

**Newsletter No 31**

Dear Parents and Friends

Friday 17 May 2019



It has been a very long and hard week with SATs coming to end yesterday; you could almost hear the sigh of relief - and that was just Miss Cross! Well done to all in Year 6 who tried their best all week and to all the staff for running breakfast clubs, supporting intervention work and ensuring that all the SATs tests ran as smoothly and calmly as possible.

**Health and Safety/Safeguarding**

I have been made aware of a recent report in the press regarding an incident involving some pupils from Holy Cross whilst walking home from school. Unfortunately the report is not factually correct and therefore very unhelpful. There was an incident involving a small group of our pupils and two pupils from a local Secondary School. As a school, we are committed to the safeguarding of all children and we have worked closely with the pupils and parents concerned and the other school to identify the facts and the other pupils involved. Fairfax Secondary School has been very thorough and rigorous in both taking the issue very seriously and in its response to the concern. I thank them for their commitment in working together to resolving this issue; strong partnerships are essential for effective safeguarding which is why the news report is so disappointing. The correct avenue for sharing any concern is through the school and I hope that all parents cooperate with this in the future. Thank you for your support.

**Sun glasses**

As the weather has really improved over the last week, there have been a growing number of children wearing sunglasses to school. Recently, a child fell over in the playground whilst wearing sunglasses and cut himself badly. After taking advice, it has been decided that for health and safety reasons, children will not be allowed to wear sunglasses at playtime and therefore I ask children, wherever possible, not to bring sunglasses to school. There is plenty of shade provided during playtimes; including the wooden sheds for KS2 generously provided by the PTA last academic year to support this. If there is a medical reason which needs to be considered, for example, medication being taken for severe hay fever, then please contact me via the school office. Thank you for your support.

**Mental Health Week - It's important to talk**

This week is Mental Health Week and all classes from Early Years to Year 6 have been completing work about this. It is so important to recognise that we all have to work hard at enjoying good mental health; it affects everyone and to know that it is important to talk to someone when we are struggling.

To show commitment to this, Mr Hunt, Miss Crowley Miss Lovelock and Miss Stevens will be participating in the Great Midlands Fun Run on 2 June and they have selected 'Birmingham Mind' as their chosen charity. If you would like to support the Holy Cross Team by making a donation (they would be very grateful!), please follow this link below:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/holy-cross>



### Parent Questionnaire

Thank you to all of you who completed our Parent Questionnaire at the Parent Consultation Evenings and for those of you who have spoken to me in person about your thoughts; it has been a very positive and useful process. 88% of families' views are represented which gives us a very accurate view of your thoughts about the school. The results are overwhelmingly positive which is fantastic; thank you! I have also taken the opportunity to meet parents about ways we can improve which has been very helpful and we are considering these ideas as a staff team e.g. consistency in marking of homework, use of Twitter and parent briefings regarding year group expectations. Thank you for your constructive ideas!



### School Closed

Polite reminder school is closed on the following days: **Thursday 23 May** - European Elections and **Monday 3 June** - Inset Day. Thank you.

#### Dates for Diary - May 2019

Sunday 19 May	3.00pm	May Procession at church
Monday 20 May	12.30pm	HSBC in school
Tuesday 21 May	9.00am refreshments 9.15am start	Year 5 Assembly
Tuesday 21 May	6.00pm to 7.00pm	Confirmation information meeting for parents in church
Thursday 23 May	All day	School closed - European Elections - now confirmed
<b>Friday 24 May</b>	<b>All day</b>	<b>Outdoor Classroom Day</b>

#### Dates for Diary - June 2019

Monday 3 June	All day	School closed Inset Day
Saturday 8 June	12.00pm	Year 3 Holy Communion
Tuesday 11 June	9.00am refreshments 9.15am start	Year 2 Assembly
Tuesday 11 June	All day	Year 6 trip to St Chad's Cathedral
Wednesday 12 June	11.45am	Fathers' Day Lunch (Children with surnames A-L)
Thursday 13 June	11.45am	Fathers' Day Lunch (Children with surnames M-Z)
Saturday 15 June	12.00pm	Year 3 Holy Communion
Monday 17 June	12.30pm	HSBC in school
<b>Tuesday 18 June</b>	<b>All day</b>	<b>Year 3 &amp; Year 4 trip to New Hall Mill</b>
Tuesday 18 June	9.00am	Academy Photographers in school class, leavers and EYFS Graduation
Tuesday 18 June	6.00pm	Induction Evening for EYFS class September 2019
Thursday 20 June	8.50am	Corpus Christi Procession
<b>Thursday 27 June</b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Creative Arts Evening</b>

#### Dates for Diary - July 2019

Monday 1 July	All day	Year 1 trip to Warwick Castle
Monday 1 July	12.30pm	HSBC in school
<b>Tuesday 2 July</b>	<b>3.20pm to 4.30pm</b>	<b>PTA Disco</b>
Wednesday 3 July	All day	Handover Day
Thursday 4 July	All day	EYFS trip to Twycross Zoo
Thursday 4 July	7.00pm	Year 6 Confirmation
Friday 5 July	7.30pm	Year 6 Leavers' party at Hollyfields Social Club
Tuesday 9 July	All day	Y5 trip to Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre
Tuesday 9 July	All day	Y2 Trip to Weston Super Mare
Friday 12 July	9.15am - 11.45am	Sports Day

Friday 12 July	3.20pm - 5.20pm	Family PTA BBQ
Monday 15 July	12.30pm	HSBC in school
Monday 15 July to Thursday 18 July	All day	Year 5 Bikeability
Tuesday 16 July	6.00pm to 7.00pm	Year 6 Leavers' production
Wednesday 17 July	All day	Year 6 trip to the Safari Park

\*Other dates available on website



### Bag2School

The PTA raised £19.20; thank you to people who supported this event.



### Netball

Last night the school netball team played in their final league matches of the season. The girls played very well in the first 2 matches, creating a host of chances which we were unfortunately unable to convert. These 2 matches saw a spirited defeat to both the Shrubbery and the Deanery school. In the final match against Maney Hill, we were able to convert our chances to finish worthy 3-1 winners. The girls have done incredibly well this season, showing a vast improvement from the previous season. Our highlights include the opening win against St. Josephs in the league and finishing 3rd in the Catholic Sports Netball Competition. We are proud of all of them and thank them for their hard work throughout the season.



### May Procession

The parish May Procession will be held at Holy Cross and Saint Francis Catholic Church on **Sunday 19 May** at 3.00pm. Father Neil would like all First Holy Communion children to attend; everyone is welcome!

### HSBC Bank

A member of the HSBC Bank will visit our school on **Monday 20 May**. We try to encourage our KS2 children to open and be responsible for their own bank account and manage their money.



### Year 5 Assembly

Year 5 is learning about sustainability for their Summer Term topic. As part of this topic, and their special class assembly, the children will be performing I'M A PLASTIC Get Me Out Of Here! We would love you to come and see what Year 5 is learning in this very important area of our lives. **Tuesday 21 May 9.00am refreshments, 9.15am start.**



### Confirmation Information Meeting

This meeting will take place on **Tuesday 21 May** at 6.00pm in church. It is important that all parents of Year 6 children attend this meeting. Thank you.



### Outdoor Classroom Day-Friday 24 May

Anyone who has seen the impact that learning and playing outdoors has on children knows how powerful such experiences can be. Learning outdoors creates lasting memories, helps build a greater awareness of the environment, provides more opportunities to think independently, and gets children feeling challenged and excited by learning. Children are more active when they play outdoors; it is essential for their healthy development and enjoyment of childhood. On Friday 24 May we will be celebrating Outdoor Classroom Day, throughout the school! Please check out twitter profile to see what we get up to!



### Holy Communion Practice sessions

If your child is making their Holy Communion on Saturday 8 June there will be a practice session on **Thursday 6 June**. If your child is making their Holy Communion on Saturday 15 June there will be a practice session on **Thursday 13 June**. These will take place during the school day.



### Flowers and Ties

Parents are asked for a donation of £3.00 per family towards of the cost of flowers for the church. The deadline for payment is **Tuesday 21 May**. Please send this money into school in a clearly labelled envelope with 'Holy Communion' and your child's name.

Parents of boys are asked for a donation of £5.00 for the red tie, which you will then receive in the week prior to the Mass. Boys, will be given red sashes by staff in the church hall on the day. Please log onto your Parent Pay account to make payment, deadline for payment is **Tuesday 21 May**. Thank you.



### Volunteers to clean Church

As this is such a special occasion the church needs to be pristine on the day. We do appreciate that everybody is very busy, but we ask that as many parents as possible give some of their time to clean the church in preparation for First Holy Communion. The church will be open at 7.30 p.m. on Friday 7 June and Friday 14 June. Father Neil would be very grateful of your support in this important matter.



### Choir

A reminder that members of the choir from Years 4-6 are asked to sing at the First Holy Communion Masses (8 and 15 June). We want this to be a special day for all our Y3 children so please support them by ensuring that if your child is in the choir they sing at both or at least one of the Masses (they can wear their own clothes!) It would be very sad if we did not have a strong choir on such an important occasion. I sincerely hope that you will show your support in this important matter.

## Fathers' Day Lunches 2019

**Wednesday 12 June (Children with surname A-L) and Thursday 13 June (Children with surname M-Z)**



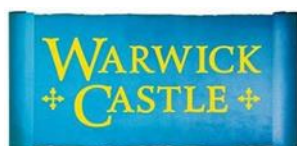
We are holding two Fathers' Day Lunch Days where your child can invite one gentleman to lunch! This can be a father, grandfather, uncle or a family friend. A letter has been emailed home to all parents; please contact the school office if you require a copy.

**The deadline for ordering and paying for meals is Tuesday 21 May; 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.**



### Year 6 Trip to St Chad's Cathedral

Arrangements have now been made to take the children in Year 6 on a visit to St Chad's Cathedral on **Tuesday 11 June**. The cost of this trip is £7.00. Please pay via Parent Pay the deadline for payment and to complete and return the proforma is **Tuesday 4 June**. A letter has been sent home to all Year 6 parents. If you require a copy please contact the school office. Thank you.



### Year 1 visit to Warwick Castle

Arrangements have now been made to take the children in Year 1 on a visit to Warwick Castle on **Monday 1 July 2019**. A voluntary donation of £21.00 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 5 June**. A letter has been sent home with all Year 1 children; if you require a copy please contact the school office. Thank you.



### EYFS visit to Twycross Zoo

Arrangements have now been made to take the children in EYFS on a visit to Twycross Zoo on **Thursday 4 July 2019**. A voluntary donation of £20.00 is now required to cover the cost of transport, admission and insurance. Payment for this trip is via Parent Pay; deadline for payment is **Thursday 6 June**. A letter has been sent home with all Year 5 children; if you require a copy please contact the school office. Thank you.



### Year 2 visit to Weston Super Mare

Arrangements have now been made to take the children in Year 2 on a visit to Weston Super Mare on **Tuesday 9 July 2019**. A voluntary donation of £23.00 is now required to cover the cost of transport, admission and insurance. Payment for this trip is via Parent Pay; deadline for payment is **Thursday 6 June**. A letter has been sent home with all Year 2 children; if you require a copy please contact the school office. Thank you.

### Dinner Money

Parents of KS2 children who have school dinners, the deadline for the payment of **£73.10 is Friday 14 June**; please make payment through ParentPay. Thank you.



### Year 3 and Year 4 visit to New Hall Mill

Arrangements have now been made to take the children in Year 3 and Year 4 on a visit to New Hall Mill on **Tuesday 18 June**. A letter has been sent home with children. Please complete and return proforma no later than Friday 7 June. If you require a copy please contact the school office. Thank you.



### Year 5 visit to Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre

Arrangements have now been made to take the children in Year 5 on a visit to Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre on **Tuesday 9 July 2019**. A voluntary donation of £18.00 is now required to cover the cost of transport, admission and insurance. Payment for this trip is via Parent Pay; deadline for payment is **Friday 21 June**. A letter has been sent home with all Year 5 children; if you require a copy please contact the school office. Thank you.

### Year 6 visit to West Midlands Safari Park

Arrangements have now been made to take the children in Year 6 on a visit to West Midlands Safari Park on **Wednesday 17 July 2018**. A voluntary donation of £28.00 is now required to cover the cost of transport, admission and insurance. Payment for this trip is via Parent Pay; deadline for payment is **Friday 28 June**. A letter has been sent home with all Year 6 children; 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!**

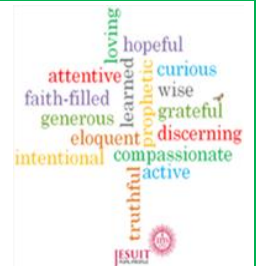
**The Punctuality Award for the week: Year 2, Year 3 and Year 6.**

### RECOMMENDATION

**Recommendations: EYFS:** Mia S, Ayla G **Year 1:** Rachel J, Erin H **Year 2:** Sophia H, Elijah C-G **Year 3:** Henry H, Anaha P **Year 4:** Aaron H, Megan P **Year 5:** Isla H, Ryan K **Year 6:** Year 6.  
**Lunchtime Award:** Olivia H (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: **Mr Hunt:** Freddie F **Mr Rowlands:** Madison M **Miss Stewart:** Addison H-G **Miss Stevens:** Sophia J **Mrs Hope:** Calum McC **Mr Mayor:** Orlaith F **Miss Cross:** Maria L.



Happy Birthday to the following children who have celebrated their birthdays this week:  
Noah N, Kaiden P-W (EYFS), Fryderyk F (Y1), Tommy M (Y3), Sian J (Y5)

Have a weekend!  
Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Cotter' with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Miss T Cotter  
Principal

