



Newsletter No 20

Dear Parents and Friends

Friday 10 February 2017



Last night, our Y6 children along with 11 children from the parish received the Sacrament of Confirmation from Bishop Robert Byrne CO. I received so many compliments from members of the congregation regarding the reverence shown by the children, the atmosphere and the quality of the singing; it really was a very special occasion.

These events are very successful due to the hard work of everyone in our community and we are very grateful to Fr Neil, Mrs Jupp and Miss Cross for all their work in preparing the children for this very important Sacrament and also to the PTA for providing refreshments in the Church hall.



Mrs Hamilton

Today we say goodbye and thank you to Mrs Julie Hamilton, who worked at Holy Cross a few years ago before joining us again in 2015. We thank her for all her hard work with the children and her lovely sense of humour. We hope that she enjoys spending more time with her family. She will be greatly missed.



Collecting Children at the end of the school day

Holy Cross is committed to safeguarding children and therefore parents are reminded that only people who are on a child's data sheet can collect children from the class teacher.

There is a growing number of occasions when parents are sending other parents to collect their children whilst they wait out in the road/in the car. Children will be kept beside their class teachers until the named person comes inside the school gates to collect them. Children are not allowed to walk out of the school unsupervised unless we have prior written consent. I thank you for your cooperation in this very important matter.

Online Safety

This week we had Online Safety day where we again reiterated to the children about the importance of staying safe online. In these ever changing times, online safety is an issue for all of us. To reassure all parents, we have gained consent to use photographs of children on the website, in the press or on Twitter. I do remind parents to be equally rigorous and not to share photographs of other people's children on social media without parental consent. The following clip gives some useful tips about sharing photographs safely online:



<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-38893963>

'The Right Click: Internet Safety Matters' workshop - Tuesday 7 March 3.30pm

This workshop is for parents and children who are in *Year 5 and Year 6*. We urge you to attend or ask a representative for your child to come along. The workshop has been jointly developed by Unicef UK and BT to help keep children safe online, while encouraging them to become confident digital citizens. The workshop will offer you the opportunity to explore what your child likes doing online and what their concerns are, as well as providing advice on different safety features and how to set them. A letter has been sent home with children in Year 5 and Year 6. If you would like to attend, please complete and return reply slip no later than **Monday 27 February 2017**. If you require a copy of the letter please contact the school office. Thank you.





Mass: No Mass in school on Thursday 16 February. We will have a Liturgy of the Word in school - all welcome!



Letters emailed to parents this week:

Year 4: Trip to Sutton Park

Years 2,3,4,5 and 6: After-School Dance Club - tap ballet and jazz

Please contact office if you have not received copy



Swimming Gala

Last Saturday, the swimming team swam fantastically well in the Sutton Small Schools Gala. All of the children gave 100% and scored the team points with every race. Well done to Luke, Regine and Ethan who won their individual races and were the fastest swimmers in their age category. Everyone's points added together enabled the team to finish seventh in the competition. We are all very proud of each swimmer as they gave it their all; they were excellent persevering parrots!



Multi-Skills Competition

On Monday, Miss Stevens and Mr Hunt had the pleasure of taking a team from Years 1 and 2 to compete in a multi skills competition. The children had previously worked hard in their after-school club, developing their skills ready for the competition. They all gave 100% and worked well as a team. All of their points over the eight events enabled the team to finish in a very respectable 5th place. We are all very proud of the team and their efforts.



'Back to the 80's' - Bishop Walsh

On Tuesday 7 February Year 6 visited Bishop Walsh to watch 'Back to the 80's'. The children were very well behaved and the show was amazing! We really enjoyed watching it and seeing some former pupils performing so well. Thank you to the volunteers that came with us.



After-School Dance Club Years 2,3,4,5 and 6

We will be holding an after school dance club for Years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 run by an outside provider. The club will cover a variety of ballet, tap and jazz. The cost of this club is £14.00 for the four week period (this is £3.50 per session). If you would like your child to attend this after school club, then please make payment through ParentPay. We require a minimum of 12 children to make this club viable. Places for this club are limited; so it will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Please make payment no later than by **Monday 13 February**. Thank you.



HSBC Bank

A member of the HSBC Bank will be in school on **Monday 13 February**. We try to encourage our KS2 children to open and be responsible for their own bank account and manage their money.



Tennis Club - Year 1 and Year 2

Letters were sent home with children in Year 1 and Year 2 last week. If your child would like to join the Tennis Club please complete and return forms no later than **Monday 13 February**. 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.



Zumba Club - Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3

Letters were sent home with children last week. If your child would like to join the Zumba Club please complete and return forms no later than **Monday 13 February**. 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.



Year 5 Assembly Wednesday 15 February - 9.15am (refreshments at 9.00am)

Our Year 5 class will be performing their assembly about 'Stone Age.' I am sure we will all learn something!! I hope that you will be able to attend. Thank you.



School Photographs

School group/team photos were sent home with children last Friday. Please return your orders to school office no later than **Thursday 16 February**. Thank you.



Purple Pinkie Day-Friday 17 February

Holy Cross, along with other Sutton Primary schools, is taking part in 'Purple Pinkie Day' on **Friday 17 February**. This is the Rotary Club's charity supporting work to eradicate Polio overseas. This will be **a non-school uniform** day. The children simply have to wear pink/purple on that day and bring in a small donation to go towards this fantastic charity.



Lenten Fundraising - Whole School Sponsored Walk

As part of our fundraising programme during Lent the whole school will be completing a 5k sponsored walk around New Hall Valley (EYFS children will complete a shorter walk). This will take place on **Tuesday 28 February**. Our aim is to raise as much money as possible for our worthwhile charities and we would be very grateful if you could please encourage your child/children to ask for as many sponsors as possible. Please send all collected money into school no later than **Friday 3 March**. Many thanks for your generosity and support during our Lenten fundraising. A letter and sponsor form was sent home with children on Tuesday, if you require a copy please contact the school office. Thank you.



Bedtime Stories Thursday 2 March

Come along and enjoy hot chocolate, cookies and stories. All children will be given a flyer to bring home next week. Please keep looking in their school bags. Thank you.





St David's Day

On **Wednesday 1 March** we celebrate St David's Day by asking the children to wear full school uniform with a daffodil and donating £1 towards our Lenten charities if they wish. Thank you for your support.



Mothers' Day Lunches - Wednesday 15 March and Tuesday 21 March

These lunch days will be held on Wednesday 15 March (children with surname A-K) and Tuesday 21 March (children with surname L-Z). Mothers, grandmothers, aunts or a female family friend need to arrive at **11.45am** and will enter through Key Stage 1 gate. We are really excited and looking forward to visitors coming to our school and enjoying a meal with the children and we know the children are just as excited. A letter has been sent home with children. Please contact the school office if you need another copy.

*Please note that the deadline for payment is **Monday 6 March**. We do not want anyone to miss out but as food needs to be ordered in advance, no late orders can be accepted after this date.* Thank you for your support; we hope to see many of you at these days.

Donate!



Children's Tights, Pants and Socks

If you have any children's school tights, pants or socks that you would like to donate to our Early Years class your help would be much appreciated. Their supplies are running very low. Thank you.



Year 2 Fundraising

Year 2 will be selling fruit cups and fruit smoothies for 50p each next Monday and Tuesday. This is to raise money to buy the material for their superhero capes. Please be generous and help with their fundraising. Thank you.



Cash into School

When sending cash to school for any items e.g. toast, morning snacks, disco, mother's day lunch; please can parents ensure that they send in the correct change. As ParentPay is used for the majority of payments, we have become a cashless school. We do not hold any change in the school office. Thank you.

Family Bingo Night

This will be held on **Friday 31 March**. Further details to follow.



Another Funtime Friday - Adults Only

Holy Cross PTA presents..... another 'Funtime Friday!' **Friday 19 May** at The Boathouse Restaurant, Bracebridge Pool, Sutton Park. *Please come along to this popular event and have a lovely evening.* Further details to follow.

School Matters!



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 2 with 99.26% Well done!

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



Recommendations: EYFS: Caitlin McG, Tresa B Year 1: Charlie G, Cormac K Year 2: Olivia A, Lola F Year 3: Jake M-B, Eliza S Year 4: Orlaith G, Owen P, Nathan G, Frank W Year 5: Eva D, Ben O'T, Jack McK Year 6: Jacob D, Samuel C.

Lunchtime Award: Daniel S (Y2).

Class of the week: EYFS.

Sports Award: Swimming Team, Alicia I, Darren A (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 being '**Grateful and Generous**'. 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:** Jimmy W **Miss Stevens:** Sophia H **Mr Hunt:** Ruth H (Y1)

Mr Mayor: Olivia F **Miss Lovelock and Miss Crowley:** Cillian K **Mr Rowlands:** Jack R **Miss Cross:** Trinity H, Qau'Rou M, all of Year 6.



Special Angels

Choir at Confirmation: Olivia H, Emma McK, Erin P, Olivia W, Elizia S (Y3), Maria L, Charlotte L (Y4).

Altar Servers: Ben B (Y4) Regine W and Sam K (Y5).



Happy Birthday to the following children who have celebrated their birthdays this week:
Ronan L (EYFS), Flynn B (Y2), Thomas B, Joshua W, Fraser C (Y3).

Dates for your diary - February 2017		
Tuesday 14 February	All day	Year 1 Bikeability
Wednesday 15 February	9.15am	Year 5 class assembly
Wednesday 15 February	All Day	Year 6 trip to Birmingham Back to Back Houses
Friday 17 February	All day	Purple Pinkie Day-Non school uniform wear pink or purple
Friday 17 February	3.20pm	Break up for half term
Monday 27 February	8.50am	Return to school
Monday 27 February	All week	Book week
Tuesday 28 February	2.00pm-3.00pm	Whole school sponsored walk - Lenten fundraising event
Dates for your Diary - March 2017		
Wednesday 1 March	All day	St David's Day full school uniform - wear a daffodil
Thursday 2 March	1.15pm	Year 2 will start swimming lessons
Thursday 2 March	All day	Book day
Thursday 2 March	5.45pm-7.00pm	PTA Bedtime story night
Friday 3 March	3.30pm	Football match vs Minworth (away)
Monday 6 March	All Day	Year 4 Trip to Sutton Park
Tuesday 7 March	3.30pm-4.30pm	Yr 5 & Yr 6 'The Right Click; Internet Safety Matters'
Wednesday 8 March	7.30pm-8.30pm	PTA Meeting
Friday 10 March	3.30pm-4.30pm	EYFS/KS1 Art exhibition in school hall - Lenten fundraising event
Tuesday 14 March	3.00pm-4.00pm	First confession for Year 3
Wednesday 15 March	11.45am	Mothers' Day Lunch children with surname A-K
Thursday 16 March	3.00pm-4.00pm	First confession for Year 3
Friday 17 March	All Day	Non-school uniform day St Patricks-wear green
Friday 17 March	3.30pm-4.30pm	Football Match vs Mere Green JI School (home)
Friday 17 March	3.30pm-4.30pm	KS2 Art exhibition in school hall - Lenten fundraising event
Tuesday 21 March	11.45am	Mothers' Day Lunch children with surname L-Z
Wednesday 22 March	Lunch time	EYFS/KS1 to sell lunchtime craft/ healthy food sale - Lenten fundraising event
Thursday 23 March	Lunch time	KS12to sell lunchtime craft/ healthy food sale - Lenten fundraising event
Friday 24 March	3.30pm	Football match vs St Nicholas Catholic Primary (away)
Tuesday 28 March	9.00am-9.45pm	EYFS/KS1 Morning tea - Lenten fundraising event
Tuesday 28 March	2.15pm-3.00pm	KS2 Afternoon tea - Lenten fundraising event
Wednesday 29 March	3.30pm-7.00pm	Parents' evening
Thursday 30 March	3.30pm-6.00pm	Parents' evening
Friday 31 March	6.45pm-9.00pm	PTA Family Bingo night
Dates for your diary - April 2017		
Tuesday 4 April	9.00am refreshments 9.15am start	KS2 Easter Production - all welcome
Wednesday 5 April	3.30pm	Football match vs Newhall Primary School (away)
Thursday 6 April	3.30pm-4.15pm	Outdoor workout in the style of Joe Wicks led by Mr Rowlands & Miss Cross - Lenten fundraising event
Friday 7 April		No music lessons
Dates for your diary - May 2017		

**Other dates available on website*

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely

T Cotter

Miss T Cotter
Principal



Prayer for the Help of the Holy Spirit

O God, send forth your Holy Spirit into my heart that I may perceive, into my mind that I may remember, and into my soul that I may meditate.

Inspire me to speak with piety, holiness, tenderness and mercy.

Teach, guide and direct my thoughts and senses from beginning to end.

May your grace ever help and correct me, and may I be strengthened now with wisdom from on high, for the sake of your infinite mercy. Amen.

Saint Anthony of Padua

