



Newsletter No 3

Dear Parents and Friends

Friday 22 September 2017



We are certainly back in the swing of school life! Our new Early Years class has settled in very well. I am pleased to say that all the children have returned with a positive attitude and a love of learning which is great to see. We are running a variety of after school clubs this year and look forward to seeing a large number of children taking advantage of these opportunities.



Bicycles

Parents are reminded that bicycles brought to school should be locked securely in the bike rack during the day and taken away at home time; they should not be left at school overnight.

The school takes no responsibility for any loss or damage to personal items on the school site. I ask for your cooperation in this matter.



Mass: Year 3 will lead our Mass in School on **Thursday 28 September**, all welcome.



Letters emailed to parents this week:

Whole school: Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust

Please contact the school office if you require a copy. Thank you.



Nasal Flu Vaccination

Letters have been sent home with **EYFS, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4** 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 **Monday 25 September**. Thank you.



Macmillan Coffee Morning-Friday 29 September 9.00am to 10.15am

Year 6 invite you to come along to the Macmillan Coffee morning that they are organising on **Friday 29 September 9.00am to 10.15am**. Please try to support them so we can raise lots of money for this very worthwhile charity. We have also invited our neighbours, residents from The Oaks Residential Home and members from St Vincent de Paul Society.

Request for cakes

We would be very grateful for any donations of cakes home-made or shop bought to sell at the coffee morning; these can be sent into school on **Wednesday 27, Thursday 28** or the morning of **Friday 29 September**. Thank you in mouth-watering anticipation!



The children will also have the opportunity to take part in a '**Holy Cross Healthy Bake off!**' There will be a class star baker and an overall Holy Cross star baker awarded! The cakes will be tasted during the coffee morning. If your child would like to enter please send in their cake on **Thursday 28 September** labelled with their name and title of their bake. Thank you.

Remaining cakes will be sold outside at the end of the school day.



Music Lessons

Violin lessons start on **Friday 29 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.



Grandparents' Lunch

A final reminder about our three lunch days being held on **Tuesday 3 October** (children with surname A-H) **Wednesday 4 October** (children with surname I-N) and **Tuesday 10 October** (children with surname O-Z). **Today is the last day you can order places. We do not want anyone to be disappointed so please note that late orders will not be accepted.** If you are concerned that your child will not pass on form/payment to the class teacher please use white post box in reception by school office; this is open from 7.00am to 6.00pm. 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.



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.

Football Dates

Please see the following dates for your diary:



Wednesday 27 September AWAY vs The Shruberry School

Monday 9 October HOME vs St Nicholas Catholic Primary School

Please note that all the team are expected to attend every training session please inform Mr Hunt or Mrs Howes of any apologies.



EYFS Visit to Church

On **Friday 6 October** Early Years will be walking up to Holy Cross and St Francis Church to meet Father Neil and have a tour around the Church. There will be time for the children to ask any questions they may have and learn about how we behave in Mass.

At **2.30p.m** we would like to invite you to come to Holy Cross Church to join your child in a blessing for our new families by Father Neil. This is to celebrate and welcome our new families to Holy Cross Catholic Primary School. It will be followed by juice and snacks. Your child will then be dismissed from church at **3.10 p.m.** If you cannot attend the blessing then please pick your child up from church at **3.10 p.m.** (the time is given to allow parents time to collect siblings). If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask. Thank you.

Harvest Mass

Our Harvest Mass this year is on **Thursday 19 October 9:15am**. This is a lovely occasion when we thank God for the gift of food. As in previous years, we want to provide offerings for our local community in need. Therefore we are asking for shoe boxes to be sent into school to be decorated as some of the donations will be used to make our lovely food hampers. In order to make the hampers, we would ask for the following donations from each family:



Shoe Boxes - Week beg 25 September

Tinned food - Week beg Monday 2 October one tin per child.

Packets of food (rice, pasta, biscuits etc.) - Week beg Monday 9 October one per child

Fresh fruit and vegetables by Wednesday 18 October.

This year however, the majority of the donations will be used to support a local foodbank which provides food for the growing numbers of families in need.

Thank you in anticipation!



Minecraft

Online Safety Update - From recent discussions with our online safety ambassadors, it is evident that 'Minecraft' is a popular game with our pupils. In response to this we have attached advice released from the NSPCC about how to stay safe whilst playing minecraft. Thank you.



Plastic Drinking Bottles

Parents are reminded that children are to bring their own water bottles in every day. These must contain **plain still water only**; fizzy water, flavoured water or juice is not permitted. Thank you for your cooperation.



Birmingham City Council

Reception Intake - September 2018

In October 2017, the local authority will write to parents/carers of children who are on roll at a community or private nursery advising them of how to apply for a Reception Class place for September 2018. To view a copy of the Parents' Information Booklet go online at www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions. The Local Authority will accept applications until the national closing date of **15 January 2018**. Thank you.



Open Day Tuesday 7 November

We are having two open sessions for prospective parents who have children due to start in the Early Years Reception class in September 2018. These will be on Tuesday 7 November 9.15am - 10.15am and 2.00pm - 3.00pm. If you know of any Catholic families who are in this position please let them know. We are looking forward to meeting you all.



Supplementary Forms

Supplementary Forms available now from school office for children who wish to start our Early Years Class in September 2018. These forms need to be signed by Fr Neil; please see him about this when you go to Mass. The deadline for these to be returned to the school office is **Friday 15 January 2018**.



Holy Communion

Holy Communion

The Sacrament of First Holy Communion for our Year 3 children will be held on **Saturday 9 June** and **Saturday 16 June**. The Corpus Christie Procession will be on **Thursday 21 June**. Father Neil will confirm at a later date how the class will be split for each Saturday. Thank you



Attendance - Our school strives for 100% attendance.

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 EYFS with 100% Well done!

The Punctuality Award for the week: EYFS and Year 6!



Recommendations: Year 1: Sophie H, Sophia H **Year 2:** Tommy M **Year 3:** Harry K, Niamh C, **Year 4:** Olivia F, Fraser C **Year 5:** Cillian K, Erin L-F **Year 6:** Jack H, Keane S.



Class of the Week: Year 4.

Lunchtime Award: Elyssa P (Y5).



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:** Aidan J **Mr Mayor:** Angel M **Miss Lovelock/Miss Crowley:** Charlie S (Y6) Jake M-B **Mr Rowlands:** Orlaith G, Daisy C **Miss Cross:** Amy M, Luke S.



Happy Birthday to the following children who have celebrated their birthdays this week:
Elijah C-G, Gabriella L (Y1), Joseph M (Y3), Elyssa P (Y5), Eva D (Y6).

Dates for your diary - September 2017		
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
Friday 6 October	2.00pm	EYFS children walking to Church
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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