



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs.J.Kingston

7th May 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week the children have loved being able to pick their own lunches from the salad bar. There has been lots of excitement in the dining room.

I have been conducting lesson observations and pupil progress meetings with the teachers to ensure the very best quality of teaching is being delivered across the whole school. It is wonderful to be with the children in their lessons seeing their learning and experiencing the school from their point of view. Every classroom I have been in this week has been full of joy and I have seen the children being taught in a way so as to reach their full potential academically, socially and emotionally.

NSPCC Number's Day:

Thank you to all those children who came dressed in numbers today. The children had a wonderful day taking part in a wide range of number activities across the school. We also collected money for the NSPCC, thank you to all the parents who donated.

Parking at drop off:

We have had a number of complaints from the local residents about irresponsible parking and turning around in the mornings when parents are dropping children off at school. Please do not park in the guesthouse or do a U-turn on the bend outside it. Please turn around by carrying on up Dean Lane and using Southville Road (the right turning by the doctors/St Paul's Church) and come back down Acramans Road. I would also like to remind you to please do not pull up outside school on the zig zags to drop off, even if you are in a rush. This is very dangerous and we do not want to see any accidents.

Parent volunteers:

Last evening after school, Borek's parents and Tommy and Zoe's parents gave up their time to install some new chalk boards in the Year 1 playground. We are very grateful to them for helping us improve the school grounds for the children. There is a list of jobs that we would appreciate more help with! If you are able to help with any of these jobs, there will be another "parent work session" after school next Thursday. Please come to the front door at 5pm if you are able to spare some time.



Class Photos:

On Friday 14th May, Jeffersons Studios will be in school to take the end of year class photos. Please make sure all children are in full uniform.

Drama workshop:

Yesterday, the children in EYFS and KS1 enjoyed a drama workshop where they became undersea creatures. They had a wonderful time and a leaflet went home with more information on how they can join drama classes if they wish.

Coronavirus update:

Fortunately, we continue to have no reported cases of coronavirus in school, and we are very grateful to all those parents who keep their children home and take a test if they have symptoms. This is now a very quick and easy process. I had to take my own child for a test one afternoon this week and the result came back overnight so she did not have to miss even 1 day of school.

Staff continue to take twice weekly lateral flow tests and take part in the COMMINS testing. There is one last opportunity to sign your child up. An e mail with further details was sent out this week.

As parents of pupils in a primary school you are also able to order Lateral Flow tests for you to use at home, to help reduce the spread of the virus in the community now that lockdown restrictions are being lifted. Please see the link below for further information:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/all-households-with-children-of-school-aged-to-get-rapid-covid-19-tests-per-person-per-week>

The requirement to self-isolate can be financially challenging but there is support available. Further information can be found through this link:

[Test and Trace Payment Support - bristol.gov.uk](https://www.bristol.gov.uk/test-and-trace-payment-support)

Uniform:

As the shops are all open as usual now, please ensure your child/ren come to school in the correct uniform. Our uniform is grey bottoms (skirts, trousers, or shorts), white or red polo shirts with a navy (dark) blue sweatshirt, hoodie or cardigan. (Royal blue and red cardigans are not our correct uniform.) Children can wear summer uniform from this term which is shorts or a navy and white checked summer dress/short suit. We have spare uniform if you need any more, so please ask Miss Sims. A polite reminder, that skirts should be knee length, shoes should be plain black and not trainers, and that nail varnish, temporary tattoos and dangly ear-rings are not allowed in school. PE kits are allowed to be worn for the full day on your child's PE day. Correct kit is navy bottoms (joggers, shorts 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.



Parish Sunday Mass:

Fr Rupert has completed the risk assessment and he is planning how and when to restart Mass in the Hall. We will let you know as soon as we have an update.

The Vatican has dedicated the month of May to prayer for an end to the coronavirus pandemic. Please join Catholics across the world to pray for this cause.

Attendance:

Class	Weekly Attendance
Reception	94.9%
Year 1	90.5%
Year 2	96.2%
Year 3	98.7%
Year 4	99.1%
Year 5	97.6%
Year	98.3%
Total	96.5%

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 then 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.

At the end of this term we will be issuing our usual attendance letters to inform you if your child's attendance is cause for concern. If there is a serious concern, Mrs James will contact you to arrange a meeting to see how we can support you.

This week's message is believe in yourself – you are strong and will get through:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lunFlc-8r8o>



Mrs Kingston

Key Dates:

Friday 14th May – Class photos

Thursday 27th May – Last day of term

