



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs.J.Kingston

21st July 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

This week:

As another academic year draws to a close for at Holy Cross, we are able to reflect on all the achievements that have been made during that time. We are immensely proud of our pupils, from the progress they have made academically to the wonderful way they behave around school. We are very lucky to have such a strong, diverse community and children who love learning and show kindness to those around them. We would like to thank parents and carers for their support throughout this year and acknowledge the important role you have in your child's education.

We think especially of the Year 6 children leaving us today to start the next step in the education and wish them well. They have had an excellent journey in our Holy Cross and have so much to be proud of. Whatever challenge has been given to them they have risen to it and are a credit to their families. We have no doubt they will go from strength to strength in the future.

We say goodbye to Mrs Edwards, Miss Butler and Miss Mitchell who are leaving us to begin new stages in their lives. We thank them for all that they have contributed to Holy Cross and wish them well in the future.

We also say goodbye to Miss Kukonen and Miss Sweet who have been with us on long term supply.

Goodbye also to some of our families who are moving on this summer: Ethan, Bethany, Tilly, Baz, Jacob T and Jacob W. We wish them all the best and thank them for all of their contributions to Holy Cross. We thank all those parents whose youngest children are leaving today for all of their support during their time here.

We look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 5th September to begin the new academic year.



Awards:

Governor Competition:

Over All winners: KS1 Brooke KS2 Tahia

Class winners: Reception – Sonny Year 1 – Teo Year 2 – Abrish and Tilly Year 3 – Abi Year 4 – Baz Year 6 – Maggie

Runner ups: Year 6 – Alecia, Keagan, Tyler, Domenico, Manuela, Lillie-Mai, Anna, Poppy, Vayah, Myia, Lacey, Mikey, Jake, Olivia, Krystian. Year 4 – Nadia and Maxwell. Year 2 – Zak, Bethany, Elliot and Lily. Year 1 – Saavi.

100% Attendance:

Tahia and Tyler from Year 6, Ayaan, Alisha and Sophia from year 4, Esme from Year 2 and Poppy from reception

End of Term awards:

Citizen awards: Reception- Ethan, Year 1- Zoe, Year 2 – Bethany, Year 3 – Ky-Reece, Year 4 – Sophia, Year 5 – Roman, Year 6 – Jake

Learning Skills: Reception – Che, Year 1 – Dylan, Year 2 – Romone, Year 3 – Isaiah, Year 4 – Baz, Year 5 – Monika, Year 6 – Myia,

Good Samaritan: EYFS – Fina, KS1 – Tilly, Lower KS2- Max Johnson, Higher KS2 – Vayah.

St Paul Award: KS1 – Sinead, Lower KS2 – Harry, Higher KS2 – Aaron

Samson Award: KS1 – Christian, Lower KS2 – Qirui, Higher KS2 – Cairo

Staffing:

Here is the staffing structure for next academic year:

	Teacher	Teaching Assistants
Reception	Miss Stroud	Miss Merrifield
Year 1	Mr Ockwell	Ms Owen
Year 2	Miss Foster	Mrs Tamlin
Year 3	Miss Lugg	Mrs Davies
Year 4	Miss Fairbairn	Mr Smart
Year 5	Mr Toogood	To be appointed
Year 6	Ms Fitzgerald	Mr Evans

Update from the Diocese:

As many of you will be aware Holy Cross parish community has been invited by Bishop Declan to become part of the parish of St Gerard Majella, Knowle. A good number of Holy Cross parishioners now regularly attend St Gerard's and feel very welcome. Deacon Paul Brandon has also been appointed by Bishop Declan as the School Chaplain and will provide ongoing pastoral support to the School community.



Message from Deacon Paul:

My name is Rev Deacon Paul Brandon and I am privileged and delighted to have been appointed as Chaplain to Holy Cross School, succeeding Father Rupert. I am a Cathedral Deacon at Ss Peter and Paul in Clifton and prior to that, I served as a Deacon in parishes in Somerset, including in our Catholic schools. I am married and we have four sons, all married with children themselves. I will be offering Mrs Kingston and her team as much time as I able to give and, in addition to participating in the school's scheduled Holy Masses, I am really looking forward to visiting each class to chat with the young people in an informal and relaxed way. Being a grandfather of nine myself, I have a good idea of how children think. I would like my role at Holy Cross to be one of guidance, advice when requested, and fun when possible. Please come and say 'hi' if you see me around (I'm the one in the collar!).

Premiere Education After School Club:

We have been asked to let you know the sports that will be available for the club:

Monday – Tennis

Tuesday – Hockey

Wednesday – Basketball

Thursday – Football

Friday – Dodgeball

After School Clubs

We have sent out the link to book After School Clubs for September from Premiere Education who will be running our after-school club room sessions. Please book these sessions before the start of term to avoid disappointment. On Friday we sent out the club list for September. Everyone will need to book these clubs on the school app as we only have a certain number of children who can join. Miss Sims will not be able to book children on for you. This makes it fair and on a first come first served basis. If you need Miss Sims to show you how to book via the app, please ask for her help. You will also have to book breakfast club on the app.

Collecting Children Early:

We have had a lot of parents requesting to collect their children early recently. I would like to remind you that you can only collect your child early from school if they have an appointment or for an exceptional circumstance. From now on, we will require written evidence of the appointment.

Hot Weather:

Now that the hot weather is here, please make sure all children come in with sun cream on, a sun hat and has a water bottle with them.

Parking:

When parking outside school at drop off and collection times, please do not park on the double yellow lines outside or opposite the school. I do not want to receive any more emails of complaint from local residents!



PTFA Events:

Our welcome BBQ will be held after school on Friday 16th September. Please put this date in your diary!

Attendance update:

We are working in partnership with parents, carers and Bristol City Council to ensure all of our pupils maximise their attendance. We would like to thank parents and carers for the work you have done in ensuring your children have received education over the last few challenging years due to the pandemic. Now that the circumstances have changed, it is vital for all children to return to schools and other settings to minimise as far as possible the longer-term impact of the pandemic on their education, wellbeing and wider development. The usual rules on school attendance continue to apply, including:

- parents' duty to send their child to school regularly where they are of compulsory school age;
- schools' responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence
- the availability of local authorities to use legal sanctions, including penalty notices and prosecution in court.

If you are worried about your child attending school the first port of call is to discuss your concerns with us directly. Our staff who may be able to help, and all schools work closely with health and council teams who may also be able to help if needed.

We have had a lot of request of absence forms handed in within the last few weeks. We would like to remind you that only requests for exceptional circumstances will be authorised. If your request is unauthorised, the absence will be looked at and if your child has more than 4 days off within a 10 week period, you could receive a penalty notice.

Class	Yearly Attendance	this week's attendance	Late sessions this week
Reception	88.7%	77.5%	12
Year 1	90.7%	88.5%	6
Year 2	89.8%	87.3%	7
Year 3	93.2%	91.2%	8
Year 4	94.0%	90.0%	7
Year 5	91.4%	87.5%	2
Year 6	90.2%	94.7%	14
Total	91.2%	88.0%	56

Thank you to those who attend regularly. Please remember to phone the school office if your child is going to be absent. If we do not hear from you, we will ring you and then may also make a home visit if we are unable to contact you.

Thank you to those who arrive on time. Remember, children can go straight to class from 8:45am or attend breakfast club from 8am if necessary. If we receive pupil premium funding for your child then breakfast club is free. If your child is constantly late to school this can affect their self esteem and they could be missing out on valuable reading, phonics or Maths activities and interventions.

However, please be aware of waiting 48 hours before your child returns to school if your child has had a tummy bug and if they have symptoms of covid, we advise for you to lateral flow test them before leaving for school.



Free Holiday Activities:

Families can now find free and paid for school holiday activities via the new Your Holiday Hub (YHH) website: [Your Holiday Hub Bristol - Your Holiday Hub Bristol](#) The popular YHH programme is returning this summer offering children and young people hundreds of free, fun activities across Bristol over the six-week summer holiday. The new website means families can now search for school holiday activities - including free YHH places for children on free school meals (FSM) as well as paid for activities and clubs. The new website makes it easier for families in Bristol to find holiday activities, all in one place, by conveniently searching what's available by location, age, or activity. Organisations offering activities can also access resources on the website as well as input and update the activities and clubs they are providing over the school holidays. The website will be updated for each holiday to reflect which activities are available over the summer, winter, and Easter school holidays. YHH activities include cookery classes, sports, drama and learning about wildlife and the environment, and each four-hour holiday activity also includes a nutritious meal and food education.

Take care,



Mrs Kingston.

Important Dates:

Term 1:

Thursday 1 st September	Inset day
Friday 2 nd September	Inset day
Monday 5 th September	Start of Term 1
Friday 16 th September	Welcome BBQ Holy Cross Feast day

