

## Newsletter No 29

Dear Parents/Person with Parental Responsibility

Date Friday 3 May 2024

I appreciate the news of me leaving Holy Cross will have come as a surprise to you. As the Deputy Catholic Senior Executive Leader, part of my role is to deputise when necessary and the Directors have decided that in these ever changing times, I am needed to work across the academy on a full time basis.

Being Principal of this school has been a joy and I will be returning to join in with the special occasions during the Summer term whenever possible and will visit the school with my other hat on whenever I can.

Please be assured that Mrs Gorman and the rest of the staff team will be here and normal service will remain. As this is all happening so quickly, we will plan an official leaving day after half term when I can say goodbye properly.

In the meantime, please have a lovely extended weekend. School reopens as normal on Tuesday.



### Inclusion Updates

At the start of this week we were able to inform our parents of the Inclusion Coffee Afternoon that has been arranged for Summer Term 1. This session will take place on **Wednesday 15th May at 2pm**. The focus will be on the feedback from the external SEND review that took place on the 26th March and the actions we have agreed for the school moving forwards. This meeting will be focused around SEND provision and actions so parents/people with parental responsibility for children with SEND will be prioritised for the session.

If you are able to join us, we would really like to share the good practice identified at the review and our next steps. Please complete the form below so we can have a sense of numbers and ensure we have the right amount of refreshments available.

<https://forms.gle/5owpM8kdq8cRnfmA8>

Thank you, Miss Turner (Assistant Principal for Inclusion)



### 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 **Friday 19 April**; please make the payment through ParentMail. Thank you.



### Father's Day Lunches

Father's Day Lunches will be held on **Tuesday 11 June** and **Thursday 20 June** at 11:30am. You will be able to select your preferred date and pay on ParentMail via your shop from **Tuesday 7 May at 6pm**.

**Please only select one date and one adult per family.** Thank you for your support.



### 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 our children are and we ask all parents to ensure they fully comply with the school uniform requirements. Thank you for your cooperation.

### 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 Fayre

The Summer Fayre will be held on **Friday 5 July** 3:20 - 5:30. Please see the flyer attached.

All are very welcome.

## **SCCT** School Clothing Grant 2024

Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust

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.

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### Car Free Streets



A polite reminder about keeping everyone safe during the start and end of the school day.

If you park on the street due to an exemption or blue badge, please ensure you are driving safely, so that you are considerate of the increase of pedestrians during this time. Please also remember there is a turning circle at the top of the road to turn your car around.

This is in order to keep children, families and the community safe.

A reminder of the three platforms to report any vehicles which are not following the Car Free Streets guidance are on the next page:

Birmingham City Council:

[https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20109/parking/1983/report\\_an\\_illegally\\_parked\\_vehicle](https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20109/parking/1983/report_an_illegally_parked_vehicle)

This is for dangerous driving:

<https://www.west-midlands.police.uk/campaigns/operation-triton#>

Local police for complaints:

[https://www.west-midlands.police.uk/team-postcodes-search?field\\_post\\_code\\_areas\\_value=B76+2sp](https://www.west-midlands.police.uk/team-postcodes-search?field_post_code_areas_value=B76+2sp)

## 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!

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## 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:** Ezra **Year 1:** Evie **Year 2:** Rico **Year 3:** Jessica

**Year 4:** Felix **Year 5:** Freddie **Year 6:** Emileen

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## Recommendations:



**Rec:** Austin & Laura **Year 1:** Zachary & Amos **Year 2:** Phoebe & Christopher

**Year 3:** Maisie & Orla **Year 4:** Leylah & Fraser

**Year 5:** Ariana & Xaven **Year 6:** Ruby & Antoni



**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:** EYFS, Year 1, year 3, Year 4 & 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.

**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:**  
Jesse (EYFS), Evie (Y1), Okiemute (2), Ava-Rae (Y2), Jolan (Y3), Ayla (Y5).



**Letters sent home:** SEND Parent Coffee Morning, Year 2 Parent Volunteers (Communion Breakfast), Choir Song Links, Year 5 Trip Letter, OFCOM Media Report Flyer, Letter to all Parents from Chair of Board of Directors, EYFS Helping Hands, NHS Discovery Day Workshop.

#### Dates for Diary - May 2024

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
<b>Wednesday 5 June</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>	<b>EYFS Induction Meeting -Sept 2024 Start</b>
Saturday 8 June	12pm & 3pm	Year 3 Holy Communion
Tuesday 11 June	11:45am	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	11:45am	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

*During the month of May, please try to say the Hail Mary each day as a family.*

