



Newsletter No 14

Dear Parents and Friends

Friday 16 December 2016



EYFS/KS1 Christmas Production - The Hoity Toity Angel

It has been fantastic in school this week with Christmas definitely arriving at Holy Cross! The two performances were a great success. It is amazing to see how confident the children have become and lovely to see so many happy and proud faces in the audience.

On Tuesday we enjoyed our Christmas lunch. A big thank you to Mrs Watts, our kitchen staff and our lunchtime staff for working so hard to ensure the lunch all ran smoothly.

Again thanks are offered to the PTA for providing refreshments at this week's performances and organising last night's Christmas Disco; a great time was had by all!



The choir have also been getting into the Christmas spirit, singing at the Holy Cross senior citizens Christmas lunch and on Wednesday delighting the residents at The Oaks Residential Home where I received so many lovely compliments about the children's singing, behaviour and character. On Saturday, we look forward to seeing as many choir members as possible as we will be singing at House of Fraser in Sutton Coldfield, at 9.45am. Thank you to Mr Mayor for preparing the choir so well.



We conclude with our KS2 Advent Service on Monday 19 December at 6pm; I hope that you can attend.

Well done to all the children and to all the staff who worked so hard to make all our Christmas celebrations such a success.



Mass: Year 6 will lead our Mass in school on Thursday 22 December, all welcome.



KS2 Carol Service Rehearsals

On Monday 19 December children are required to be collected from Church at 3.10pm; this will allow parents to collect siblings from school for 3.20pm. If your child attends Kids' Club they will walk back to school with staff. Thank you for your support.



School Photographs

School photographs were sent home with children this week. Please return orders to school no later than **9.00am on Monday 19 December**. Any late orders parents will be required to send direct to 'Academy Photographers.' Thank you.



Advent Service of Nine Lessons and Carols KS2 at Church

This will be held in Church on **Monday 19 December** at 6.00pm. Please ensure your KS2 child is at church at **5.30pm - 5.45pm**; thank you. We hope to see a full church on this occasion; please come along to support our children.



Mini Vinnies

Our Mini Vinnies will be collecting donations at the end of the Advent Service to raise money for the parish SVP to support the needy families of our parish and the local community; we hope you will support this worthwhile cause. Thank you.



Irish Dancing After School Club

Following on from the high levels of interest in the Irish Dancing after-school club we are delighted to offer this club for after the Christmas holidays.

The club will run from **Friday 13 January 2017 until Friday 10 February**, from 3.20-4.20pm. The cost for these sessions will be **£22.50** (£4.50 per session) and will be open to all children from **Year 2 to Year 6**. As there are limited places available, it will be on a first come first serve basis. A letter has been sent home with children on Wednesday; please contact the school office if you require a copy. Thank you.



Christmas Class Parties

On **Tuesday 20 December** the children will be having Christmas class parties. The children must wear **full school uniform**. Parents are asked for a **£1 donation** per child towards party food and prizes. Please send this into the class teacher in an envelope with your child's name and labelled "Party". Deadline for payment **is today**. Thank you for your support.



'Headstart' Programme Year 5 and Year 6

Holy Cross Catholic Primary School is now affiliated with the British Heart Foundation's 'Heartstart' programme. A letter has been sent home today with children please contact the school office if you require a copy. This course will be open to those children from Year 5 and 6 in an after school club with Mr Hunt. The course will take place on a Monday, 3:20-4:20pm. There are only 14 places available and so there is a first come, first serve basis. This course will run on Monday 16, 23, 30 January and the 13 February. The deadline to return consent slips is **Wednesday 21 December 2016**. Thank you.

Toy Day

On **Thursday 22 December** children can bring a toy into school. Please do not send your child with an expensive toy as the school will not accept responsibility if this gets broken. **The children need to wear full school uniform for this day.**



ASDA

Year 1 Trip to Asda

On **Monday 9 January** Year 1 is going on a trip to Asda, Minworth. This is in relation to their topic of 'Healthy Eating'.



Year 6 Trip to St Chad's Cathedral

On **Tuesday 10 January**, Year 6 is going on a trip to St Chad's Cathedral.



Dinner Money

If your child is in KS2 and has a school dinner the deadline for the payment of **£64.50 is Friday 13 January 2017**. Please make payment through ParentPay. If you have credit showing on your ParentPay account please deduct this from the £64.50 and pay the remaining balance. Thank you.



Attendance - *Our school strives for 100% attendance.*

Did you know...? **Government legislation states that 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% Well done!

The Punctuality Award for the week: Year 4 and Year 6.

Recommendations: EYFS: Whole class **Year 1:** Whole class **Year 2:** Flynn B, Sebastian H **Year 3:** Christie W, Darren A **Year 4:** Owen P, Ben B **Year 5:** James R **Year 6:** Annie D, Trinity H, Jessica T.

Lunchtime Award: Gabriella L (EYFS).

Class of the week: Year 3.

Sports Award: Jack McK (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 **'Intentional and Prophetic'**. 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 Stewart:** Florence H **Miss Stevens:** Henry H **Mr Hunt:** Salvio J (Y1), Heloise C **Mr Mayor:** Qai'Rou M (Y6) Joshua W, Eliza S **Miss Crowley & Miss Lovelock:** Isobel W

Mr Rowlands: Niamh S **Miss Cross:** Natalie S, Millie McC.



Happy Birthday to the following children who have celebrated their birthdays this week:
James W, Bethany McK (EYFS), Alexandra E (Y1), Megan P (Y2), Mia B (Y3), William H, Matthew N-C (Y5).

Dates for your diary - December 2017		
Monday 19 December	3.10pm	KS2 children to be collected from Church
Monday 19 December	6.00pm-7.00pm	Advent Service of Nine Lessons and Carols KS2 at Church <i>(KS2 children to be at Church by 5.45pm)</i>
Tuesday 20 December	9.00am-12.00pm	Christmas parties in class
Tuesday 20 December	1.45pm-3.30pm	Pantomime company in school - Wizard of Oz
Thursday 22 December	All Day	Toy Day - children to wear full school uniform
Dates for your diary - January 2017		
Monday 9 January	8.50am	Return to school
Monday 9 January	Morning	Year 1 trip to Asda
Tuesday 10 January	All Day	Year 6 trip to St Chad's Cathedral
Thursday 12 January	1.30pm	Year 3 swimming
Wednesday 18 January	7.30pm	PTA Meeting
Wednesday 25 January	9.00am-12.00pm	EYFS - School nurse to carry out hearing tests
Tuesday 31 January	9.00am	Academy Photographers in school - groups, teams.
Dates for your diary - February 2017		
Monday 6 February	3.20pm-4.30pm	PTA Spring disco
<i>Tuesday 7 February</i>	<i>12.30pm-3.00pm</i>	<i>Year 5 at Bishop Walsh to watch production 'Going Back to the Eighties'</i>
Thursday 9 February	7.00pm	Confirmation - Year 6 children
Wednesday 15 February	All Day	Year 6 trip to Birmingham Back to Back Houses
Friday 17 February	3.20pm	Break up for half term
Monday 27 February	8.50am	Return to school

***Other dates available on website**

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely

T Cotter

Miss T Cotter
Principal



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