

**Newsletter No 22**

Dear Parents and Friends

Friday 9 March 2018



Year 3 received the Sacrament of Reconciliation this week. It was a very reverent occasion and we are very proud of all the children. Thank you to all the parents who were able to join us at the services and to Mr Mayor in preparing and the children so well and to Fr Neil and Fr Ray who were so patient and kind when supporting the children through their first experience of this Sacrament.



It was lovely to see so many of you joining us for lunch this week; so many of you told me how much you enjoyed it. Thank you to all the staff for ensuring everything ran smoothly. We look forward to welcoming many of you next week for part two! Tuesday 13 March (Due to high numbers attending, please arrive between 11.30am and 11.45am and enter through Key Stage 1 gate)



It was lovely to see so many family members supporting our two Lenten Teas on Tuesday. The children loved being able to entertain family members with work that they were keen and proud to share! Thank you for supporting this event in such numbers.



**Parking**

I received a very distraught phone call during the week from local resident. She was upset that not only was her access to Langley Heath Drive blocked by one of our parents but that they were also abusive to her. She asked if this behaviour was fitting for a Catholic school? Yet again, as a school we apologised to the resident and assured them that it was not what we would expect and that a plea would again go in the newsletter regarding consideration to our neighbours.

We are all members of the Holy Cross family and I urge all parents to remember that in the way they conduct themselves outside the school gates. Please give this matter your support and cooperation. Thank you.



Mass: Year 5 will lead our Mass in school on **Thursday 15 March**, all welcome.



Letters emailed to parents this week:

**Year 3:** Trip to Harvington Hall

*Please contact office if you have not received copy*

### Borcherds Shield

#### Maths Challenge

Today Mr Rowlands has taken four Year Five children to King Edward's School, Edgbaston. This to take part in The Borcherds Shield Maths Challenge. We will let you know results in next week's newsletter. Good luck team!



#### Football Matches

Good luck to our football team who have a match tonight (Away) vs Little Aston Primary School, 36 Forge Lane, Shenstone B74 3BE. Training for the girl's team will be on as normal.

**Friday 16 March (Home)** vs Penns Primary School. There will be no training for the girls on this night.

Please try to come along and support our Holy Cross football team!



#### Grammar Workshop Year One - Year Six

In response to parental feedback from both Inspire workshops and at Parents' evening, we will be holding a Grammar workshop to discuss how we teach Grammar at Holy Cross Catholic Primary School.

We would like to invite you to attend an afternoon workshop to explore the teaching of Grammar and understand the strategies and approaches we use at Holy Cross Catholic Primary School. The workshop will take place on **Monday 12 March 2018 at 2.30p.m until 3.15p.m. One member from each family can attend.**

A letter has been sent home with children today. If you would like to attend please complete and return the slip to the school office; no later than **Thursday 8 March**. Thank you. I hope that you will be able to join us for this event.



#### Tree Care in our Local Community

On **Tuesday 13 March** the School Council and Eco Warriors will be taking part in a service project that gives back to our local community. Terry Wood, local Councillor will be joining us to go round the orchard our eco warriors planted last year to see progress and learn how to care for the trees. A local tree expert will be showing us how to 'mulch' and tend the trees. Councillor Terry Wood will be taking photos of the activity and also of the bulbs now showing from our gardening event in October to show Sutton Coldfield Town Council how we have been supporting 'Sutton in Bloom.' Please check the tweets to see how we get on!

**Children who are in the School Council and Eco Warriors are required to bring in their wellies or outdoor shoes and a waterproof coat on Tuesday 13 March, thank you.**



### Year 5 - Visit to The Oaks

On **Wednesday 14 March** our Year 5 class will be visiting The Oaks Residential Home; this is to celebrate World Book Day. Children in Year 5 are asked to bring their favourite book to school; this needs to be a book that they would like to share with the residents at The Oaks. Thank you.



### Year Two SATs Workshop

On **Wednesday 14 March** we will be holding a 'Year Two SATs Workshop' for all parents who have children in Year Two. We would like to invite parents to a workshop to learn with their child about how to prepare for the SATs. The workshop will be held by Mr Hunt (Class Teacher) and Miss Crowley (Vice Principal). You will be given information regarding the format of the SATs, how they are administered, ideas and advice about how to support and prepare your child at home. The workshop will begin at 3.20pm and finish at 4.00pm. You will need to sign in at the school office; children may attend this workshop.

## Y6 SATs

### Year Six SATs Workshop

On **Wednesday 14 March** we will be holding a 'Year Six SATs Workshop' for all parents who have children in Year Six. We would like to invite parents into a workshop to learn with their child about how to prepare for the SATs. The workshop will be held by Miss Cross (Class Teacher). You will be given information regarding the format of the SATs, how they are administered, ideas and advice about how to support and prepare your child at home. The workshop will begin at 3.20pm and finish at 4.00pm. You will need to sign in at the school office; children may attend this workshop.



### Netball Matches

A letter was given to the netball team yesterday providing details of all matches and training sessions. Please contact the school office if you require a copy. Thank you.



### St Patrick's Day - Friday 16 March

We wore our daffodils with pride on St David's day last week and on **Friday 16 March** we will celebrate St Patrick's Day by the children wearing green (other than school uniform!) and donating £1 towards our Lenten charities if they wish. Also, children can bring in their Irish dancing costumes and music if they want to perform to the rest of the school in assembly!



### Confirmation Photographs

Confirmation photographs have been sent home with Year 6 children. Please return to the school office or post direct to Academy no later than **Monday 19 March**.



### 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 20 March at 1.30pm**. 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 **Wednesday 28 March**. Many thanks for your generosity and support during our Lenten fundraising. A letter and sponsor form has been sent home with children, if you require a copy please contact the school office. ***If you would like to volunteer to walk with us please give your details to the school office. Thank you.***



### Award Dinner Year 2 and Year 3

Congratulations to Year 2 and Year 3 who were awarded last half term's 'Class of the Half Term Lunch Time Award'. Their prize is to choose the menu of the day on **Thursday 22 March**. If your child is in Year 3, normally has sandwiches and would like to take advantage of this opportunity, the cost of the meal is £2.15. Please log into your Parent Pay Account and make payment no later than **Thursday 15 March**. If your child has a school dinner they will automatically have the award dinner and no payment is required. If your child is in Year 2 there is no charge for the dinner; please contact the school office if your child has sandwiches but would like to book a meal. Thank you. ***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.***



### Bedtime Stories

This lovely event has been rescheduled for **Thursday 26 April**. If you have already paid but cannot make this date please contact the school office. If you haven't booked but like your child/children to come along please contact the school office no later than **Friday 23 March**.



### Year Three visit to Harvington Hall

Arrangements have now been made to take the children in Year Three on a visit to Harvington Hall on **Wednesday 23 May**. A voluntary donation of £17.00 is now required to cover the cost of transport, admission and insurance. Payment for this trip is via Parent Pay; deadline for payment is **Wednesday 16 May**. A letter was email yesterday to all Year 3 parents if you require a copy please contact the school office. 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 5 with 100% Well done!



The Punctuality Award for the week: Year 1, Year 5 and Year 6!

### Recommendations



**Recommendations: EYFS:** Eden T, George B **Year 1:** Jacob H, Caitlin McG **Year 2:** Alex S, Ellie M-B **Year 3:** Lola F, Frankie J **Year 4:** Christie W, Olivia W **Year 5:** Enja B, Leilagh K **Year 6:** Eva D, Ben O'T.



**Class of the Week:** EYFS.

**Lunchtime Award:** Eloise H (Y4).



### Virtues and Values

This half term we are concentrating on being **'Intentional and Prophetic'**. 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:** Erin H **Miss Stevens:** Florence H **Mr Hunt:** Fraser C (Y4)  
**Mr Mayor:** Joseph K **Miss Lovelock/Miss Crowley:** Olivia H **Mr Rowlands:** Maria L **Miss Cross:** Charlie S.



Happy Birthday to the following children who have celebrated their birthdays this week:  
 Sofia H, Andrew H (EYFS), Chase B (Y1).

Dates for Diary - March 2018		
Monday 12 March	2.30pm-3.15pm	Grammar Workshop Year One to Year Six
Tuesday 13 March	11.45am-1.00pm	Mothers' Day lunch children with surname (L-Z)
Tuesday 13 March		Tree care in our local orchard
Wednesday 14 March	2.00pm-3.00pm	Year 5 going to The Oaks
Wednesday 14 March	3.20pm-4.00pm	Year Two SATs Workshop
Wednesday 14 March	3.20pm-4.00pm	Year Six SATs Workshop
Thursday 15 March	3.20pm	Netball match vs The Shrubbery School (Sutton College)
Friday 16 March	All day	Non-school uniform day-children to wear green
Friday 16 March	3.20pm-4.20pm	Football match (Home) vs Penns School
Monday 19 March	12.00pm-1.00pm	HSBC in school
Tuesday 20 March	1.30pm-3.00pm	Lenten fundraising whole school sponsored walk
Wednesday 21 March	3.30pm-7.00pm	Parents' Consultation Evening
Thursday 22 March	12.00pm	Year 2 and Year 3 Award Dinner
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 Thursday Prayer Service-parents invited

Thursday 29 March	3.20pm	Break up for Easter
<b>Dates for Diary - April 2018</b>		
Monday 16 April	8.50am	Return to school
Wednesday 18 April	All day	NSPCC workshops
Thursday 19 April	3.20pm	Netball Match vs Moor Hall (Sutton College)
Thursday 26 April	3.20pm	Netball Matches vs Mere Green and Maney Hill (Sutton College)
Thursday 26 April	5.45pm-7.00pm	PTA Bedtime Stories
<b>Dates for Diary - May 2018</b>		
Wednesday 23 May	All Day	Year 3 Trip to Harvington Hall

*\*Other dates available on website*



*We wish all our very special and hardworking mums a very 'Happy Mothers' Day' - we hope you have a very special day.*

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely

*T Cotter*

Miss T Cotter

Principal

For all our busy mums:

**A Mother's Prayer**

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Dear Lord, it's such a hectic day  
 With little time to stop and pray  
 For life's been anything but calm  
 Since You called me to be a mom  
 Running errands, matching socks  
 Building dreams with building blocks  
 Cooking, cleaning, and finding shoes  
 And other stuff that children lose  
 Fitting lids on bottled bugs  
 Wiping tears and giving hugs  
 A stack of last weeks mail to read  
 So where's the quiet time I need?  
 Yet when I steal a minute, Lord  
 Just at the sink or ironing board  
 To ask the blessings of Your grace  
 I see then, in my small one's face  
 That you have blessed me  
 All the while and I stop to kiss  
 That precious smile.

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 email: orders@CatholicPrayerCards.org Card #203

And for our mums in heaven:

**A Gift From Heaven**

I am with you always  
 I live in your heart  
 I speak to your soul  
 We are not far apart

When you feel a light breeze  
 Hear the songs the birds sing  
 Know that I see every smile  
 Your kindness can bring

I see you building your dreams  
 With wisdom and grace  
 And asking His guidance  
 With each challenge you face

I am more than a memory  
 You will feel our love grow  
 I am forever your angel  
 Some things you just know

Please tell me your thoughts  
 Your hopes and your fears  
 And know that through faith  
 He will heal all your tears

For today, I can share  
 That in Heaven above  
 God has taken my hand  
 I am complete, I am love

Written by Kristan Dean  
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