!

Welcome back to a new academic year, and a particularly warm welcome to our new families. We also welcome Miss Stewart to the staff team; we hope that she will enjoy being part of our Holy Cross family. As always; as a new year starts, the sun starts shining!!!!

We have welcomed new families to both the Nursery and to School and we have visited our new Early Years children in their homes. We hope that all our new families will be very happy at Holy Cross Catholic Primary School.

Thank you to all our parents for sending their children back in full school uniform; the children looked incredibly smart!

I would like to remind you that as stated before the summer break, children should be wearing Summer uniform until October half term.

**Summer Uniform**



After half term, it is expected that all children will be wearing the winter uniform.



**Mass: Year 4** will lead our Mass in school on Thursday 15 September. Everyone is welcome.



**Letters emailed to parents this week:**

**Year 1 and Year 2:** Forest Schools.

**Please contact office if you have not received copy**



**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 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!



### Dinner Money for this half term

The amount payable is **£70.95** payment is due no later than **Friday 16 September**. Payments must be made through ParentPay. Please do not send in cash or cheques. If you have credit please deduct your credit from £70.95 and pay the difference. Thank you.



### Zumba Club - 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 12 September 2016**. Please note that there are limited places so it is a first come first served basis. Please note **NO late orders** after this date will be accepted. Thank you for your cooperation.



### Tennis Club - Year 1 and Year 2

Letters were sent home with children in Year 1 and Year 2 this week. If your child would like to join the Tennis Club please complete and return forms no later than **Monday 12 September 2016**. Please note that there are limited places so it is a first come first served basis. Please note **NO late orders** after this date will be accepted. Thank you for your cooperation.



### Rotary Meeting - Year 6 Parents

If your child would like to take part in the Rotary Community Award there will be a meeting on Wednesday 14 September 3.20pm-4.20pm for Parents to attend. Thank you.



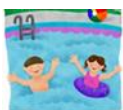
### Open Evening at Bishop Walsh

There is an Open Evening at Bishop Walsh School for prospective Year 7 parents on Wednesday 14 September 6.30pm to 7.30pm. For further information please contact Bishop Walsh on 0121 351 3215.



### PTA Meeting

Our first PTA meeting of the new year is on Wednesday 14 September at 7.30pm in school. We would love to welcome new members; please come along and find out more details. The more the merrier!



### Swimming Lessons

Year 3 will start swimming on **Thursday 15 September**. Girls please wear a full costume and for health and safety reasons, boys must wear trunks (not loose fitted shorts). Please ensure that appropriate swimming kit is sent with your child every Thursday. Thank you for your support.



## Forest School

### Year 1 and Year 2 Forest School

Year 1 and Year 2 will be taking part in weekly 'Forest School' every Friday afternoon commencing **Friday 16 September**. A letter has been emailed and sent out to all Year 1 and Year 2 parents; please contact the office if you require a copy. Thank you for your support.



### INSPIRE Workshops

INSPIRE workshops were introduced to offer parents (or other family members) the opportunity to come into school and work with their own child, helping them to learn and gain ideas and support for helping them at home. These workshops always offer practical activities - things for parents and children to do together and hopefully are an enjoyable experience for children and adults alike! You (and your children) commented on how good it was to spend time working together - they liked having mom/dad all to themselves!

**Inspire Workshop for Year 5 and Year 6** this will be held on **Tuesday 27 September 9.00am to 10.00am**

**Inspire Workshop for Year 3 and Year 4** this will be held on **Tuesday 11 October 9.00am to 10.00am**

One person per family is welcome to come along to support; join in and see the children working.



### Grandparents' Lunch

This year we are holding three lunch days (last year's event was so popular!); these are being held on **Tuesday 4 October** (children with surname A-H) **Wednesday 5 October** (children with surname I-N) and **Wednesday 12 October** (children with surname O-Z). A letter has been sent home today with children, order and payments are required no later than **Friday 23 September; please note that late orders will not be accepted**, thank you for your support.

Grandparents need to arrive at **11.45am** and **will enter through Key Stage 1 gate**.

We are really excited and looking forward to grandparents coming to our school and enjoying a meal with the children and we know the children are just as excited. As this is a one off event we request payment via cash or cheque. Thank you.



### Music Lessons

Music lessons start next week. All music lessons will take place **on Fridays** starting Friday 16 September. Music invoices will be sent out shortly.

Any queries please contact the school office. Thank you for your cooperation.



### Rights Respecting School Award (RRSA)

The next Rights Respecting School Award (RRSA) Steering Group Meeting will be held on Monday 19 September at 2.30p.m in school. This is to discuss the journey so far and the next steps to achieve the Level 1 Award by Christmas. Please do come along to offer your support and any ideas you may have or just to listen! If you would like more information on what it means to become a rights respecting school, please see this website- <http://www.unicef.org.uk/rights-respecting-schools/about-the-award/> Hope to see you on 19 September!



### Nasal Flu Vaccination

Letters have been sent home with *Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3* today from Birmingham Community Healthcare NHS Trust. Parents are required to read and sign the relevant forms. Please return the completed forms to the school office no later than **Friday 23 September**. Thank you.



### Sacrament Of Confirmation

Parents who have children in Year 6 who wish their child to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in February 2017 **must** register their child at a meeting in church on **Thursday 6 October at 6.00pm**. Any parents unable to attend this meeting are to contact Father Neil. Thank you.



### Lunchtime Play Co-Ordinator Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a Lunchtime Play Co-Ordinator 6.40 hours per week, Monday - Friday 12.00pm to 1.20pm. We are looking for someone who will take an active part in supporting/improving lunchtime for our children. For further information please contact the school office 675-2158.



### 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! Please note that if we do not recognise the names of people who request to follow us; we refuse the request, therefore if you have an unusual username, please inform the office so that we know it is you! Thank you.

**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 99.52%!

**The Punctuality Award for the week:** EYFS, Year 1, Year 2, Year 4 and Year 5.

**Recommendations:** Year 1: Nathaniel C, Whole class Year 2: Heloise C, Niamh C, Whole class  
Year 3: Whole class Year 4: Whole class Year 5: Lilliemae G, Matthew N-C



**Year 6:** Natalie S, Qai'Rou M.

**Lunchtime Award:** Kyle W (Y5).

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



### 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 'Curious and Active'. 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: **Year 1:** Charlie G **Year 2:** Keela K **Year 3:** nominated Qai'Rou M (Y6) **Year 4:** Johnny G **Year 5:** Uday P **Year 6:** Annie D, Luke L.



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Happy Birthday to the following children who have celebrated their birthdays this week:  
Ella B (Y1), Qai'Rou M (Y6).

Dates for your diary - September 2016		
Tuesday 13 September	All day	Year 4 - 'Dahlicious Dress Up Day!'
Wednesday 14 September	3.20pm - 4.20pm	Rotary Meeting for Year 6
Wednesday 14 September	6.30pm - 7.30pm	Bishop Wash Open Evening for prospective Year 7 parents
<b>Wednesday 14 September</b>	<b>7.30pm</b>	<b>PTA Meeting</b>
Thursday 15 September	1.00pm	Year 3 start swimming
<b>Monday 19 September</b>	<b>2.30pm-3.20pm</b>	<b>Rights Respecting School Award (RRSA) Steering Group Meeting</b>
Thursday 22 September		School nurse to see Year 6 children
<b>Friday 23 September</b>	<b>3.30pm</b>	<b>Football Match vs Maney Hill (away)</b>
<b>Tuesday 27 September</b>	<b>9.00am - 10.00am</b>	<b>Inspire Workshops Year 5 and Year 6</b>
<b>Friday 30 September</b>	<b>3.30pm</b>	<b>Football Match vs St Joseph's (home)</b>
Dates for your diary - October 2016		
Tuesday 4 October	9.00am - 10.00am	Year 2 assembly
<b>Tuesday 4 October</b>	<b>11.45am</b>	<b>Grandparents Lunch (Children with surnames A-H)</b>
<b>Wednesday 5 October</b>	<b>11.45am</b>	<b>Grandparents Lunch (Children with surname I-N)</b>
<b>Thursday 6 October</b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Confirmation meeting in Church for Year 6 parents</b>
<b>Tuesday 11 October</b>	<b>9.00am - 10.00am</b>	<b>Inspire Workshops Year 3 and Year 4</b>
<b>Wednesday 12 October</b>	<b>11.45am</b>	<b>Grandparents Lunch (Children with surnames O-Z)</b>
Wednesday 12 October to Friday 15 October		Year 6 visit to Alton Castle
<b>Thursday 13 October</b>	<b>All day</b>	<b>Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 to receive Nasal Flu Vaccination</b>
Tuesday 18 October	9.00am - 10.00am	Year 4 assembly



Wednesday 19 October	3.30pm - 7.00pm	Parents' Evening
Thursday 20 October	3.30pm - 6.00pm	Parents' Evening
<b>Friday 21 October</b>	<b>3.30pm</b>	<b>Football Match vs Shrubbery (away)</b>

*\*Other dates available on website*

Have a lovely weekend

Yours sincerely

*T Cotter*

Miss T Cotter

Principal

**Prayers for the Beginning of the New School Year**

Dear Lord, as we begin this new school year, we gather  
once again as your community of believers.

We thank you for the energy and the spirit that you renewed  
in us through the summer months.

We thank you for the time to enjoy our family and  
friends and to reflect on what is important in our lives.  
Let this year be marked by enthusiasm and love so that,  
with the inspiration of your Spirit, we may continue  
to grow in our faith.

Help us to fulfil Your hope for us with honest intentions  
and works of faith.

Let us be gentle with ourselves and bring laughter, joy  
and love to others.

We ask this in your name. 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



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