

## Newsletter No 28

Dear Parents/Person with Parental Responsibility

Date Friday 26 April 2024



Polite reminder school is closed on the following days:

**Thursday 2 May** (Polling Day) - School Closed

**Friday 3 May** (INSET Day) - School Closed

**Monday 6 May** (May Bank Holiday) - School Closed



### Inclusion Updates

This week we thought we would share more information about Birmingham's Local Offer website. This website has been updated and improved through consultation with all stakeholders over the last couple of years. The Local Offer website is a really useful place to find any information that could support you and your child to navigate all things SEND within Birmingham. You can find this information using the following link: <https://www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk/>.

There is also a section specifically for parents and carers of children with SEND. The following link will take you directly to this section of the Local Offer: <https://www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk/home/parents-and-carers/>.

We encourage all of our families with children SEND to use this website. There is everything from advice, information about external agencies, information about parent/carers forums, and webinars from the different agencies working with the children and young people in our city.

We would also like to take the opportunity to thank the parents/people with parental responsibility who took the time to email the inclusion inbox with ideas for the parent coffee mornings/afternoons for this term. An invite will be sent shortly with a date, time and focus for the Spring 1 session.



### Reception (EYFS) Class 2024

We have some places available for Reception starting in September 2024. If you, or someone you know, might be interested to apply please contact the school office via email at [enquiry@holycross-sch.net](mailto:enquiry@holycross-sch.net) or call 0121 675 215

### Dinner Money for Summer term - **IMPORTANT**

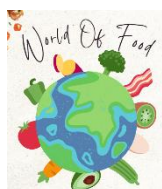
Parents of KS2 children who have school dinners, the deadline for the payment of **£68.85** was last Friday 19 April; please make the payment through ParentMail. Thank you.





### Purple Mash - Thursday 2 May

Work will be available for pupils to complete on Purple Mash on Thursday 2 May as school is closed due to Polling Day.



### Community Recipe Book

Our School Council is inviting you to contribute to a Community Recipe Book. Please take part in this fantastic opportunity to share recipes from around our community and the world.

Please submit your recipes and the country they are linked to by emailing

[enquiry@holycross-sch.net](mailto:enquiry@holycross-sch.net) . Thank you.



### Summer Uniform

From **Tuesday 7 May** (after the Bank Holiday), all children are required to wear their Summer uniform.

#### Summer uniform is:

Green check dress, suitable shoes, with white socks or grey trousers or shorts with jade green polo shirt with logo, grey socks, and sensible dark school shoes - no trainers. Please note all children are expected to be wearing correct school shoes after the Easter holidays.

We pride ourselves on how smart are children are and we ask all parents to ensure they fully comply with the school uniform requirements. 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.

There has been a deadline extension and 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 **Tuesday 11 June 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.



### Smartphones - Parent advertisement

Are you wondering what age your child should get one? Nervous about how social media might affect them? Perhaps your child has one and you're happy with how it's being used? Or finding it hard to negotiate about hours of use / chats / apps? We want to hear from you.

We've had some interest in setting up a parent-led WhatsApp chat at Holy Cross to discuss the topic of smartphones for children and consider how parents/carers might support each other - if you'd like to join the chat, please contact **Laura on 07737 264 780**.

We're keen to hear your views and your experience of smartphones for children in an open, non-judgemental environment. It's a tricky topic for everyone!



### Attendance Questionnaire

Please take the time to fill in the Attendance Questionnaire via the link below.

Thank you for your support.

<https://forms.gle/jKYcKJTjyzWVTW8o8>

### Sports News



On Monday, the boys football team took part in the Rotary competition. They did really well finishing 3rd in their group after 2 wins and 3 draws. They deserve credit for not losing a game or letting in a goal. We then followed this up with a victory over Little Aston on Tuesday afternoon. This was pleasing to see their resilience to keep on attacking after the opposition keeper made some amazing saves.



Last night the girls' netball team took on both Maney Hill and Moor Hall in the league. Both games were closely fought with a narrow loss to Maney Hill and a thrilling 5-5 draw against Moor Hall. It was fantastic to see the progress the girls have made over the year and they gave 100% effort after nearly an hour of netball with no breaks.

## Virtues and Values

This half term we are concentrating on being 'Eloquent and Truthful.' 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: **Rec:** Zeneyah **Year 1:** All Year **Year 2:** Aaneira **Year 3:** Louie  
**Year 4:** Summer-Rose **Year 5:** Alannah **Year 6:** Ciara

## Recommendations:



**Rec:** Millie & George **Year 1:** Lola & Alena **Year 2:** Ivy & Freddie  
**Year 3:** James & Jessica **Year 4:** Leylah & Mia  
**Year 5:** Louie & Skye **Year 6:** Jack & Nancy



**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** with 1 day absent.

**This week the Punctuality Award was won by: Y1/Y2/Y3/Y5/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.

A reminder for parents to complete the attendance questionnaire with another link?

This is the link: <https://forms.gle/jKYcKJTjyzWVTW8o8>



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

Jonah - Year 1

Cara - year 2

## Letters sent home:



Head lice / EYFS September 2024 Places / Y6 Use of Technology / Football matches / Shopping Platforms / Job Vacancies

### Dates for Diary - May 2024

Thursday 2 May	All Day	Polling Day - SCHOOL CLOSED
Friday 3 May	All Day	Inset Day - SCHOOL CLOSED
Monday 6 May	All Day	Bank Holiday - SCHOOL CLOSED
Friday 24 May		Break up for Half Term

### Dates for Diary June 2024

Monday 3 June		Return to school
Tuesday 4 June		Year 5 Trip to Police Museum
Saturday 8 June	12pm & 3pm	Year 3 Holy Communion
Tuesday 11 June		Fathers' Day Lunch
Wednesday 12 June		Year 2 Trip Selly Manor
Thursday 13 June		Year 4 Trip to Tamworth Castle
Thursday 13 June		Corpus Christi Procession
Thursday 13 June		Year 3 Communion Breakfast
Monday 17 June		Year 3 Trip Botanical Gardens
Thursday 20 June		Fathers' Day Lunch
Friday 28 June	7:00pm	Year 6 Leavers Party

### Dates for Diary July 2024

Monday 1 July		Reception Trip to Thinktank
Thursday 4 July	All Day	Inset Day - SCHOOL CLOSED
Friday 5 July		Sports Day
Friday 5 July	3:20pm	Summer Fayre
Monday 8 July		Choir and Ensemble to Symphony Hall
10, 11, 12 July	All Day	Year 6 Residential Mount Cook
Wednesday 17 July	3:10pm - 4:30pm	PTA Summer Disco
Monday 22 July	All Day	Inset Day - SCHOOL CLOSED



Have a lovely weekend

Miss T Cotter  
Executive Principal

Mrs C Gorman  
Head of School

*Loving God,  
Pour out your Spirit on our college.  
Let us be filled with your grace.  
Let us put on your armour to face the world with courage.  
Let us aspire to become all you have created us to be.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Redeemer.  
Amen.*



*St George, pray for us*

