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"With Jesus as our guide; we love, live and learn together."

Newsletter 21: Friday 23rd February 2024

Dear Parents

I hope that you and all of your families had a good half term break. It was great to see all of the children back in school on Monday.

Please remember to follow your Lenten 'Walk with Me' calendar to provide a daily focus for your family during this very special season of the church's year.



Teacher Training Days Next Term:

School will be closed to all pupils on **Monday 8th April** (first day of summer term) and **Monday 3rd June** (first day of summer second half term) for staff training. These are our final inset days for this school year.

Tolerance and Diversity Day – Friday 1st March:

On Friday 1st March there will be an assembly at 9.05am with a guest speaker - Imran Kotwal. He will be talking to parents and pupils to provide an overview of the Islamic faith as part of our British Values and multi-cultural work. Imran will then be leading workshops with all our children throughout the day, enabling our children to understand more about another faith.

World Book Day - Vocabulary Themed Fancy Dress – Thursday 7th March:

Every year we always dress up for World Book Day. Just like last year we would like you to participate in a 'Vocabulary Parade'.

We would like you to dress up as a word which we don't always hear every day. Here are some tips to help you plan your costume:

1. Research ideas: search for 'Miss Alaineus, A Vocabulary Disaster' or 'Vocabulary Parade' on Google / Pinterest etc.
2. Choose a word.
3. Make a costume – the more creative the better!
4. Make a label with your word and definition on.
5. Strut into school!

Add the date to your calendar and start planning your outfits!

Easter Bonnet Parade – Friday 12th April:

Our annual Easter Bonnet Parade for our Nursery, Reception, Year One and Year Two pupils will be taking place at the end of the **first week of the summer term** on **Friday 12th April at 2.40pm**. This has been moved so that our parade takes place during the season of Easter (rather than Lent).

If you would like your child to participate in this fun event then please bring in an Easter bonnet (which they have made at home) on this day. Nursery pupils are most welcome to come back to school for the assembly in the afternoon. Our school council will judge the winners.

In order to ensure that a safe number of pupils and family members are in the hall, **admission will be by ticket only** and this will be restricted to **one ticket per pupil**. These are free and will be available from the school office from **Tuesday 9th April**.

Parent Consultation Appointments:

This term's parent consultation meetings will be taking place **in the school hall** on **Monday 4th** and **Wednesday 6th March** between **3.30pm** and **5.45pm**. Our classrooms will be open for you to view your child's work. We will write to all parents with further details, including appointment times, shortly. Please remember that these meetings are for **parents and teachers only**: there is no provision for children to be supervised at school. **We therefore ask you NOT to bring children back into school on these evenings.**

Number Fact of the Week:

It is really important for our pupils to learn their multiplication facts as quickly as possible. By the end of Y4, it is expected that all pupils will be able to instantly recall all of these up to 12 x 12.

Every week, Mr Shanahan, our maths leader, will be setting a challenge to learn a specific number fact.

Be prepared: when he sees you around school he will be testing you!

This week's number fact is:

$$9 \times 11 = 99$$

or

$$11 \times 9 = 99$$



Reception - Y6 Reading Challenges:

Our Reading Challenges are a great way to ensure your child is reading a range of texts which are age-related (with some challenging texts too!)

To make it super easy to participate, we have uploaded a direct form link which is accessible through your Marvellous Me accounts. The form is called 'YR RC' / 'Y1 RC' etc and they are also available on the school website – just click:

'Curriculum and Gallery > Reading' and scroll down to 'Reading Challenge'.

Or click on the links here:

[Y6](#)

[Y5](#)

[Y4](#)

[Y3](#)

[Y2](#)

[Y1](#)

[Reception](#)

Every time your child reads a book from the specially selected list, they just need to complete an entry on the form and they will automatically be entered into a prize draw!

The next prize draw will be on Friday 8th March.

All of these books will support your child's love of reading and further enhance their vocabulary and encourage a love of reading.

All children should aim to have entered at least once by then. Good luck!

Masses next Half Term:

All **parents** and **parishioners** are warmly invited to all of our school masses in **school** at **9.15am** or in **church** at **11.30am**.

Date:	Information:
Wednesday 28 th February	Infants' mass in school hall at 9.15am .
Wednesday 6 th March	Y3 and Y6 joining the parish for mass in church at 11.30am
Wednesday 13 th March	Y4 and Y5 joining the parish for mass in church at 11.30am
Wednesday 20 th March	Y3 Thanksgiving Mass for the Sacrament of Reconciliation in school at 9.15am

Diary Dates:

Date:	Information:
Monday 26 th February	Y1 & Y2 Multi Skills Club 3.15pm – 4.15pm
Tuesday 27 th February	Y4 & Y5 Gymnastics Club 3.15pm – 4.15pm
Wednesday 28 th February	Y2 Educational Visit to Thinktank
Thursday 29 th February	KS2 French Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Friday 1 st March	Tolerance & Diversity Assembly in the school hall at 9.05am (all parents are invited to join us)
Monday 4 th March	Parents' Evening 3.35 – 6.00pm in school hall
Wednesday 6 th March	Parents' Evening 3.35 – 6.00pm in school hall

Date:	Information:
Friday 8 th March	Celebration Assembly (Gifts from God) in the school hall at 9.05am (all parents are invited to join us)
Tuesday 12 th March	Y1 Educational Visit to Dudley Zoo
Wednesday 13 th March	Y6 Parents' Meeting (KS2 SATS) in school hall at 5.00pm
Thursday 14 th March	Y3 Educational Visit to Hindu Temple Y2 Family Prayer Service in school hall at 2.40pm (all Y2 parents are invited to join us)
Friday 15 th March	Y3 pupils will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in church at 2.15pm
Monday 18 th March	Y4 Holy Week assembly at 9.05am (all parents are welcome)
Tuesday 19 th March	Y3 Holy Week assembly at 9.05am (all parents are welcome)
Wednesday 20 th March	Y3 Thanksgiving Mass for the Sacrament of Reconciliation in school at 9.15am
Thursday 21 st March	Y5 Holy Week assembly at 9.05am (all parents are welcome)
Friday 22 nd March	Y6 Holy Week assembly at 9.05am (all parents are welcome) LAST DAY OF SPRING TERM

Happy birthday to:

Lilly T (Y6), Duriel B (Y3) and Emelie O (Y2) who all have a special day to celebrate next week.

Yours sincerely

A. Neenan

Mr A.G. Neenan

Headteacher

One of the precepts of being a Catholic is to attend Sunday Mass (or the vigil Mass for Sunday) every week and on all Holy Days of Obligation. This weekly commitment gives us the opportunity to celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord which is why Sundays are known as the Lord's day.

Mass at Holy Name Church:
Saturday 12.30pm
Sunday 8.30am and 10.30am

Second Sunday of Lent (Year B)

Gospel: Mark 9:2-10

In this Sunday's gospel reading, Jesus goes up a mountain to be alone with his friends, the disciples Peter, James and John. While he was on the mountain, a great change came over him. His clothes became bright and shining white and Elijah and Moses appeared and talked to him. Do you know who they were?

How did Peter, James and John feel when they saw the change that had happened to Jesus? Why were they frightened?

Then a cloud came over and Jesus's friends heard a voice, saying "This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him." Whose voice do you think this was? What do you think Peter, James and John must have felt when they heard God speaking to them from the cloud?

On the mountain the disciples saw Jesus's true loving self shining like the rays of the sun. If we listen to Jesus and spend time with God in our hearts then we too can let our true light shine brightly. For example, we could be kinder to other people, or extra helpful.

You can hear so much more when you really take time to listen. So how do you think we can best listen to what Jesus has to say to us in our lives? Could we, for example, pray more often, or perhaps listen to the gospel stories very carefully?

Our Catholic Mission:

God asks us to be kind and generous to others and treat them as we would like to be treated. Do you think you could listen to God more this Lent? How? What will you do to try and live more as God wants? In Lent we spend extra time praying and we think about how we can help other people, and in this way let our true light shine out from inside us.

Prayer:

God of life,
help us to listen to your Son Jesus and to live our lives as he asks us,
making a real change to ourselves and the lives of all we meet.
Amen.

