

## Newsletter No 20

Dear Parents/Person with Parental Responsibility

Date Friday 9 February



### Confirmation

On Thursday night Year 6 received the Sacrament of Confirmation from Bishop David Evans. It was a very reverent and special occasion for all in our Holy Cross family. I thank all the children for the maturity and faith they have shown through their preparation for the Sacrament and to Fr Neil, Mrs Hope and Mrs Jupp for working so hard to prepare the children so well and to all the staff for supporting the children at both masses



### Lent

During half term, we will mark the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday. I urge all parents to make every effort to mark this through the celebration of Mass and distribution of ashes.

**There are two Masses on Ash Wednesday at Holy Cross Church: 9.00am and 7.00pm.**



### Mothers' Day Lunch

This year we are holding two Mothers' day Lunches where we hope as many Special People as possible will join us for a meal at school. A letter with all the details of how to book your place and pay has been sent via ParentMail today. Please note it is one person per family. The dates are:

**Tuesday 5 March (A-L)**

**Thursday 7 March (M-Z)**

The deadline for booking is **Tuesday 20 February at 9am** and no bookings will be accepted after that date. Please see letter for all the details. It is always a lovely event so please remember to book to avoid disappointment. Thank you.



### Children's Mental Health Week 2024

This week the children have focused on the theme 'My Voice Matters'. All children and young people have been encouraged to use their voices, share what matters to them and encourage those around them to listen. Our Mental Health Ambassadors have been busy delivery quotes, messages and activities to promote the children's voice.



### Punctuality - Please Sign In

If there is no Senior Leader at the school front gate after 8:45 am, please walk your child to the school office to **sign them in**. Please **do not** leave your child to walk into school, through the school gates alone. This is to ensure that all our children are kept safe.

If you do need to sign your child in, please ensure that you have used the digital screen. We appreciate your support in this matter.



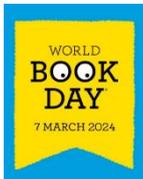
### Dinner Money

The cost for school dinners for next half term is **£73.95**. This is due by **Friday 1 March**. Please pay promptly. Thank you for your cooperation.



### Big Lent Walk

The Big Lent Walk will take place next half term on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March. This will be a sponsored event with the money raised going towards CAFOD. Your sponsorship can and will change lives. Every £1 raised through the Big Lent Walk will help fight poverty globally in countries like Afghanistan, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and South Sudan. More information to follow after half term.



### World Book Day - Thursday 7 March

This year the children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character. If your child does not wish to dress up they are welcome to wear their own clothes and bring an item from a book as a prop.

Our theme this year for World Book Day is Poetry, each class will be exploring poems throughout the day.



### Parent Governor

Details of the election of a Parent Governor were sent out via ParentMail this week. Please take a look at the information provided.

Should you have any questions about the role please do not hesitate to contact the Chair of Governors,  
Mr Kevin Grady: k.grady@holycross-sch.net.

## Virtues and Values

This half term we are concentrating on being 'Compassionate & 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 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:** Sienna **Year 1:** Ronnie **Year 2:** Emily **Year 3:**

**Year 4:** Bryan **Year 5:** Eva **Year 6:** Madison



### Recommendations:

**EYFS:** Esmee & Tessa **Year 1:** Zachary T & Isla **Year 2:** Ewan & Freya

**Year 3:** James & Arun **Year 4:** Rogan & Harry **Year 5:** Oliver & Skye **Year 6:** Lap & Rachel



**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: Year 6** with 1 day absent.

**This week the Punctuality Award was won by: Year 6** 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 celebrated their birthday this week or will do so in Half Term:**

EYFS - David Year 2 - Harry Year 3 - Sienna-Mae/Jessica

Year 4 - Sebastian/Felix Year 5 - Marco



**Letters sent home:**

Choir Recruitment/Parent Governor Election/Job Vacancy/Poverty Proofing/Swimming Gala

Forest School/Mental Health Ambassadors



**Dates for Diary - February 2024**

Friday 9 February	3.10/3.15pm	Break up for Half Term
Monday 19 February		Return to School
Wednesday 28 February	3:30pm	Year 6 SATS Parent Workshop

**Dates for Diary - March 2024**

Friday 1 March	All Day	St David's Day - Wear something Yellow
Tuesday 5 March	9am	Year 2 Class Assembly
Tuesday 5 March		Mother's Day Lunch (A-L)
Thursday 7 March		Mother's Day Lunch (W-Z)
Thursday 7 March	All day	World Book Day
Thursday 7 March	5:30 - 6:30pm	PTA Bedtimes Stories
Monday 11 March	All Week	Celebrate British STEM Week
Tuesday 12 March	9am	Year 1 Class Assembly
Friday 15 March	All Day	St Patrick's Day - Wear Something Green
Monday 18 March		Big Lent Walk
Tuesday 19 March	3.30pm - 7.00pm	Parents Evening - All Year Groups
Thursday 21 March	3.30pm - 6.00pm	Parents Evening - NOT Year 4
Friday 22 March	8:50am	EYFS and KS1 Easter Bonnet Parade
Monday 25 March	3.30pm - 6.00pm	Parent's Evening - Year 4 ONLY
Monday 25 March	9.00am	Stations of the Cross
Tuesday 26 March	2.15pm	KS2 Passion Play
Wednesday 27 March	9.00am	KS2 Passion Play
Thursday 28 March	3.10/3.15pm	Break up for Easter

**Dates for Diary - May 2024**

Thursday 2 May	All Day	Polling Day
Friday 3 May	All Day	Inset Day - SCHOOL CLOSED
Monday 6 May	All Day	Bank Holiday

**Dates for Diary June 2024**

Thursday 4 July	All Day	Inset Day - SCHOOL CLOSED
Monday 22 July	All Day	Inset Day - SCHOOL CLOSED



Have a lovely weekend and enjoy the half term break.



Miss T Cotter  
Executive Principal



Mrs C Gorman  
Head of School

We wish all our Chinese families a Happy New Year!

**February -  
Month of the  
Holy Family**

**Jesus, Mary  
and Joseph  
I give you my  
heart and my  
soul.**

