



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs.J.Kingston

1st April 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

On Friday morning, our Year 2 class presented their learning from this term in their class Assembly to the whole school. It was such a joyful start to the day – the highlight of which was when everyone in the Hall (including the Year 2 parents) joined in a whole school dance. They all spoke and sang so well and reminded us of how important performing in front of a live audience is for building confidence.

On Friday, children were invited wear blue and yellow to school to show support for all those affected by the war in Ukraine and make a donation to the emergency relief fund for all victims of the war.

On Thursday, Fr Rupert came back to school so the children could say goodbye to him. We were all so pleased to see him and hear him speak of the future with such and hope. Fr Rupert was such a good friend to us here at Holy Cross and we wish him all the very best for the future. As he said we do not say goodbye but that we will see him again.

On Wednesday, the whole school enjoyed workshops delivered by K'Z Dance around Holi festival. Each class took part in learning a traditional dance routine in the morning and then were able to perform to parents at the end of the day. After the performance the children, staff and parents took part in throwing coloured powder at each other, which created a vibrant and vivid display for all to see. All the children, staff and parents had fantastic fun and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

On Tuesday, our new PCSO led an Assembly where the children could ask him questions about his role in the community.

On Monday, our Year 2 class visited Windmill Hill City Farm for a trip. They enjoyed picking vegetables and cooking them in a stir fry as well as seeing and holding a range of animals. They were a credit to us and really enjoyed the experience.

Yesterday, a number of our pupils made their First Reconciliation at St Gerald Majella church. Please pray for them and for all those preparing for their first holy communion over the coming months.



PTFA News:

The PTFA had a meeting this 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
- Cake sale on Friday 8th April. Please send in donation cakes to the school office on the day.
- 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.

Staffing update:

Following this term spent supporting St Nicholas of Tolentine RC Primary School in a leadership role, governors have agreed for Mrs James to be seconded as Head teacher there 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.

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.

Easter:

We will be holding a range of Easter activities and services this week in preparation for holy Week. Parents are warmly invited to join us for Mass on Friday at 9:15am. The children will also have the opportunity to take part in Eggmobile races on Friday and hopefully the Easter bunny may make an appearance.

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.



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. I received yet another complaint from a local resident on Friday. 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 and parking services have been contacted and will be making spot checks this week 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.

Coronavirus:

We have another 4 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.

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. We now have the forms in school if you wish to request one.

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 working closely with our school EWO to improve attendance as the legal duty for isolation has now lapsed. There are a number of pupils who 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% 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.

Attendance and Punctuality:

Class	Yearly Attendance	This week's attendance	Late sessions this week
Reception	89.9%	94.6%	5
Year 1	89.7%	90.7%	7
Year 2	89.4%	91.4%	13
Year 3	92.1%	97.0%	15
Year 4	94.0%	92.7%	3
Year 5	90.8%	98.8%	16
Year 6	88.2%	84.8%	10
Total	90.6%	92.8%	69

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:

Thank you for all your support.

Take care,



Mrs Kingston.



Important Dates:

Date	Event
Monday 4 th April	End of year celebration assembly 9.15am
Friday 8 th April	End of term Mass 9.15am Egg mobile races

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
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

