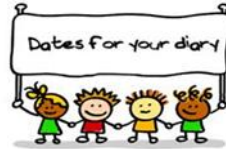




Newsletter No 18

Dear Parents and Friends

Friday 26 January 2018



We have a very busy few weeks coming up before the end of half term. Please ensure you look at the 'Dates for your Diary' section at the end of the newsletter.



Life Education

Key Stage Two enjoyed a visit from the Life Education team this week. Key Stage Two classes found the class sessions very informative.



Parking

I received a letter this week from a very upset resident who again has her drive blocked by a parent dropping their children off at school. She was understandably unhappy that her drive is being blocked, saying:

'These are our homes, we want our drive ways to be free for our families and if we need an ambulance.'

The letter also states when the driver of the car was asked to move, they were very rude in their response. Several of our neighbours on Laburnum Drive are elderly and some have disabilities; it is not unreasonable to expect their driveway to be left clear. Again, the school has had to apologise to residents for the distress that this is causing. I again urge all parents to park legally and responsibly and to show consideration to our neighbours. Thank you.



Mass: Year 5 will lead our Mass in Church on **Thursday 1 February**, all welcome. (Mass on this day will start at **9.10am** prompt). Thank you.



Vacancy

We have a vacancy in our school kitchen. For further details please contact the Catering Supervisor - Mrs Tammy Watts on 0121 675-1925. Thank you.



Year 2 Assembly - 'Super Heroes'

Well done to everyone in Year 2 for their really interesting and enjoyable assembly on Tuesday which gave us all a real insight into the work being covered this term. Thank you to Mr Hunt and Mrs Cutler for preparing the children so well and to all the parents who attended.



Year 3 and Year 4 Indoor Athletics

Well done to the team from years 3 and 4 who competed in the indoor athletics competition on Wednesday. The children performed fantastically well battling against 6 other schools and finished in 6th place overall. We had several heat winners and sprinting showed to be a great strength of our team. We are very proud of the effort they all put in.



Unwanted Gifts and Christmas Jumpers

Our very organised PTA are already planning for next year and have made the following request:

They would like donations of any children's Christmas jumpers/tee-shirts that are no longer wanted or are now too small, to be brought to the school office. This year they are planning to have a Christmas jumper stall at the Christmas Fayre. Also, any unwanted Christmas gifts i.e. toiletry sets, would also be very gratefully received. Thank you.

Music Invoices

Music Invoices have been sent home with children who have lessons. The deadline for payment is **today** via Parent pay. Thank you.



Confirmation

Confirmation

A letter has been sent home with Year 6 children requesting information for sponsor cards and Confirmation certificates. Please complete and returned to class teacher no later than **today**. Thank you.



Flowers for Church

Parents of Year 6 children are asked to contribute **£2.00** by **Monday 5 February** please send in a sealed envelope marked with your child's name and 'Confirmation Flowers.' Thank you.



Confirmation - Cleaning Church on Tuesday 6 February -6.30pm

Year 6 parents, who would be prepared to help clean the Church in preparation for their child's Confirmation are asked to please give their contact details to the school office. Thank you for cooperation.



Confirmation - Serving Refreshments Thursday 8 February

Volunteers are needed to help serve refreshments to parents and families after the Confirmation Mass. If you can spare some time please give your details to the school office or talk to a PTA member. Your help will be much appreciated - thank you.



School Choir

Letters were sent home this week with the school choir; to sing at our Year 6 Confirmation Mass on Thursday 8 February. This is a very special and important occasion for the school and the parish so I hope that many children will be able to attend to support the Year 6 children.

Please complete and return no later than **Friday 2 February**. If you require a copy please contact the school office. Thank you.



Homework Consultation - Monday 29 January (2.30pm - 3.15pm)

Thank you to those who are attending on Monday and to those who have expressed their views as they cannot attend. The updated guidance document being discussed will be sent out to all parents so that everyone is involved in the consultation. Thank you for your support.

Be Saints!

Saint Speed Sharing - Year 6 (Please note change of date)

Due to Miss Cross attending a family funeral we have changed the date for Saint Speed Sharing. Year 6 parents please come along to a fun-filled evening of Saint Speed Sharing on **Thursday 1 February** from **3.30pm - 4.15pm** in the school hall. This will link to their Saints projects that they have been creating for their recent homework and for their upcoming confirmation. During this evening, Year 6 will be sharing their Saints with you; explaining why they have chosen them, giving you lots of interesting information and explaining how their life has influenced theirs. Get ready with your questions for them! They would love to share their Saints with you. Thank you.



Mathematics Workshop Year 1 to Year 6

In response to parental feedback from both Inspire workshops and at Parents' evening, we will be holding a Mathematics workshop to discuss how we teach Maths at Holy Cross Catholic Primary School. We would like to invite you to attend the afternoon workshop to explore the teaching of mathematics and understand the strategies and approaches we use. The workshop will take place on **Monday 5 February 2018 at 2.15pm until 3.15pm. One member from each family can attend.** Thank you. I hope that you will be able to join us for this event.



Year 6 Trip to Ghamkol Sharif Mosque

Arrangements have now been made to take the children in Year 6 on a visit to the Ghamkol Sharif Mosque in Small Heath and Islamic Exhibition Centre on **Monday 5 February**. This is to support the RE Curriculum and to promote good citizenship and community cohesion. The visit includes a tour of the mosque and provides the children with the opportunity to learn more about the Muslim faith.

As we believe that the understanding of other faiths is so important and the experiences that the children will be involved in are so beneficial the Parish have agreed to subsidise the cost of this trip this year. We are very grateful for their generosity. Therefore, a small voluntary contribution of **£3.00** is now required to cover the cost of the donations to both the Mosque and the Exhibition Centre. ***Due to the small amount please send payment in cash or cheque made payable to 'John Paul II Multi Academy' by Tuesday 30 January. In an envelope marked 'Mosque Visit'.*** A letter has been sent home if you require a copy please contact the school office. Thank you.



Year 4 Trip to Nishkam School

As you know, Year Four is participating in the '3FF' 'School Linking Project' when we aim to prepare our children to be able to interact positively with anyone they meet with the skills and attitudes to be able to cultivate meaningful relationships. As part of the project we have been linked with Niksham Primary School.

The 'School Linking Project' will consist of three 'Link Days' with Niksham Primary School and the second will be on **Tuesday 6 February 2018** with Year 4 going on a trip to Nishkam School. A letter has been sent home with all Year 4 children. Please complete and return the proforma to the School office no later than **Thursday 1 February**. If you require a copy please contact the school office. Thank you.



Bishop Walsh production of 'Addams Family'

A letter has been sent home with Year 5 children regarding a visit on **Tuesday 6 February** to Bishop Walsh; to watch their production of 'Addams Family'. Please return consent slips no later than **Wednesday 31 January**. Please contact the school office if you have not received a copy, thank you.



School Photographs

School group/team photos have been sent home with children. Please return your orders to school office no later than **9.00am Wednesday 7 February**. Thank you.



**National
Trust**

Year 6 Trip to Birmingham Back to Back Houses

On **Tuesday 27 February** Year 6 is going on a trip to the Birmingham Back to Back Houses. This is in relation to their topic of 'World War Two'. A voluntary donation of **£8.00** is now required to cover the cost of transport, workshops at venue, tour and insurance. Please login to your Parent Pay account and select this trip; deadline for payment is **Monday 12 February**. If you require a copy of the letter that was emailed home please contact the school office. Thank you.



Mothers' Day Lunches - Wednesday 7 March and Tuesday 13 March

These lunch days will be held on Wednesday 7 March (children with surname A-K) and Tuesday 13 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.

A letter with order form has been sent home with children; (please contact the school office if you have not received a copy). To make a payment please log into your Parent Pay account and select 'Mothers' Day Lunch'. In addition to payment we require a complete order form. The deadline for the order form and payment is **Thursday 15 February**. 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 on these days.



PTA Fun Time Friday

Fun Time Friday will be on **Friday 18 May**, please put this important date in your diary! Further details will be given in the newsletter at a later date. 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 98.52% Well done!



The Punctuality Award for the week: Year 1, Year 2, Year 4 and Year 5!

Recommendations

Recommendations: EYFS: Isabella S, Ciara P **Year 1:** James W, Jacob H **Year 2:** Jack McS, Tommy M, Daniel W **Year 3:** Keela K, Kieron McC **Year 4:** Alicia I, Harry M **Year 5:** Ethan L, Erin L-F **Year 6:** Lilliemae G, Alan J.



Class of the Week: Year 3.

Lunchtime Award: Enya B (Y5).



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: **Miss Stewart:** Ellie G **Miss Stevens:** Daniel S (Y3) **Mr Mayor:** Maggie R **Miss Lovelock/Mrs Howes:** Scarlett T **Mr Rowlands:** Owen P **Miss Cross:** Niamh S, Ben O'T.



Happy Birthday to the following children who have celebrated their birthdays this week:

Caitlin K, Helois C (Y3), Leilagh K, Alexandra H, Enya B (Y5).

Dates for Diary - January 2018

Monday 29 January	12.00pm-1.00pm	HSBC in school
Monday 29 January	2.30pm - 3.15pm	Parents' Consultation Meeting re Homework
Wednesday 31 January	9.00am-12.00pm	School nurse to carry out height and weight checks for EYFS
Thursday 1 February	3.30pm-4.15pm	Year 6 Saint Speed Sharing Please note change of date

Dates for Diary - February 2018

Friday 2 February	All day	School nurse to carry our eye test for EYFS class
Friday 2 February	3.20pm-4.20pm	Football training starts
Saturday 3 February	2.00pm-5.00pm	Sutton Schools swimming gala
Monday 5 February	All day	Year 6 trip to Ghamkol Sharif Mosque
Monday 5 February	2.15pm-3.15pm	Mathematics Workshop
Tuesday 6 February	All day	Year 4 visit to Nishkam School
Tuesday 6 February	12.30pm-3.20pm	Year 5 at Bishop Walsh watching production 'Addams Family'
Tuesday 6 February	2.00pm-3.00pm	Confirmation rehearsal in Church
Wednesday 7 February	7.30pm	PTA meeting
Thursday 8 February		No school Mass
Thursday 8 February	7.00pm	Year 6 Confirmation at Church
Monday 12 February	12.00pm-1.00pm	HSBC in school
Tuesday 13 February	Refreshments at 9.00am starts at 9.15am	Year 1 class assembly
Wednesday 14 February	9.15am	Ash Wednesday - Mass at Church
Thursday 15 February		No school Mass

Friday 16 February	3.20pm	Break up for half-term
Monday 26 February	All day	Inset day-school closed to children
Tuesday 27 February	8.50am	Return to school
Tuesday 27 February	All day	Year 6 Trip to Birmingham Back to Back Houses
Dates for Diary - March 2018		
Thursday 1 March	9.15am	Thanksgiving Mass at Church
Thursday 1 March	5.45pm-7.00pm	PTA Bedtime story
Monday 5 March	12.00pm-1.00pm	HSBC in school
Tuesday 6 March	Tbc	First Confessions in Church
Wednesday 7 March	11.45am-1.00pm	Mothers' Day lunch children with surname (A-K)
Thursday 8 March	Tbc	First Confessions in Church
Tuesday 13 March	11.45am-1.00pm	Mothers' Day lunch children with surname (L-Z)
Monday 19 March	12.00pm-1.00pm	HSBC in school
Friday 23 March	6.45pm-9.00pm	PTA Family Bingo
Saturday 24 March	6.00pm-9.00pm	Catholic Swimming Gala
Monday 26 March	Refreshments at 9.00am starts at 9.15am	Stations of the Cross Service-parents invited
Wednesday 28 March	9.15am	KS2 Passion Play-parents invited
Thursday 29 March	9.15am	Maundy Prayer Service-parents invited
Thursday 29 March	3.20pm	Break up for Easter
Monday 16 April	8.50am	Return to school

***Other dates available on website**

Have a lovely weekend.

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



Registered Office: Bishop Walsh Catholic School, Wylde Green Road, Sutton Coldfield B76 1QT
T: 0121 351 3215 enquiry@bishopwalsh.net Company No. 08706247