



Newsletter No 7

Dear Parents and Friends

Friday 19 October 2018



Please keep your donations for the harvest coming in so that we can provide hampers for those in need in both our parish and local community as well as donating food to the Foodbank. We look forward to seeing many of you at our Harvest Mass next week.



PTA - Cinema Trip

You will see from the 'Dates for Diary' that we will be taking the children to the cinema again this year for our Christmas treat! This is a very special treat this year as our wonderful PTA is funding the cost of both the transport and the cost of the cinema. I am sure that you will all really appreciate this generous gift at this very expensive time of year for families.

This is yet another example of how the PTA supports all areas of life at Holy Cross. At the end of this year several committee members will be leaving us as their children are in Year Six and will be moving to secondary school. It would be a tragedy for the school if we no longer had a PTA to both organise and support school events.



I urge you to give serious thought about how you can support the wonderful work done by the PTA and consider taking a more active role in the PTA itself; we desperately need more members, especially from our new families. I appreciate how busy we all are but the more people involved, the more people to share jobs and therefore take up less time. The next PTA meeting and AGM is on **Wednesday 22 November at 7:30pm**.

Your cooperation and support for this really worthwhile organisation would be greatly appreciated.



Inset Day

Friday 26 October is an Inset Day - school will be closed for children. We return to school on **Monday 5 November 8.50am**. Thank you.



Poppy Appeal

Week commencing **Monday 22 October** Year 6 will be selling poppies and merchandise: friendship eraser 50p, reflector 50p, pencil sharpener 50p, pencil 50p, ruler £1.00 and a donation for a poppy. Please send money with your child to support this fantastic charity. Thank you.



Harvest Mass

Our Harvest Mass this year is on **Thursday 25 October 9:15am**, all welcome. 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. In order to make the hampers, we would ask for the following donations from each family:

Fresh fruit and vegetables by Wednesday 24 October.

Thank you in anticipation!



Chair of the Academy Committee

In September, we welcomed a new Chair of our Academy Committee - Kevin Grady. He has written a short pen portrait to introduce himself to you:

My name is Kevin Grady and I've recently been elected as Chair of Holy Cross Primary School Academy Committee. I've been an Academy Representative since 2016. I retired in 2013 after a career as an accountant in manufacturing, investment banking, and retail finance. I'm married to a retired Primary school teacher, with three sons who each attended Holy Cross Primary School and Bishop Walsh, and a granddaughter who is currently a pupil at Holy Cross. We've been members of Holy Cross & St Francis Parish for 30 years after moving to Sutton Coldfield from Sheldon. I can be contacted at k.grady@holycross-sch.net.



Science Investigation - Year 6

Thank you to all the parents who attended the Science Investigation today. I hope you enjoyed it and found it interesting. I know all the Year 6 children did!



HSBC

A member of the HSBC Bank will visit our school on **Monday 22 October**. We try to encourage our KS2 children to open and be responsible for their own bank account and manage their money.

Don't forget
Parents'
Evening!

Parents' Evening

Wednesday 24 October 3.30pm to 7.00pm and Thursday 25 October 3.30pm to 6.00pm

Please contact the school office if you have not got an appointment for the above.

Questionnaires about your views about RE and Catholic Life in our school will be distributed at Parents' Evening. Please complete them during your visit and put them in the box in reception before you leave. Thank you.



Football Match

During Wednesday afternoon, Holy Cross participated in a friendly football competition with the Shrubbery Primary School. The sun was shining, the children were eager to get on the pitch. Luckily, after a tense ten minutes, James scored a fantastic first goal- the team roared in delight. Shortly after, the Shrubbery scored a great goal and the score was now a draw. It was time to come back fighting. After half time, Holy Cross pulled the score back and Oliver scored a fantastic goal. We were now in the lead! Ten minutes later, the whistle was blown and Holy Cross had achieved victory! A fantastic game, well done to all of the Holy Cross football team who worked excellently as a team. Roll on later, another match for Holy Cross.

Good luck for tonight (AWAY) vs Wyld Green School

Please note that all the team are expected to attend every training session please inform Mr Hunt or Miss Crowley for any apologies.



Sponsored Keep Fit Sessions

On **Sunday 14 October**, Mr Hunt ran the Birmingham Half Marathon in aid of an ex pupil of the school: Annie Devlin. We are very proud of him as we are of all the children who took part in our sponsored keep fit session on Monday 8 October.

Sponsor money collected for this cause should be sent into school no later than **Thursday 25 October**. Thank you for your support; we still consider Annie very much part of our Holy Cross family.

Inspire Workshops

INSPIRE Workshops

Thank you to all the parents who attended the Year 1 and Year 2 Inspire workshop on Tuesday. I hope you enjoyed it and found it useful.

Inspire Workshop for Year 3 and Year 4 this will be held on Wednesday 14 November 9.15am - 10.15am.

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



GDPR - Data Sharing Consent Form

During the course of the academic year, and for the remainder of your child's education at Holy Cross Catholic Primary School, there will be occasions when your child could be recorded or photographed for certain events, included on our website and Twitter account. Such activities include: Visiting Stephen's Pond, Berryfields Park and The Oaks Retirement Home. In order to comply with GDPR, it is essential that the school has your **written consent to record, film or photograph your child and share that data in different media forms**. A letter has been sent home with every child. Please complete and return no later than **Thursday 25 October**.

If you require a copy please contact the school office. Thank you.



Transfer to Secondary School - The closing date for applications to be submitted to the Local Authority for those children transferring to secondary school in September 2019 is **Wednesday 31 October 2018**.

open day

Open Day Tuesday 6 November

We are having two open sessions for prospective parents who have children due to start in the Early Years class in September 2019. These will be on **Tuesday 6 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 2019. 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 2019**.



Dinner Money

The deadline for dinner money is **Friday 9 November**. The amount due is **£75.25**, please log into 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.

Get Your Grown Ups Growing

Get Your Grown Ups Growing for Early Years, Year 1, Year 5 and Year 6.

This year we will be holding our autumn 'Get Your Grown Ups Growing' on **Monday 12 November** from 1.30-3.00 p.m. For this event parents of children in **Early Years, Year 1, Year 5 and Year 6** are invited to help us complete our big tidy up of the school grounds and plant bulbs ready to sprout in spring.

Your child will be required to bring in spare clothes and appropriate footwear (trainers or wellington boots) to change into after lunchtime ready to get messy! The event will still go ahead if it is raining! Children are asked to **bring in £1.00 donation**. During the afternoon, there will be a range of activities to help out with e.g. planting bulbs in the prayer garden and at the front of the school. Improving our school eco garden, cleaning and planting the Early Years garden, taking part in a community litter pick and supporting Lets Grow Birmingham by pruning the trees in Berryfields Community Orchard. This event respects that every child has the right to a clean environment (Article 24). We look forward to seeing you!



Donation of a wheelbarrow

If you have a wheelbarrow that you can donate to our school; we will be extremely grateful. Please contact the school office if you can help. Thank you.



Bag 2 School - Bags have been sent home with children.

Bag 2 School is a company that specialises in good quality second hand clothing that can be re-used and we have arranged to make a collection from this school. All bags are weighed and we will be paid by the total weight collected. Remember the more you collect the bigger benefit to our school! They will collect the following items for RE-USE: adults and children's clothing, bedding, soft toys, paired shoes, hats, belts and handbags. **NO BRIC-A-BRAC PLEASE. Extra bags welcome - there is no limit.** If you need spare bags please come to the school office. Bags will be collected on **Thursday 22 November by 9.00am. Please only drop off bags on that morning as the school cannot store overnight.** Thank you for your support!

Holy Cross



Pre School Nursery



Vacancies at Holy Cross Pre-School

Holy Cross Pre-School are looking for a suitably experienced person who enjoys working and caring for children. Senior Nursery nurse post requires you to have achieved a Level 3 NVQ award and have some senior supervisory experience for a minimum of 2 years. Apprentices need to be prepared to train towards NVQ level 3. You need to be committed to children's well-being, ongoing training and to being a proactive member of staff to provide a safe, stimulating and inclusive environment in which young children are supported and encouraged to achieve their full potential. The nursery is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All short listed applicants will provide relevant information in line with our safeguarding procedures and the successful candidate will be required to undertake a criminal record check via the DBS.

Closing date - 5 November 2018 at 15.30

Shortlisting - 7 November at 15.30

Interviews week commencing 19th November 2018

If you are interested in applying for this position, please obtain paperwork directly from Holy Cross Pre-School Nursery or email karengordon@holycross-preschool.com



Date For Your Diary

The next Fun Time Friday will be held on **Friday 10 May 2019**. Please keep this date free for this great evening. 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 99.3% Well done!



Recommendations

Recommendations:

EYFS: Rory H, Mia S **Year 1:** Ellie G, Andrew H, Nancy W **Year 2:** Addison H-G, Eliza H **Year 3:** Daniel B, Ruth H **Year 4:** Liam B, Phoebe F, Aine K **Year 5:** Alicia I, Joshua W **Year 6:** Johnny G, Anna J.



Lunchtime Award: Aariana T-M (EYFS).



Sports Award: Cian P, Ethan P (Y1).



Virtues and Values

This half term we are concentrating on being '**Compassionate and Loving**'. 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: **Mr Hunt:** Erin H **Mr Rowlands:** Charlie C **Miss Stewart:** Molly F **Mr Mayor:** Nathaniel C **Miss Lovelock:** Bonnie T-M, Daisy C (Y6) **Mr Mayor:** Joshua W, Phoebe F (Y4) **Miss Cross:** Ethan L, Thomas S.



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

Addison H-G (Y2), Daniel W (Y3), Logan McC, Harry K, Lily H (Y4), Dylan G (Y5).

Dates for Diary - October 2018

Monday 22 October	12.00pm	HSBC in school
Tuesday 23 October	All day	Year 6 trip to Back to Back Houses Birmingham
Wednesday 24 October	3.30pm to 7.00pm	Parents' Evening
Thursday 25 October	9.15am to 10.00am	Harvest Mass
Thursday 25 October	3.30pm to 6.00pm	Parents' Evening
Friday 26 October	All day	Inset Day school closed to children
Wednesday 31 October		Deadline for Year 6 to apply for Secondary School

Dates for Diary - November 2018

Monday 5 November	8.50am	Return to school
Monday 5 November	12.00pm	HSBC in school
Tuesday 6 November	9.15am to 10.15am And 2.00pm to 3.00pm	Open Day for prospective parents children starting September 2019

Monday 12 November	1.30pm to 3.00pm	Get Your Grown-Ups Growing
Tuesday 13 November	Morning	Academy Photographers - Families, siblings & individuals
Tuesday 13 November	3.20pm to 5.20pm	PTA Film Night
Wednesday 14 November	9.15am to 10.15am	Year 5 and Year 6 Inspire Workshop for parents
Wednesday 14 November	4.00pm to 6.00pm	Year 5 and Year 6 indoor athletics at Bishop Vesey
Monday 19 November	4.00pm to 6.00pm	Year 3 and Year 4 Multi skills at Bishop Vesey
Wednesday 21 November	7.30pm to 8.30pm	PTA AGM Meeting - all welcome
Thursday 22 November	9.00am	Return your Bag2School
Friday 23 November	All day	Year 6 Takeover Day

Dates for Diary - December 2018

Thursday 6 December	3.30pm to 5.30pm	PTA Christmas Fayre
Tuesday 11 December	4.00pm to 6.00pm	Year 1 and Year 2 Multi skills at Bishop Vesey
Tuesday 11 December	2.15pm refreshments 2.30pm start	EYFS and KS1 Christmas Production
Wednesday 12 December	9.00am refreshments 9.15am start	EYFS and KS1 Christmas Production
Friday 14 December	9.00am refreshments 9.15am start	KS2 Christmas Carol Service
Monday 17 December	9.00am to 12.00pm	EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 to Sutton Empire to watch 'The Grinch'
Tuesday 18 December	9.00am to 12.00pm	Year 3 and Year 4 to Sutton Empire to watch 'Nativity'
Tuesday 18 December	3.20pm to 4.30pm	PTA Christmas disco
Wednesday 19 December	9.00am to 12.00pm	Year 5 and Year 6 to Sutton Empire to watch 'Nutcracker Four Realms'

**Other dates available on website*

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely



Miss T Cotter
Principal

A Prayer for a Family

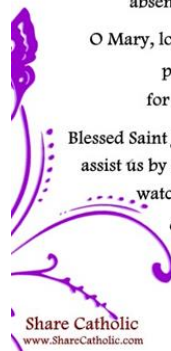
O dear Jesus, I humbly implore You to grant Your special graces to our family. May our home be the shrine of peace, purity, love, labor and faith.

Dear Jesus, to protect and bless all of us, absent and present, living and dead.

O Mary, loving Mother of Jesus, and our Mother pray to Jesus for our family, for all the families of the world.

Blessed Saint Joseph, holy guardian of Jesus and Mary, assist us by your prayers in all the necessities of life. watch over our home at the pillow of the sick and the dying.

Amen.



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