



## Newsletter No 1

Dear Parents and Friends

Friday 8 September 2017



### Welcome Back!

Welcome back to a new academic year, and a particularly warm welcome to our new families.

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 do remind parents to adhere to all elements of our school uniform policy especially in regard to hairstyles.

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.



### 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass

On **Friday 15 September**, to start our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, Bishop Robert will be celebrating Mass in school for the children, past and present staff and governors and invited guests. During this visit, the Bishop will bless our Prayer garden. Weather permitting, the Mass will be held outside or alternatively in the event of poor weather, in the hall. Unfortunately, due to the hall's capacity we cannot issue an open invitation to the Mass.

After Mass, as part of our celebrations, the whole school will be having a picnic lunch. Therefore, children are required to bring in a packed lunch for this day. Children in EYFS, Key Stage 1 and those who also usually have a school meal may bring a packed lunch from home or order one from school. If you would like to order a packed lunch from school, please contact the school office and place your order **no later than Monday 11 September**.



### Picnic Blankets

We would really appreciate if any parents could send in a picnic rug for the children to use. Thank you.

## Year 6 SATs

### End of KS2 Assessment

The children and staff worked incredibly hard and again achieved results of which to be incredibly proud - well done everyone!

Subject area	School % Expected standard	National % Expected standard	School Average Scaled score	National Average Scaled score
Reading	93	71	111	104
Writing	90	76	N/A	N/A
Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling	90	77	111	106
Maths	93	75	111	104
Combined Reading, Writing & Maths	86	61	N/A	N/A



**Mass:** There will be no Mass on *Thursday 14 September*.



**Letters emailed to parents this week:**

**Whole School:** 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass.

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



### School Meals

There are some changes at lunchtime this year as the Academy now have a contract with Caterlink to run our meals service. They have taken over from our previous providers, Citiserve who provided a traded service for Birmingham City Council for many years. There are no changes to staffing in the kitchen and Mrs Watts is still our cook but our providers have introduced an exciting new menu based on an increased use of fresh produce. We are confident that the children will enjoy the food on offer and get a healthy, balanced meal every day. Please see the attached menu and welcome note from Caterlink. Arrangements for paying for dinners via Parentpay remain the same as last year.

The menu is offers a variety of dishes all prepared from natural ingredients so I do ask you to be patient whilst the children become more familiar with the meals. I have tried the food myself and am very impressed not only by the quality but by the variety of fruit and vegetables that the children have been given the opportunity to try. The vast majority of children have been positive in their feedback which is very pleasing.

*In order for parents to see at first hand the food Caterlink offers, a taster session will be held during this half term. I will notify you when we have a definite date. I ask you for your support in these early days.*



### Irish Dancing- After School Club

Letters have been sent home with children in Years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 giving further information regarding this club. The deadline for payment is **Monday 11 September**. Please contact the school office if you require a copy. There are limited places available. Thank you.



### Rotary Meeting - Year 6 Parents

A meeting will be held on **Monday 11 September** 3.20pm-4.20pm for parents whose children would like to take part in the Rotary Community Award. Thank you.



### Open Evening at Bishop Walsh

There is an Open Evening at Bishop Walsh School for prospective Year 7 parents on **Wednesday 13 September** 6.30pm to 8.30pm. For further information please contact Bishop Walsh on 0121 351 3215.



### PTA Meeting

Our first PTA meeting of the new year is on **Wednesday 13 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!



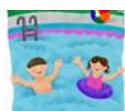
### Dinner Money

The deadline for dinner money is **Wednesday 13 September**. The amount due is **£68.80**, (this payment is for 32 days we have deducted 3 days: 04.09.17, 15.09.17 and 20.10.17). Please log onto your ParentPay account to make payment. If you have credit please deduct this amount from amount due. Any queries please contact the school office. Thank you.



### Alton Castle

There will be a meeting regarding the Alton Castle trip for all Year 6 parents, on **Thursday 14 September at 3.20pm**. Thank you.



### Swimming Lessons-Year 3

Year 3 will start swimming on **Thursday 14 September**. Girls must 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. Please ensure that children do not wear earrings into school on Thursdays, as they are not permitted to wear them in the pool. Thank you for your support.



### Sacrament Of Confirmation

Parents who have children in Year 6 and wish their child to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in February 2018 **must** register their child at a meeting in church on **Tuesday 19 September at 6.00pm**. Any parents unable to attend this meeting are to contact Father Neil. Thank you.



### Music Lessons

Music lessons start on **Friday 22 September**. All music lessons will take place **on Fridays**. Music invoices will be sent out shortly. Any queries please contact the school office. Thank you for your cooperation.



### 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 26 September 9.15am - 10.15am

**Inspire Workshop for Year 1 and Year 2** this will be held on Tuesday 10 October 9.15am - 10.15am

**Inspire Workshop for Year 3 and Year 4** this will be held on Tuesday 17 October 9.15am - 10.15am

One person per family is welcome to come along to support; please make every effort to attend.

**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 1 and Year 5 with 100%!

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

### Recommendations

**Recommendations:**

**Year 1:** Whole class **Year 2:** Christopher K, Sienna M **Year 3:** Whole class, Lola F, Megan P

**Year 4:** Whole class **Year 5:** Ben B, Cassie G **Year 6:** Charlie S, Jack McK.



**Lunchtime Award:** Gabriella L (Y1).

**Class of the Week:** Year 3.



### 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 '**Eloquent and Truthful**'. 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:** Ollie L, Georgia H **Mr Hunt:** Ruth H **Mr Mayor:** Logan McC

**Miss Lovelock/Miss Crowley:** Ella W, Erin P **Mr Rowlands:** Erin P, Elyssa P, Charlotte L **Miss Cross:** Matthew N-C, William H.



**Happy Birthday to the following children who have celebrated their birthdays this week:**  
Ella B (Y2), Ella P (Y3).

### Dates for your diary - September 2017

Wednesday 13 September	7.30pm-8.30pm	PTA Meeting
Thursday 14 September	3.20pm	Alton Castle meeting for Y6 parents' in school
Friday 15 September	11.00am	50th Anniversary Mass for children and invited guests
Tuesday 19 September	6.00pm-7.30pm	Confirmation meeting for Year 6 parents in Church
Friday 22 September	Morning	Year 1 and Year 2 start Forest Schools
Friday 22 September	All Day	Music lessons start today
Tuesday 26 September	9.15am-10.15am	Year 5 and Year 6 Inspire Workshop
Wednesday 27 September	3.30pm	Football Match away at The Shruberry School
Wednesday 27 September		School nurses to carry out height and weight check Year 6

### Dates for your diary - October 2017

Tuesday 3 October	6.00pm-7.00pm	First Holy Communion information meeting in Church
Tuesday 3 October	9.00am refreshments 9.15am start	Year 4 Assembly
Monday 9 October	3.30pm	Football Match home vs St Nicolas
Tuesday 10 October	9.15am-10.15am	Year 1 and Year 2 Inspire Workshop



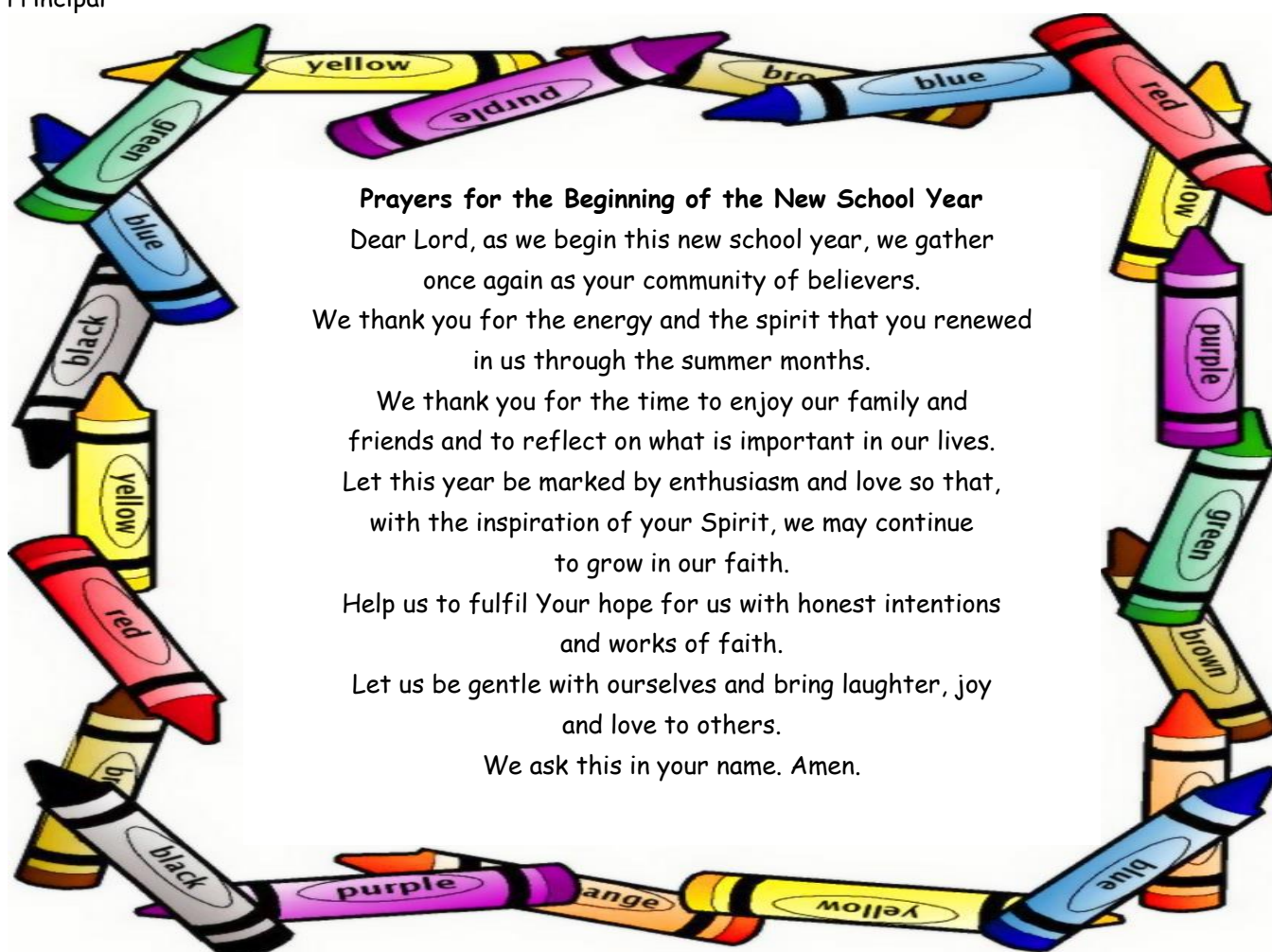
Wednesday 11 October to Friday 13 October		Year 6 trip to Alton Castle
Friday 13 October	All day	School nurse to administer 'Nasal Flu' for Years EYFS,1,2,3 and 4
Tuesday 17 October	9.15am-10.15am	Year 3 and Year 4 Inspire Workshop
Tuesday 17 October	1.30pm-3.20pm	Get Your Grown Ups Growing all invited
Wednesday 18 October	3.30pm-7.00pm	Parents' Evening
Thursday 19 October	9.15am	Harvest Mass
Thursday 19 October	3.30pm-6.00pm	Parents' Evening
Friday 20 October	All Day	Inset Day - school closed for children

*\*Other dates available on website*

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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