



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs.J.Kingston

4th December 2020.

Dear Parent/Carer,

We held our Advent service on Tuesday and it was wonderful to hear the children singing (in small groups and side by side) all the traditional songs we sing to prepare for Christmas. I also spent a wonderful half hour with some pupils from Year 2 decorating the Christmas tree and each classroom has been decorated for Christmas. Even though things are very different this year, we are trying to help the children see the positive aspects of this time. We are very blessed to have such a lovely set of pupils and families here at Holy Cross.

Coronavirus update:

Over these last 2 weeks of term, it is vitally important that children do not come to school if they are displaying any symptoms. We are very conscious in school that with Christmas approaching families and staff do not want to be spending it in isolation. Many of our staff are hoping to travel to see their families over the Christmas as, I am sure, many of you are and so please help us to ensure everyone gets to have an enjoyable Christmas. Please make sure you drop off and collect your child at the correct time, and that all adults wear masks when entering the school premises.

Thank you for your support in continuing to follow the guidelines to help keep us all as safe as possible.

Christmas jumper day/Talent show:

Next Friday (11th) is Save the children Christmas jumper day and all children are invited to come to school wearing a Christmas jumper, and to bring in a donation. We will also hold our annual talent show on this day. This will be recorded and made available on the website for you to view.

Christmas Cards:

Each class now has a Christmas post box for any children who wish to bring cards in for their peers. All Christmas cards need to be brought into school by next Friday (11th) and they will then be quarantined until the following week before being handed out. Just for this year we are asking pupils to only bring in cards for their own classes. However, there will be a staff box in the Hall for any pupils wishing to send cards to other staff who may have helped them this term. Please remember cards are not obligatory and many parents prefer to make a donation to a charity.



Christmas Productions:

KS1 teachers have sent out letters last week about costumes for their class nativities. If you are unable to help with the costumes please let the class teacher know. The productions will be recorded to be watched virtually. More information will follow.

KS2 are also rehearsing for their virtual Carol Concert. No costumes are required.

Reception Art Work

We are very proud to announce that Zarah from our Reception Class has created a piece of art at home which has now been selected to be on the cover of a music album in Holland. We are so proud of you Zarah, what an amazing artist you are!

Online activity:

Please make sure you monitor your child's activities online and you are aware of who they are interacting with. Please spend some time checking their settings to ensure they are private. Also, please remind your children that phone messages need to be as kind as face to face comments, and the block caller function should be used if someone is not following this rule.

Attendance:

We are currently reviewing individual attendance and have, unfortunately, noticed that some children's attendance is causing concern. It is now mandatory for all children to attend school. If your child has had to self-isolate, this does not affect their attendance. We will be making contact with parents to discuss attendance over the next few weeks. If you have concerns with your child's attendance and would like to discuss this further, please call the office to make an appointment with Mrs James.

Community larder/fridge:

If you need any support with food parcels please see Miss Sims. If you would like to donate to our community larder we always appreciate donations for those in need.

Domestic Abuse Support:

Please remember if you need help we can put you in contact with the Assertive Outreach Domestic Abuse Advisor for the Families in Focus Team in south Bristol. Support can be given in the following ways:

Work with victims of domestic abuse (both current and in the past) who have been unable to move forward with their lives as a result of this in the following ways:

- Through regular phone calls/zooms etc to discuss the situation and how best to progress to enable the best outcome for them and their children
- Work with victims to identify what DV is and the ways that it may manifest itself (coercive control etc)
- Help victims to gain more self-confidence and self esteem
- Risk assessment
- Safety Planning
- Referral to Freedom Programmes
- Support families to flee their domestic abuse and have links to the Safe Houses throughout Bristol, South Glos, North Somerset and further afield
- Take part in professionals meetings to support and advocate for victims.



As always, thank you for your understanding and support.

J. Kingston

Mrs Kingston

Important Dates:

Friday 11th December – Christmas Jumper Day

Wednesday 16th December – Christmas Dinner

Friday 18th December – End of Term 2

