

Newsletter No 23

Dear Parents/Person with Parental Responsibility

Date Friday 8 March 2024



Happy Mothers' Day

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Mothers' Day Lunches this week. A special thank you to our catering staff who worked so hard to cater for such large numbers on Tuesday and Thursday.

We wish you a wonderful Mothering Sunday.

World Book Day

We had a fantastic day yesterday celebrating World Book Day. Thank you for making such an effort with the children's costumes of favourite book characters; they looked amazing (as did the staff!)

Bedtime Stories

Last night was a very successful event, with the children having a lovely time listening to stories and enjoying their hot chocolate! Thank you to the PTA members for organising this and the staff who gave their time to read the stories. We will inform you how much money was raised at a later date.



St Patrick's Day

On **Friday 15 March** we will be marking St Patrick's Day. The children are invited to wear non uniform and some green accessories to celebrate.



Big Lent Walk

So far we have raised **£85** for our Big Lent Walk. Thank you so much for the generous donations. The Big Lent Walk will take place on **Monday 18 March**.

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>



Times Tables Rock Stars

On Friday 22nd March, we will be having a relaunch day for Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS) in Years 2-6 and Numbots for Reception and Year 1. The children can come to school dressed as a rock star and throughout the day we will be having times tables battles between year groups and staff. This will then become part of the children's homework each week to log on and spend 10 minutes on the times tables battles or Numbots stories.





PTA Balti & Bingo Night

Please see details, which were sent out via ParentMail this week, about the PTA's Balti & Bingo Night on **Friday 15 March** at Holy Cross & St Francis Church Hall, 7.00pm - 9.30pm.

Please book your tickets and select your meal choices on ParentMail. All are welcome.



Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust

School Clothing Grant 2024 - FINAL REMINDER

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.



Parents' Evenings

Parents' Evenings will be held on:

Tuesday 19 March for all year groups (3:30 - 7:00pm)

Thursday 21 March (3:30 - 6:00pm) NOT INCLUDING YEAR 4.

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

Appointments to be booked via ParentMail which will close on Friday 8 March at 9:30am.



Bring it on Brum - Easter Holiday Activity Camps with Free Food

Microsports and Bring It on Brum will be holding a holiday activity programme over the Easter holidays, Tuesday 2 April - Friday 5 April. Please see the flyer attached.

**** THIS IS ONLY AVAILABLE FOR FAMILIES WHO HAVE FREE SCHOOL MEALS AND THEY MUST CONTACT THE OFFICE TO RECEIVE THEIR SCHOOL CODE ****



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:** Tessa **Year 1:** Elayna **Year 2:** Ewan
Year 3: Ellie-May **Year 4:** Isabella O **Year 5:** Anuli **Year 6:** Logan

Recommendations:



EYFS: Ella & Sienna **Year 1:** Lexi & Kacey **Year 2:** Daniel & Phoebe
Year 3: Noah E & Jessica **Year 4:** Mia L & Joseph S-K
Year 5: Henry P & Poppy **Year 6:** Ciara & Ellie



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: Reception and Year 2 with 3 days absent.

This week the Punctuality Award was won by: Year 3 and Year 6 with 1 late mark.

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:

Gracie – Y2 Noah E – Y3 Euan – Y4 Sofia – Y6 Nancy – Y6



Letters sent home:

Sacrament of First Confession-Y3 / Area Gala Concert-Ensemble members /

PTA Bingo & Balti Night / Internet usage-Y5 / TTRS Relaunch



STEM Learning Week

On Monday we are going to kick start national **STEM** week with an exciting science lesson - one of the teachers has eaten the last cookie and has not replaced it with another packet! Who is the cookie culprit?... The children will be become forensic scientists and will be conducting experiments on the evidence.

Dates for Diary - March 2024

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 - Non Uniform - Wear something green and/or a green accessory
Friday 15 March	7:00 - 9:30pm	PTA Bingo Night
Monday 18 March		Big Lent Walk
Monday 18 March	After School	Pre- Loved School Uniform Sale
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	Parents' 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

We wish all our very special and hardworking moms a very 'Happy Mothers' Day' - we hope you have a very special day.

