



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs.J.Kingston

12th April 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

What a busy end of term we had last Friday!

We welcomed Fr Michael Healey in to celebrate Mass on the theme of Palm Sunday. Fr Michael was particularly impressed with the children's joyful singing. A special thank you goes to our First Holy Communion children who read for us.

Also, on Friday we held our annual Eggmobile race and children had Easter egg hunts in their classes where the Easter bunny made a special appearance. Well done to the children who won their Eggmobile races: Miracle YR, Christian Y1, Sinead Y2, Isaiah Y3, Frankie Y4, Cairo Y5 and Maggie Y6. Also, well done to the children who won best designed Eggmobile: Theo YR, John Y1, Mia Y2, Max Y3, Baz Y4, Frankie Y5 and Vayah Y6.

To round off the day, Year 6 held a tea dance which their parents attended. They danced a range of wartime dances and served cakes made from rationed ingredients to taste.

Last week we also held a Station of the Cross assembly and a Lenten Penitential service in preparation for Easter and Holy Week. The children were given the chance to reflect on making changes during Lent. We hope that you see an improved attitude in their behaviour during the Easter holidays.

Staffing update:

We said goodbye (temporarily) to Mrs James on Friday as she left to take up an exciting role as Head Teacher of St Nicholas of Tolentine RC Primary School for Terms 5 and 6 of this year. We are so proud of her and know she will be a wonderful addition to the school. We will, of course, miss her here at Holy Cross and look forward to hearing about how well she is doing in this new exciting role. Miss Mitchell will teach the Year 2 class every morning with Mrs Edwards continuing to teach them every afternoon for consistency. I know you will join us in wishing Mrs James and Miss Mitchell well in their new roles.

I am pleased to announce that Miss Stroud has successfully been appointed as acting Assistant Head Teacher at Holy Cross for terms 5 and 6. This is a wonderful opportunity for Miss Stroud and she has much to offer in this new role. Miss Mitchell will teach EYFS on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons so Miss Stroud can be released from class.



Mrs Sanchez is returning from her maternity leave after the Easter holidays on a part time basis. She will be leading interventions in Years 3, 4, and 5 on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

PTFA News:

The PTFA had a meeting last week and have come up with some ideas for the rest of this academic year.

- They would like two parents from each class to volunteer to help with volunteering at activities, act as class contacts and to come to the AGM zoom meeting. If you would like to volunteer please email ptfaholycrossbedminster@gmail.com
- PTFA BBQ Friday 29th April at 5.30pm. £1 per adult entrance. Music food and stalls. Food will be Indian food and burgers. If there are any parents who can offer acoustic music for the barbecue please could they email ptfaholycrossbedminster@gmail.com

Covid update:

From Friday 1st April, the rules have once again changed regarding managing Covid symptoms and testing. Tests are not available free of charge. However, if you or your child have respiratory symptoms or a high temperature you are advised to stay home until you feel well enough to go about your daily life and your temperature has subsided. The advised period to stay home is 3 days for children.

We had another 5 confirmed positive cases of coronavirus across the school this week. Please continue to be vigilant and keep your child home if they have symptoms. The new recommendation is 3 days or until a high temperature has subsided. We also seem to have a tummy bug in school again this week. Again, please keep your child home until 48 hours after illness to stop the spread.

COVID-19 vaccinations for 5 - 11 year olds now available:

We have been asked by BCC to share this information with you.

The NHS is now offering COVID-19 vaccines to children aged 5 to 11 years. Appointments are being held in dedicated children's clinics across our area and can be booked online via the [National Booking Service](#) or by calling 119. Some walk-in clinics are also available and details of these, along with information about all the vaccination options in our area, can be found at www.grabajab.net.

Children's clinics are being run by GPs, community pharmacies and the Vaccination Centre @ UWE Bristol, where themed child-friendly pods have been created to make the Centre feel welcoming for young children. Younger children receive a lower (paediatric) vaccine dose. More information about the vaccination and the effects of COVID-19 in young children can be found [here](#).

Salad Bar:

Salad bar will be returning next term.

Snacks:

Please remember children are not given a government provided snack for playtime in Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6). Please provide your child with a healthy snack if you wish. A polite reminder that crisps and chocolate bars do not count as a healthy snack!

Road safety and parking:



Thank you to all those who continue to park safely around school. Remember, corners, zig zags and double yellow lines need to be kept free for safety. Unfortunately, some residents are unable to gain access to their own garages due to parents parking illegally on the double yellow lines on Dean Kane opposite the Southbank Club. Please do not park illegally around school so as to help us get on well with our neighbours. Ben, our PCSO, attended school last week to check safety around school at drop off and pick up times.

Assemblies/Visitors:

Class assemblies and other events for this term have been added to the calendar. If you are able to help in your child's class with reading or other activities, please let your child's teacher know via tapestry or class dojo. Please continue to join us for stay and play/read/count sessions every Thursday from 8:40 – 9:10am. Please also join us for Celebration Assembly every Monday and all parents are welcome to all class Assemblies every Friday. We will endeavour to inform you if your child is to receive an award at Celebration Assembly.

Confirmation preparation:

If you have an older child who is in Year 8 or above, they are now able to apply to make their confirmation. Classes will begin after Easter on Saturday 23rd April at Emmaus House from 10am till 12:30pm for four fortnightly gatherings leading up to Confirmation itself.

Each person applies to their Parish Priest and then will be asked to fill in the requisite form expressing their own free choice to be confirmed. Please ask the parish priest where you attend Mass.

Nut free school:

Please remember that we have a number of children with nut allergies: some airborne. This means that we need to **insist that all products sent into schools are nut free**. There are some food items you would not think contained nuts so please can all parents check labelling when making packed lunches.

Please check if all treats are nut free if you are sending them in for your child's birthday. Even cakes that say may contain nuts can be dangerous for some of our children. We are unable to give them out if this is the case.

Attendance update:

From after Easter, we will be working closely with our school EWO to improve attendance as the legal duty for isolation has now lapsed. There are a number of pupils whose attendance is a real concern and we want to work closely with parents to improve the situation so pupils are in school as much as possible. The target for all pupils is set at 96.1% and any figure below is a concern. If your child's attendance falls below 90 %, you will be invited in for a meeting after Easter so we can plan how to improve for the rest of the year.

Congratulations to the following children who have 100% attendance since September:

Tahia, Esme, Robin G, Tyler H, Sophia, Alisha, Maryam and Ayaan.

Any child who has 100% attendance at the end of the school year will receive a reward.



Class	Yearly Attendance	This week's attendance	Late sessions this week
Reception	90.2%	95.4%	17
Year 1	89.4%	81.1%	5
Year 2	89.3%	88.2%	9
Year 3	92.2%	94.1%	15
Year 4	93.9%	93.3%	5
Year 5	91.0%	95.4%	8
Year 6	88.2%	88.5%	5
Total	90.6%	90.8%	64

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.

We have been asked by our EWO to issue penalty notice fines when a child is absent for more than 4 days within a 10 week period.

However, please be aware of waiting 48 hours before your child returns to school if your child has had a tummy bug.

Finally:

I hope you have a wonderful Easter break with your families and friends.

There are lots of Masses available to attend during Holy Week. Please follow this link for more information: <https://cliftdiocese.com/bristol-south-deanery/>

Take care,



Mrs Kingston.



Important Dates:

Term 5

Monday 25 th April	Inset Day
Tuesday 26 th April	Start of Term 5
Friday 29 th April	Mass 9.15am PTFA BBQ 5.30pm
Monday 2 nd May	Bank Holiday
Wednesday 4 th May	Year 1 and Year 6 Trip
Friday 6 th May	Year 1 class assembly 9.15am
Monday 9 th May	Year 6 SATS week
Friday 13 th May	Reception class assembly 9.15am
Monday 16 th May	Year 5 Trip to Bristol Zoo
Tuesday 17 th May	Year 3 trip to Caerleon
Thursday 19 th May	Year 4 Trip to Museum
Friday 20 th May	Year 6 class assembly 9.15am
Wednesday 25 th May	Reception trip to Windmill Hill City Farm
Friday 27 th May	End of term Year 5 class assembly 9.15am

