



Newsletter No 20

Dear Parents and Friends

Friday 9 February 2018

Confirmation

Last night, our Y6 children along with 13 children from the parish received the Sacrament of Confirmation from His Grace the Archbishop of Birmingham. 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, Mr Mayor for preparing the choir, the PTA for providing refreshments in the Church hall and to the staff who attended the Mass to support the children on this special occasion.

Thank you also to the three Year 6 parents, who supported the long standing tradition of parents of the Confirmandi cleaning the Church in preparation for this Sacrament. What they lacked in numbers, they made up for in effort - thank you ladies (and Fr Neil)!

BBC
NEWS

BBC

We had a very exciting day yesterday when the BBC Midlands Today filmed at the school - I hope you enjoyed the news bulletins that were televised both in the lunchtime and early evening broadcasts. The crew stated that they visit a lot of schools and that they were really impressed by the behaviour of the children as well as the atmosphere and warmth of the school. Miss Crowley performed well too!! #proudfourholycrossfamily



Mass: This will be held on **Wednesday 14 February** - (Ash Wednesday) in **Church** at 9.15am - all welcome.

We would also appreciate if any adults could walk back to school with us after Mass. If you are able to accompany us on the journey back to school, please inform your child's class teacher.



Inset Day

Reminder **Monday 26 February** is an Inset Day; school will be closed to pupils. Children are back to school on Tuesday 27 February 8.50am. Thank you.



Swimming Gala

On Saturday, Miss Crowley and Mr Hunt had the pleasure of taking our largest ever team to the Sutton Swimming Gala. The children swam fantastically and were a real credit to the school. They gave 100% and even swam faster than some of their own expectations. Luke and Regine swam excellently winning 1st and 2nd in their respective butterfly races. Overall we finished in 6th place and we are very proud of them all.



Mathematics Workshop

Thank you to all parents who attended the Maths Workshop on Monday afternoon. It was an informative session sharing how we teach Mathematics at Holy Cross and what Mastery Mathematics means and looks like. We also discussed the importance of children having a growth mindset towards Maths; no one is born with a 'Maths brain', everyone can do Maths! Please do look on the school website for more information about how we teach Mathematics at Holy Cross Catholic Primary School.



Year 6 Trip to Ghamkol Sharif Mosque

On Monday, Year 6 took a trip to the Mosque and Islamic centre in Small Heath. It was an incredibly interesting day where we all learnt lots of new facts about Islam and explored the traditions and cultures of the faith. A big well done to all the children who represent our school excellently.



'Addams Family' - Bishop Walsh

On Tuesday 6 February Year 5 visited Bishop Walsh to watch 'Addams Family'. 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 who accompanied us.

HSBC Bank

A member of the HSBC Bank will visit our school on **Monday 12 February**. We try to encourage our KS2 children to open and be responsible for their own bank account and manage their money.



Pancake Day

On **Tuesday 13 February** children will be able to buy pancakes at break time. They will be 50p each; please note there will be no toast available on this day. Thank you.



Year 1 Assembly

On **Tuesday 13 February at 9.15am** (refreshments at 9.00am), our Year 1 class will be performing their assembly about 'Saint Valentine and Valentine's Day'. They have been working hard in preparation so I hope you will be able to attend. Thank you.



Tennis Club - Year 1 and Year 2

Letters were sent home with children in Year 1 and Year 2 yesterday. If your child would like to join the Tennis Club please complete and return forms no later than **Wednesday 14 February**. 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

Due to the short half term and Parents' Consultation Evening on Wednesday 21 March; there will be no Zumba next half term. Thank you.



Police Workshops

Today and during the week beginning **Monday 12 February** we will have Police officers in the school delivering workshops for our children. Their aim is to intervene at the earliest opportunity and prevent crime and prepare children to be responsible citizens of our local community whilst respecting their right to be safe (Article 19). Please see what workshops your child will be attending:

- Road Safety Awareness- Y2/Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6
- Child exploitation and online protection - Y4/Y5/Y6
- Knife crime awareness/Weapon awareness- Y6
- Child Sexual Exploitation- Y5/Y6
- Anti-Social Behaviour- Y4/Y5/Y6
- Stranger Danger- EY/Y1/Y2/Y3

We will be tweeting about the workshops so please do check twitter to allow for follow up conversations to be had at home. If you have any questions about the workshops, then please contact the school office. Thank you.



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.



St David's Day

On **Thursday 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.



WORLD BOOK DAY

World Book Day

We will be celebrating World Book Day on **Friday 2 March 2018**. Children can come to school dressed as their favourite character from a book.



Bedtime Stories Thursday 1 March

Flyers were sent home with children on Monday (please check school bags) giving details for this lovely event. Please return completed form and payment no later than **Friday 16 February**. If you require a copy 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.



Good Shepherd Appeal

Good Shepherd Appeal boxes have been sent home with children today. Since the early years of the twentieth century, children in the Archdiocese have helped raise funds for Father Hudson's Care during Lent. Children use the boxes to save money they would normally spend on sweets and treats, thereby practising abstinence and almsgiving. Please help to make a difference by raising funds for children, families and adults in need. Please contact the school office if you require another box. Thank you for your support. Please return boxes no later than **Tuesday 17 April**. 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: Year 4 with 100% Well done!



The Punctuality Award for the week: Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5!

Recommendations

Recommendations: EYFS: Nancy W, Joseph F Year 1: Jay M, Jack W Year 2: Charlie G, Iris A Year 3: Phoebe F, Aaron H Year 4: Eliza S, Francesca L Year 5: Imogen A, Ava A Year 6: Luke S, Marcus P-W. Isobel H (Miss Cotter)



Class of the Week: Year 2.

Lunchtime Award: James D (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: Rachel J Miss Stevens: Michael B Mr Hunt: Jack B Mr Mayor: Liam B Miss Lovelock/Miss Crowley: Cillian K, Sian J Mr Rowlands: Samuel S Miss Cross: Whole Class.**



Special Angels

Choir at Confirmation: Tyrese L, Lola F, Joseph K, Daniel S, Lucy L, Megan P, Jack C, Logan McC, Harry K, Lily H (Y3), Mollie-Mae H, Emma McC, (Y4), Orlaith G, Charlotte L, Erin Le-Fort, Ava A, Imogen A, Alex H, Maria L, Erin P (Y5).

Altar Servers: Darren A (Y4), Thomas S, James M, Anna J (Y5).



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

Ronan L (Y1), Thomas B, Joshua W (Y4).

Dates for Diary - February 2018		
Monday 12 February to Friday 16 February	All week	Police workshops in school
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	9.00am	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	9.00am	Thanksgiving Mass at Church
Thursday 1 March	All day	St David's Day-wear daffodils wear full school uniform
Thursday 1 March	5.45pm-7.00pm	PTA Bedtime story
Friday 2 March	All day	World Book Day-child to dress up as a book character
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
Wednesday 21 March	3.30pm-7.00pm	Parents' Consultation Evening
Thursday 22 March	3.30pm-6.00pm	Parents' Consultation Evening
Friday 23 March	6.45pm-9.00pm	PTA Family Bingo
Saturday 24 March	6.00pm-9.00pm	Catholic Schools 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
Dates for Diary - April 2018		
Monday 16 April	8.50am	Return to school
Wednesday 18 April	All day	NSPCC workshops

**Other dates available on website*

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely

T Cotter

Miss T Cotter

Principal

One of my favourite quotes from St Teresa of Calcutta:



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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