



Holy Cross
Catholic Primary School

We share in Christ's life so He can guide our thoughts, words and actions.

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Newsletter No 10

Dear Parents and Friends

Friday 16 November 2018



Children in Need 2018

We have enjoyed wearing our pyjamas today. Thank you for embracing the day so enthusiastically! We will let you know how much was raised next week.

Kindness Week

This week we have been celebrating 'Kindness Week' so I hope that you have noticed little acts of kindness at home! At school, we have been stressing that kindness can be shown in the simplest of ways; in our thoughts, words and actions and we should of course as our Mission Statement states, use Jesus as our guide.



PTA Film Night

Wednesday night was very successful, with the children having a lovely time watching a film with their pizza and popcorn! An amazing £508.00 was raised! Many thanks to the PTA members for organising the event again this year.

Inspire Workshops

Workshops

Thank you to the parents who attended the two reading workshops this week; one after school on Monday, regarding reading in Early Years and one last night about whole class reading in Years 1-6. Last night's meeting was attended by one parent so obviously we will take this into consideration when planning further briefings and hold them during or just after the school day. Information from both meetings will be available shortly on the website.



Mass: Year 4 will lead our Mass in School on **Thursday 22 November**. Everyone is welcome.



Letters emailed to parents this week:

Whole School: Collection for Father Neil

EYFS: Home Reading

KS2: Christmas Lunch for Children and Staff

Please contact the school office if you require a copy. Thank you.



RE Questionnaire

Thank you for completing this questionnaire on Parents' Evening and for the very positive responses (see attached). We are very proud of our Catholic ethos, which we believe and you have agreed; permeate through all areas of school life. As last year, some of you did say that you were not sure where to find information regarding the RE Curriculum. I remind you that the long term plan for RE can be found on the website (as is all our curriculum information) under the 'Our Faith' tab and then 'RE Curriculum.'

In response to the results of the questionnaire, there will also be a specific reference to RE added to the midterm reports issued at the Spring term Parents' Evening.

I was very pleased by the overwhelmingly positive comments regarding our Sacramental preparation; how well the children were prepared and how the occasions were very reverent and special. A couple of parents did state that they had not received any information regarding the Sacraments as yet. This year all three Sacraments are happening in the Spring or Summer terms so information has not been released as yet. In addition Fr Neil will not be returning to his parish duties until just before Christmas so these matters will be discussed with him on his return.



Snow and Bad Weather Closure

As we are now at the start of winter we have to plan for what would happen if, for the health and safety of the school's community, the school had to close due to bad weather. We have in previous years made decisions and communicated them as early as possible using the website, our message system and Twitter. These decisions will apply to all schools within the Multi-Academy. We will continue to use these mediums of fast communication if it becomes necessary. It can be quite difficult to get through to the local radio stations in the absence of a city wide decision but please check these sources of information if you have difficulty accessing the internet or a message. If you haven't received a text/email message on other occasions this year but have a mobile 'phone, please contact the school with your mobile number and your e-mail address so that it can be added to our database therefore ensuring fast communication when it becomes necessary in the future. Thanks you for your cooperation in this important matter.



School Dinner and Packed Lunch

If you wish your child to change from either having a school dinner or bringing in a packed lunch; please put this in writing to the school office. This is to ensure the correct amount of meals are ordered. If your child is in KS2 please remember if your child is currently having school dinners and wants to start bringing in packed lunch; you are required to provide half a term's notice in writing. If you have any queries please contact the school office. Thank you.



Football Tournament

Last week the school football team took part in a tournament against other primary schools from Sutton Coldfield. The team gave 100% and battled in the group stage. Unfortunately we lost the first match 3-1, and the final two matches saw two 1-0 losses. However they were close run games that hung on a knife edge at times. We are very proud of the effort of all the players.



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

Thank you to all parents and family members that attended the event on Monday afternoon! It was a real success. It was a joy to see everyone working together as a team to create an environment that is clean (Article 24) and beautiful for our children and our community. The 'Tree Care' workshop was an excellent learning opportunity for both our children and parents to understand how we contribute to the local community; parents commented on how much they learnt from this workshop! We look forward to our next Gardening event in the summer term when the other classes will take part.



PTA Meeting-AGM

Our next PTA meeting is on **Wednesday 21 November** at 7.30pm in school. This is also our AGM so please try to attend. We would love to welcome new members; please come along and find out more details. The more the merrier!



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!



Takeover day Friday 23 November

On **Friday 23 November** we are being taken over by Year 6! Takeover Day is a national initiative to help young people deepen their understanding of roles and responsibilities. Year 6 will be taking over all the adult jobs in the school; yes, including mine!!

It should be a very interesting day so we thank you all in advance for your cooperation and patience in making this day a success.



CHRISTMAS FAYRE



Christmas Fayre on Thursday 6 December from 3.20pm to 5.20pm

Teddies Wanted

The PTA is asking for any unwanted teddies that can be donated for re-homing. There will be a teddy tombola at our Christmas Fayre. Please send your teddies into school on **Friday 23 November**. Thank you.



Christmas Jumpers

If you have any unwanted Christmas jumpers please send them into school on **Friday 23 November**. Thank you.



Traditional Christmas Wreaths

An order form was sent home with children this week for traditional Christmas wreaths, costing £6.00 each. If you would like to place an order please return the slip to the school office no later than **Friday 30 November**. These will be available to collect at the Christmas Fayre. Thank you.



St Andrew's Day On **Friday 30 November** we will be celebrating St Andrew's Day. Children are to wear **normal school uniform** but with an element of blue e.g. socks, bow, blue tie etc. Thank you for your support.



Christmas Lunch for Children and Staff

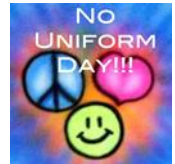
On **Tuesday 11 December** we will be having our Christmas lunch in school.

Every child is invited to take part, so if your child does not usually have a school meal, they are more than welcome to have one on that day. If this is the case, please log into Your Parent Pay account and order your child's lunch. The cost of the meal is £2.15; the deadline for payment is **Monday 3 December**. **Please note that late payments will not be accepted due to ordering of food.**

If your child is in KS1 and normally has sandwiches you will need to order a child's meal. Please place your order via the school office. No payment is required due to the universal free school meal entitlement. Deadline to order a meal is **Monday 3 December**. Thank you.



PTA Christmas Disco. This day will be a non-uniform day.



This will be held on **Tuesday 18 December from 3.20pm to 4.30pm**. If you are available to help please contact the school office. Thank you for your support.

Please pay £2.00 entrance fee via your Parent Pay account. The deadline for payment is Monday 10 December. Any payments after this date will not be accepted.

Children can bring in a maximum £3.00 spending money in a purse on Tuesday 18 December.



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 **Tuesday 22 January**. 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 has again 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 'St John Paul II Multi Academy' by Monday 10 December. 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 visit to Aston Hall

Arrangements have now been made to take the children in Year 4 on a visit to Aston Hall on **Tuesday 29 January 2019**. A voluntary donation of £13.00 is now required to cover the cost of transport, workshop and insurance. Payment for this trip is via Parent Pay; deadline for payment is **Monday 10 December**. A letter has been sent home to all Year 4 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 1 with 100% Well done!



The Punctuality Award for the week: Year 2, Year 5 and Year 6.



Recommendations

Recommendations:

EYFS: Skye T, Erin H **Year 1:** Emileen W, Jessica S **Year 2:** Tresa B, Sophia H **Year 3:** Oskar C, Jak McS
Year 4: Caitlin K, Harry K **Year 5:** Emma McK, Nevin R **Year 6:** Samuel S, Harrison S. **Mrs Hope:** Daniel S.



Lunchtime Award: Thomas B (Y5).



Virtues and Values

This half term we are concentrating on being 'Faith-Filled and Hopeful'. 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:** Rory H **Mr Rowlands:** Isabella M-S **Miss Stewart:** Bethany McK
Miss Stevens: Logan McC (Y4) **Miss Lovelock:** Megan P **Mr Mayor:** Ava A (Y6), Erin P
Miss Cross: Erin P, Enya B, **Mrs Hope:** Michael B (Y2) .



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

Julia G-S (EYFS), Jack B (Y3).

Dates for Diary - November 2018

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
Friday 30 November	All day	St Andrew's Day

Dates for Diary - December 2018

Thursday 6 December	3.30pm to 5.30pm	PTA Christmas Fayre Non-school uniform £1 donation
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 Lunch 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'
Monday 17 December	2.00pm refreshments 2.15pm start	KS2 Christmas Carol Service
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
Dates for Diary - January 2019		
Tuesday 22 January 2019	All day	Year 6 Trip to Ghamkol Sharif Mosque
Tuesday 29 January 2019	All day	Year 4 Trip to Aston Hall

***Other dates available on website**

Have a lovely weekend.

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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