

Newsletter No 14

Dear Parents/Person with Parental Responsibility

Date: **Friday 15 December**

Christmas Performances



This week we welcomed Parents and Grandparents to school for the EYFS & KS1 Nativity. Well done to all the children who put on a wonderful show.

Next week we have our final Christmas performances with the KS2 Carol Services on **Monday 18 December at 2:00pm** and **Tuesday 19 December at 9:00am**. This is two members per family, per performance.

Christmas Lunch

A BIG thank you to Mrs Watts and the kitchen staff for preparing our lovely Christmas lunch on Wednesday and to all the lunchtime staff who ensured it all ran very smoothly!



Mini Vinnies

A huge thank you to our Mini Vinnies who have worked so hard over the last couple of weeks to live out the Gospel Virtues of Attentive and Discerning by helping those in need. Using their God Given Talents they have set up and run the Enterprise Shed, encouraged their Holy Cross Family to help those in need with a Shoe Box Appeal, helped organise the Rudolf Run and run a successful Cake Sale. Thank you again for supporting our Mini Vinnies and for your continued support and generosity. We look forward to their update, which will be shared in next week's Newsletter.



Christmas Worship

Christmas is a special family time but it is also a very important time in the Church's year. Please remember to celebrate Mass this Christmas as a family. The Service of Reconciliation and Masses at Holy Cross are as follows:

Reconciliation Service: Tuesday 19 December 7:00pm at St Nicholas, Boldmere

Masses for Christmas:

Christmas Eve: 5:00pm & 9:00pm

Christmas Day - The Nativity of the Lord: 8:30am & 10:30am

The children have brought home a card from Fr Neil with all the times of Masses and Services over the Christmas period.



School Meals - Price increase from January 2024

The cost of living and the cost of food is something that is affecting everyone and unfortunately it is unsustainable providing freshly cooked meals at the current price. Therefore, the cost of a school dinner will increase from the start of the new term in January 2024 from £2.40 to £2.55. This is still good value for money for a cooked meal and dessert. This will be reviewed in the Summer term to ensure the school is not in deficit with the costings. I thank you for your support.



Rudolph Run



Yesterday the whole school took part in the Rudolf Run to raise money for Birmingham Hospice (St Mary's and John Taylor's Hospice). Please support the incredible work that this local charity does by clicking the link below and sponsoring the children's fantastic efforts.

https://www.justgiving.com/page/holy-cross-1700723067941?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Fholycross-1700723067941&utm_source=copyLink&utm_campaign=pfp-share

Thank you for your support.



Reception Admissions 2024

The application process to apply for EYFS (Reception) places at Holy Cross Catholic Primary School has **two** phases and must be completed by 15 January 2024.

This is because we are a Catholic School. Below is a brief summary of the process.

All of the detailed information can be found on our website.

Summary of the process

- Apply online - Birmingham City Council Website naming Holy Cross Catholic Primary School.
- Complete Supplementary Information Form for Holy Cross



Soccer Schools - Please see attached flyer to ParentMail

Venues

- Aston (NEW Aston Villa Inner City Academy)

Dates: Tuesday 2nd - Wednesday 3rd January 2024

Time: 9:30 - 15:30

Price: £50

Ages: 5 - 12 year olds (outfield) & 6 - 12 year olds (Goalkeeping)

PRE BOOK NOW VIA THIS LINK - [New Year Soccer Schools](#)



Mass

Next Thursday (**Thursday 21 December**) we will be celebrating our last Mass of the term as a Holy Cross Family in 2023, this will be led by Year 4. All are very welcome to join us in the school hall at 9:00am to celebrate.



Virtues and Values

This half term we are concentrating on being 'Attentive & Discerning.' 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 recognise those children who have made that extra special effort to follow Jesus' example and show the virtues in their daily life.

This week's winners are: **EYFS:** Tommy **Year 1:** Kacey **Year 2:** Elliot **Year 3:** Malachy
Year 4: Harry **Year 5:** Alannah **Year 6:** Martha

Recommendations:



EYFS: Zenayah & David **Year 1:** Lily & Eddie **Year 2:** Elijah & Christabel
Year 3: Maisie & Sienna-Mae **Year 4:** Abi & Mia **Year 5:** Marco & Anuli
Year 6: Isabella MS & Cian



Attendance - *Our school strives for 100% attendance. This year one of our school priorities is to improve attendance further and we will be assessing attendance as the number of days absent rather than as an attendance %.*

This week the Attendance Award was won by: EYFS with 0 days absent.

This week the Punctuality Award was won by: Y3 and Y6 with 0 late marks.

Government legislation states that a child with an attendance of 90% and below is categorised as a "Persistent Absence Pupil". This means that a child has missed 19 days or 38 sessions of school. This equates to your child missing half a day every week; four weeks of missed school work across the whole year.



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

Jewel Year 4



Letters sent home:

Chess Club / Rudolph Run / Girls Football Team / KS2 Costumes



Dates for Diary - December 2023

Monday 18 December	2:00pm	KS2 Carol Service
Tuesday 19 December	9:00 am	KS2 Carol Service
Wednesday 20 December	Afternoon	Class Christmas Parties

Dates for Diary - January 2024

Monday 8 January		Return to School - Spring Term
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Dates for Diary - February 2024

Friday 9 February		Break up for Half Term
Monday 18 February		Return to School

Dates for Diary - March 2024

Thursday 28 March		Break up for Easter
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Dates for Diary - April 2024

Monday 15 April		Return to School - Summer Term
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Dates for Diary - May 2024

Thursday 2 May	All Day	School Closed - Elections
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Have a lovely weekend

T. Cotter

Miss T Cotter
Executive Principal

C. Gorman

Mrs C Gorman
Head of School

