



Newsletter No 8

Dear Parents and Friends

Thursday 25 October 2018



Half Term

We have come to the end of a very busy first half term. I think that both the children and staff are ready for a well-deserved break! The children return to school on **Monday 5 November**. Thank you.



Harvest Mass

Today we celebrated our Harvest Mass. A big thank you for your generosity in donating harvest goods. We were able to provide many hampers for the SVP and our Mini Vinnies to distribute in the parish as well as provide some food for the Food Bank. I would like to also thank the staff who prepared such beautiful hampers and the children for their lovely prayers. A true example of living this half term's virtues of showing compassion and love and supporting families in our community; we believe that every child has the right to the best possible health. (Article 24)



Winter School Uniform

When we return to school on **Monday 5 November**, all children must be in their **full school winter uniform**.

Bottle green skirt/pinafore dress or grey trousers

White blouse/shirt and red tie

Bottle green cardigan or jumper with school logo

Plain white sock or plain red or green tights (with skirts)

Sensible dark, low heeled school shoes - no trainers/no fashion boots

Grey socks (with trousers)

Trousers must be school cut, not flares or fashionable styles.

Thank you for your support.



Inset Day

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



Mass: Year 6 will lead our Mass in School on **Thursday 8 November**. Everyone is welcome.



Parent/Teacher Consultations

I hope that you were all able to attend one of the Parent/Teacher Consultation Evenings. Parents who were unable to attend should contact the school to make an alternative appointment to discuss their progress and how they are settling in to their new year group. Thank you for your cooperation.



Tag Rugby Competition

Last week we took a team to compete in the Sutton School's tag rugby competition. The boys and girls played very well and gave it their best effort. They finished 2nd in their group after 2 wins, 1 draw and 1 loss. Unfortunately we didn't qualify for the semi-finals but we were very proud of all the children.



Football Match

Last Friday we played our first cup match against Wylde Green Primary School. A superb hat trick by Oliver including a last minute equaliser took us to a tense penalty shootout. The children showed incredible bravery to step up to the spot and take a penalty. Unfortunately we lost the shootout but we are very proud of all their efforts.

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



Poppy Appeal

Week commencing **Monday 5 November** - 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.



HSBC

A member of the HSBC Bank will visit our school on **Monday 5 November**. We try to encourage our KS2 children to open and be responsible for their own bank account and manage their money.

Inspire Workshops

INSPIRE Workshops

Inspire Workshop for Years 3 and 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.



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 are now available 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**.

Please note these Supplementary forms are not application forms for school places. Applications must be made online via Birmingham City Council.



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. Any credits should be deducted from the amount due. Please contact the school office if you have any queries. 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.

Bags 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



Christmas Fayre on Thursday 6 December from 3.20pm to 5.20pm
Please put this important date in your diary.



Bottle of Fizz

The PTA is asking for a donation bottle of champagne for our Christmas Fayre. It might be possible that parents may have a connection with a business or a company who would be prepared to donate a bottle as a charitable gift? If you can help, please send into school on **Friday 9 November**. Thank you for your support.



Volunteers

The PTA is asking for volunteers to help at the Christmas Fayre. If you can help 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 2 with 100% Well done!

Please see below attendance for each class and school overall this half term:

EYFS	98.5%
Year 1	97.8%
Year 2	97.8%
Year 3	96.4%
Year 4	98.2%
Year 5	98.1%
Year 6	98.8%
Overall	97.9%



The Punctuality Award for the week: Year 5.



Recommendations

Recommendations:

EYFS: Samuel J, Oliver W **Year 1:** Eden T, Freddie F **Year 2:** Jessie F, Marian A **Year 3:** Christopher K, Cormac K **Year 4:** Flynn B, Angel M **Year 5:** Mia B, Caitlin L **Year 6:** Cillian K, Ben B.



Lunchtime Award: Ellie M-B (Y3).



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:** Ferdinand A **Mr Rowlands:** Eve H **Miss Stewart:** Florence H
Mr Mayor: Salvio J **Mr Mayor:** Eliza S **Miss Cross:** Sophia J (Y3).



Happy Birthday to the following children who have celebrated
 their birthdays this week and during half term:

Ava M (EYFS), Ruby H, Nylah B (Y1), Tresa B (Y2), Harry W (Y3), Lola F, Aaron H (Y4)
 Darcie W (Y5), Oliver B, Isabel W (Y6).

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 3 and Year 4 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
Tuesday 11 December	12.00pm	Christmas Dinner for staff and children
Wednesday 12 December	9.00am refreshments 9.15am start	EYFS and KS1 Christmas Production 'Whoops a Daisy Angel'

Friday 14 December	9.00am refreshments 9.15am start	KS2 Christmas Carol Service
Saturday 15 December	9.45am	The choir singing at The House of Fraser
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'
Thursday 20 December	1.30pm to 3.00pm	The choir singing at The Oaks Residential Home
Friday 21 December	3.20pm	Break up for Christmas holidays

***Other dates available on website**

Have a lovely half term.

Yours sincerely



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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