



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs.J.Kingston

28th June 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly, apologies for the delay in the newsletter being sent out. I didn't have chance to complete it on Friday of last week as I was having a wonderful time at Camp with our Y6 class! The children were an absolute delight to spend time with and it was wonderful to see them working together to ensure fun was had by everyone. They were a credit to their parents and to the school. It was lovely to see the children enjoying themselves so much and trying new things.

Unfortunately, this week did not start off as well as last week ended for us in school. Yesterday, we were informed of a positive coronavirus case in our Y2 class, and have had to close the class to pupils until Monday 5th July. It is a stark reminder that the virus is still with us. Please make sure you do not send children into school if they or anyone on the family has symptoms or has tested positive. I do appreciate that it is a difficult time but we want our pupils to have the best chances of remaining in school until the end of the year – especially Y6.

Staffing update:

Ms Fitzgerald and Ms Fairburn visited our school on Monday as preparation for next year. They spent the day looking at our planning systems and learning the school routines.

I am still finalising some details of the staffing structure for next year and so will let you know the class teachers and support staff for each year group in next week's newsletter.

Mrs Beach will be leaving us at the end of this year when her contract ends. She is returning to work in the nursery sector. We thank her for all her hard work and wish her well in the future.

Summer Fair:

Unfortunately, we have had to cancel our Summer Fair planned for this weekend due to the restrictions still in place. The PTFA are keen to treat the children in some small way before the end of the year. We will keep you posted with their plans.



Sports Days:

Each class will have their own sports day this year which parents will be invited to watch (in a closed bubble of 1 parent per child) in the week beginning 12th July. The children will need a T-shirt in the colour of their houses.

International week:

Each class will take part in a series of activities linked to the countries and cultures associated with pupils from our during the week beginning 5th July. On Friday 9th July, all children are invited to wear clothing linked to their chosen or family country and to bring in food to share with their classmates.

Parking at drop off:

We have seen a huge improvement in safe parking and turning outside school this week. Thank you. Please continue to follow the guidelines below to keep everyone safe.

Please do not pull up outside school on the zig zags to drop off, even if you are late or in a rush. This is very dangerous and we do not want to see any accidents. Also, I have been asked to remind you to not park in the guesthouse or do a U-turn on the bend outside it.

The double yellow lines and zig zags are there to keep your children safe and parking services can issue fines to anyone parked on them.

There are often plenty of parking spaces outside the doctor's surgery further up the road both in the mornings and afternoons.

Please turn around by carrying on up Dean Lane past school and using Southville Road (the right turning by the doctors/St Paul's Church) and come back down Acramans or Alpha Road.

I would also like to politely remind you that the speed limit around school is 20 mph and that I am concerned that the "little parking people" have been damaged by cars hitting them.

Please do not leave your engines running when dropping off or collecting your child/ren.

Appropriate gaming/messaging and watching:

Please remember that all primary aged children are too young to be on social media. If your child has a mobile phone, please remember to check it regularly to ensure they are safe. If you see any inappropriate messaging or viewing please inform school and you may also need to inform the police depending on the level of the language and images shared. There are still incidents being reported of children using unkind and unacceptable language in their messages, and that some children are talking to strangers online.



Uniform:

PE kits are allowed to be worn for the full day on your child's PE day. Correct kit is navy bottoms (joggers, shorts, skorts or leggings) and a plain white t shirt (polo shirts may be worn). When it is your child's PE day they may wear trainers of any colour to school. We recommend that the children wear shorts, skorts or lightweight leggings in the hot weather.

As the end of the school year approaches, we are collecting uniform for a uniform swap which will be held in the summer holidays. This will be a financial help for some of our families and will help the planet by recycling.

Coronavirus update:

Please do not send your child/ren to school if they are unwell. If they have any coronavirus symptoms, please isolate and get a test to keep us all safe.

Parish Sunday Mass:

The planned restart date is now Sunday 25th July. Spaces do not need to be booked in advance. If you are able to help as a volunteer, please e mail Fr Rupert directly.

First Holy Communion:

Unfortunately, this means that there needs to be a new date for the children to make their First Holy Communion who prepared last year. Children who wish to make their first holy communion this year are invited to do so on Sunday 22nd August. Classes will continue every Wednesday after school until 4:30pm. Once the children complete the classes, they can make their first communion on any Sunday in September (arranged with Fr Rupert) if they cannot make the 22nd August. As restrictions will be lifted by then, there will be no limit on guests for each child.

Attendance:

Class	Weekly Attendance
Reception	98.8%
Year 1	91.0%
Year 2	98.3%
Year 3	98.6%
Year 4	97.0%
Year 5	97.1%
Year	98.6%
Total	97.0%

Thank you to those who attend regularly. Attendance to school is now mandatory and we are expected to monitor and address Attendance concerns. 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.

It is still the expectation that children do not attend school if they are displaying symptoms, they can return when a negative test has been achieved. We have found that the Coronavirus PCR tests are now taking less than 12 hours in some cases, so



children are only needing to be absent for a day or two. If your child has symptoms they have to get a PCR test to be able to return to school, we have been advised by the DFE that a lateral flow test is not sufficient.

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

Our motto for this term is:

"Don't be discouraged." It may seem harder over the next 4 weeks as we thought all restrictions would be lifted but it will pass. We need to keep going.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rOooelyA9Ws&list=RDMMUVb8OJEQGIQ&index=2>



Mrs Kingston

Key Dates:

Friday 2 nd July	-	Selected new reception children sessions
Monday 5 th July	-	International Week
Friday 9 th July	-	Reports out
		Selected new reception children sessions
Monday 12 th July	-	Sports days during the week
		Shuffle up afternoon
Friday 16 th July	-	Leavers Mass 9.15am
Monday 19 th July	-	Year 6 leavers play 1.30pm
Wednesday 21 st July-		End of term
		Leavers assembly 9.15am
Monday 6 th September	-	Children return to school for Term 1

