

Newsletter No 21

Dear Parents/Person with Parental Responsibility

Date Friday 23 February 2024



Thinking and Founders Day

Thank you to all the children and Mr Hunt for wearing their uniforms to school yesterday to mark World Thinking Day and Founders Day. It was lovely to see how many of our children are involved in these groups from Reception to Year Six!



Poverty Proofing

Thank you to those of you who returned the questionnaires. We will read and take on board all responses and will feed back on actions to be taken once we have received the written report.



Parent Governor

One nomination was received and therefore we are pleased to say that Morgan Williams has been re-elected as Parent Governor for the next four years. We thank him for volunteering to continue in this very important role.



Dinner Money

The deadline for payment of school dinner money is **Friday 1 March** and the amount due is **£73.95**. Please pay promptly. Thank you for your cooperation.



School Clothing Grant 2024

Please see the attached Clothing grant application form. The eligibility criteria and proof of benefit required is explained on the application form but if you have any queries please contact us. Successful applicants will receive vouchers to the value of £100 per child.

Parents are requested to return completed forms and copies of all pages of their proof of benefit to the school that has stamped their form by **Monday 11 March 2024**. Incomplete forms cannot be considered and Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust will liaise directly with applicants if their application is incomplete or unsuccessful.

Please note that we require only one application per household, so if an application includes eligible children from different schools, the vouchers will be sent to the school that has stamped the application form.

Vouchers can be redeemed at Clive Mark Schoolwear Boldmere and/or Crested Schoolwear, Erdington. Please note that if neither of these are your school's nominated supplier parents will be able to use the vouchers to purchase non-branded items.



Mothers' Day Lunch

Bookings for this year's Mother's Day Lunches are now closed. We look forward to welcoming everyone to this special occasion at 11:30am. A reminder of the days is below.

Tuesday 5 March (A-L)

Thursday 7 March (M-Z)



Big Lent Walk

The Big Lent Walk will take place on **Monday 18th 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.

Please share our Just Giving Page (link below) with friends and family to help support the children and CAFOD.

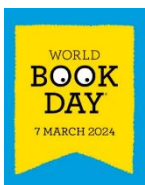
Thank you

<https://schools.walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/holy-cross-fundraising-page>



Soup and Roll

As part of our Lenten charity work, the Mini Vinnies will once again continue to support our parish, Holy Cross and St Francis Church, by assisting parishioners attending the soup and roll lunch that takes place after stations of the cross each Friday during Lent.



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.



Parents' Evenings

Parents' Evenings will be held on **Tuesday 19 March for all year groups (3:30 - 7:00pm)** and **Thursday 21 March (3:30 - 6:00pm) NOT INCLUDING YEAR 4.**

Monday 25 March (3:30 - 6:00pm) YEAR 4 ONLY.

A letter has been sent out today with all the details. Please make every effort to attend.

Appointments to be booked via ParentMail which will go live on Monday 26 February at 7pm.

Virtues and Values

This half term we are concentrating on being 'Faith-Filled & 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 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:** Elsie **Year 1:** Joshua **Year 2:** Christopher

Year 3: Orla **Year 4:** Martin **Year 5:** Ava **Year 6:** Hughie

Recommendations:



EYFS: Tommy & Ciara **Year 1:** Hendrix & Dolly **Year 2:** Cainneach & Elijah

Year 3: Leyton & Malachy **Year 4:** Freddie & Maks

Year 5: Hattie & Kaiden **Year 6:** Sofia & Eden



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 2 with 0 day absent.

This week the Punctuality Award was won by: Year 1 & Year 2 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:

Erin - Year 4 Louis - Year 5 Eva - Year 5

Letters sent home:



Poverty Proofing / Walk with Me & Lenten Charities Information / Thinking & Founders Day / Brownlee Medal Challenge

Dates for Diary - February 2024

Wednesday 28 February	3:30pm	Year 6 SATS Parent Workshop
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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



Miss T Cotter
Executive Principal



Mrs C Gorman
Head of School

PRAYER TO THE HOLY FAMILY



Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in you we contemplate the splendour of true love, to you we turn with trust.

Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that our families too may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic Churches.

Holy Family of Nazareth, may families never again experience violence, rejection and division: may all who have been hurt or scandalized find ready comfort and healing.

Holy Family of Nazareth, may the approaching Synod of Bishops make us once more mindful of the sacredness and inviolability of the family, and its beauty in God's plan.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, graciously hear our prayer.

Amen.