

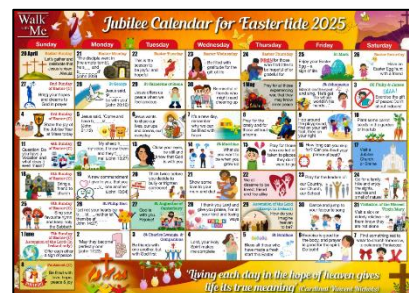
"With Jesus as our guide; we love, live and learn together."

Newsletter 17: Friday 2nd May

Dear Parents

I hope that you and your families all had a good Easter break. It was great to have all of our children back in school on Tuesday.

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



Monday 2nd June – Staff Training Day:

School will be closed to all pupils on this date.

Values and Virtues - Compassionate and Loving:

This half term the values which will be reflecting on are: '**Compassionate and Loving**'.

Miss Edmunds explained in assembly this morning how pupils are growing to be compassionate towards others, near and far, especially the less fortunate; and loving by their just actions and forgiving words.

The word **compassion** comes from two Latin words: *cum* meaning *with* and *passio* meaning *to change*, especially in the sense of *suffering* adverse change. To be compassionate is to experience suffering or change alongside someone else – to listen to their cares and concerns and to share their joys and sorrows, to see the world through their eyes, to step into their shoes, to empathize. Being able to empathize is a virtue very necessary for being a good human being.

Jesus' great commandment is "Love one another." (John 13:34) The more we love others, the more we are truly human and most truly ourselves.

Love is something that is learned not by being taught but by having first experienced it for ourselves. Parents are the first and best teachers by what they say and do (Rite of Baptism). The most important lesson parents teach their children is love. It is by being loved that we learn to love.

Thank you for your valued commitment to supporting the Catholic life of our school.

May - The Month of the Rosary:

May is one of the special months of the year where we focus our minds, hearts and prayers on Mary, our Mother. During the month of May we aim to pray the rosary each day. Each day has a link to the mysteries of the rosary.

Days of the Week	Mysteries of the Rosary	May Rosary Challenge: Please see Miss Edmunds for a Rosary Challenge Sheet. All completed Rosary Challenge sheets returned to Miss Edmunds by Wednesday 4th June will receive a certificate!
Monday & Saturday	The Five Joyful Mysteries	
Tuesday & Friday	The Five sorrowful Mysteries	
Wednesday and Sunday	The Five Glorious Mysteries	
Thursday	The Mysteries of Light (Luminous)	

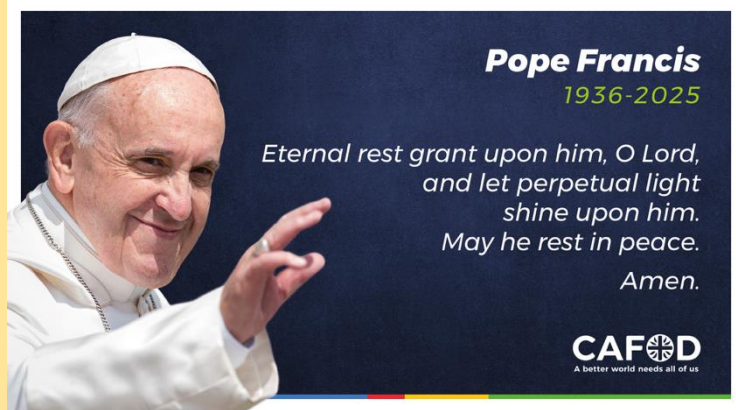


Remembering Pope Francis 1936-2025:

Pope Francis said that his own life story was a journey of hope. He understood that in a world that can feel scary or divided, God's love and the hope it brings is needed more than ever. Pope Francis's influence on the world has been enormous. He reminded us that the earth is a gift to be cherished and called us to act as stewards of our common home.

As the world reacts to the sad news of the death of Pope Francis, please remember him in your prayers by giving thanks for the life of such a special leader:

We pray for Pope Francis; giving thanks for his life and ministry, we entrust him with confidence to God's love. May he rest in peace.



V.E. Day 80th Anniversary Celebrations:

On Thursday 8th May we will be commemorating the 80th anniversary of VE day in school with a dance workshops for all children in Reception - Year 6.

Each class will learn a dance from the 1940s and celebrate in the same way many people did 80 years ago!

If you would like to find out more information about the anniversary of V.E. day and how you could celebrate at home please see the link here: [VE Day 80 - Join the party in a shared moment of celebration!](#)

Please ensure your child has their P.E kit in school for the event.



Y3 Sacramental Dates:

The following dates have been arranged for this term:

Date:	Information:
Wednesday 7 th May	Y3 Family Prayer Service in school hall at 2.30pm (all Y3 parents are invited to join us)
Saturday 17 th May	Y3 First Holy Communion Mass in church at 12.30am
Wednesday 21 st May	Y3 Thanksgiving Mass for the Sacrament of the Eucharist in school at 9.15am



School Choir for First Holy Communion Mass – Saturday 17th May at 12.30pm:

We would be delighted if as many **Y1 – Y6** pupils as possible could take part in our school choir to sing at our First Holy Communion Mass on Saturday 17th May. If your child would like to take part, then please fill in this online form by Tuesday 6th May: [FHC - SCHOOL CHOIR FORM](#)

PTA UPDATE:

We need your help at our Summer BBQ please. Just one hour of your time on Saturday 28th June will make all the difference. In particular we need contacts in year 5. We can help with the costs of the Y6 prom for 2026. There will be a social event for all helpers straight after the BBQ in the Great Barr Club to say thank you.

Please contact Joe McNamara: Joe.mcnamara3@googlemail.com / 07801273086

100% Attenders for Spring Term:

Congratulations to all of the pupils listed below who will be receiving their attendance certificates and badges in assembly next **Friday 9th May** at **9.05am**. All of these pupils achieved 100% attendance last term – a fantastic achievement!

Y6	Y5	Y4	Y3	Y2	Y1	Reception
Samuel A Kacper C Bridget I S Linh P Zachary W	Esther A Maddie A Emily B Emmie G Arabella H Rose H Amria M Symore N King David R D Haysus W	Duriel B Lena C Isla F Brainard I S Arlo L Charlie M Ethan M Umika N Oscar P Martyna R	Emmanuel A Abraham Q A Jayden B Leah B Athena G Rowan G Olivia H Destiny I Edward M Quinn M Alexander M Blessing O E Oliver O Princess R D Fateh S	Christabel A Jax C Ria C Henry G Evan L Litheeshan N Javaughn N Blossom O E Mark O Valentine Q Maja R A Benjamin T Poppy T J Sebastian M	Conor A Tomini A Jayna B Derek B Niall B Ruben J Lyla J Stella K Mia M Enzo M Nathanael M Prince Emmanuel R D	Javanna F Saavi K Arthur M Nancy M Javin N Harry N

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY – HOLY NAME PARISH – HELP FOR FAMILIES:

The St Vincent de Paul society in the parish of Holy Name have asked for this information to be shared with our families:

The aim of our society is to seek and find those in need and provide them with practical support and friendship in a spirit of justice, while tackling the causes of poverty. The help we give **is not limited to Catholic families** - poverty, loneliness and the need to share problems are as urgent and relevant to all communities in Great Barr just as they are in the rest of the country.

To access this help, please contact the Parish Office, and leave your name and contact telephone number and ask for the SVP to contact you. The SVP will then take it from there:



Parish Office: 0121 357 1351 holyname.bham@rcaob.org.uk

School Places Available:

We have a number of school places in our classes in school.

Please contact the school office or apply for a place via Sandwell LA:

[Apply for a school place | Sandwell Council](#)



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 accessible on 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 more books that you read the more chances that you have to win!



School Masses:

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 7 th May	Infants' mass in school hall at 9.15am
Wednesday 14 th May	NO MASS (SATS WEEK)
Wednesday 21 st May	Y3 Thanksgiving Mass for the Sacrament of the Eucharist in school at 9.15am

Diary Dates:

Date:	Information:
Monday 5 th May	SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS – BANK HOLIDAY
Tuesday 6 th May	Y4 Educational Visit to Bishops Wood Y3 & 4 Tennis Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Wednesday 7 th May	Y5 Educational Visit to Black Country Museum Y3 Family Prayer Service in school hall at 2.30pm (all Y3 parents are invited to join us)
Thursday 8 th May	KS2 French Club 3.15 – 4.15pm Y5 & 6 Netball Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Friday 9 th May	Attendance Assembly (all parents are invited to join us)
Monday 12 th May	Y6 SATS week
Tuesday 13 th May	Y3 & 4 Tennis Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Thursday 15 th May	KS2 French Club 3.15 – 4.15pm Y5 & 6 Netball Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Friday 16 th May	Celebration Assembly (Gifts from God) in the school hall at 9.05am (all parents welcome)
Saturday 17 th May	Y3 First Holy Communion Mass in church at 12.30pm
Tuesday 20 th May	Y3 & 4 Tennis Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Wednesday 21 st May	Y3 Thanksgiving Mass for the Sacrament of the Eucharist in school at 9.15am
Thursday 22 nd May	KS2 French Club 3.15 – 4.15pm Y5 & 6 Netball Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Friday 23 rd May	Celebration Assembly (Gifts from God) in the school hall at 9.05am (all parents welcome) Last day of summer 1 st half term

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

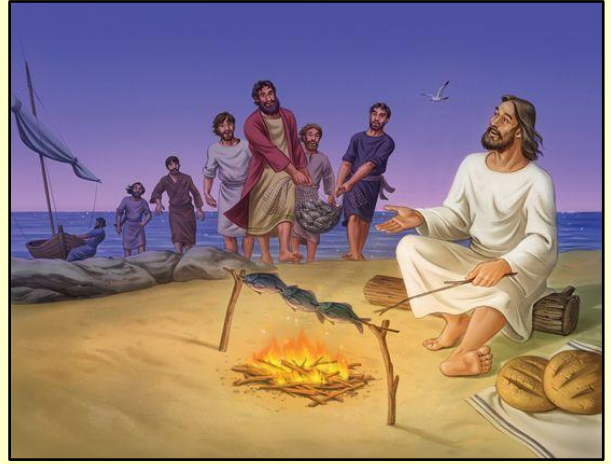
Sunday 8.30am and 10.30am



Third Sunday of Easter (Year B)

Gospel: John 21:1-19

After Jesus had died and risen again, the disciples were out fishing in their boat, when Jesus appeared on the beach. They hadn't managed to catch anything, so Jesus told them to throw out their net again. This time they managed to catch lots and lots of fish.



How do you think the disciples felt about catching so many fish?

The disciples headed back to the beach and they shared some breakfast with Jesus. How do you think the disciples felt about seeing Jesus again and spending time with him?

How do you feel when you see someone you haven't seen for ages? Perhaps you have friends or members of your family who live a long way away. What do you do and say when you see them?

Sitting together with others to eat is a great way to get to know or catch up with people and can be lots of fun. Can you think of a time when you have sat with others to eat a meal? Was it dinner at home? Or school lunch? Or at Easter or another special occasion?

Who was there? And what did you do? Did you eat in silence? Or did you spend time talking to each other? Did you share the same food?

All around the world people come together to eat and share food with each other.

Our Catholic Mission:

As we sit together and eat with others this week, let's think about all the other people around the world who are doing the same thing.

And let's also think about all those people who do not have enough food to eat and what we can do to make sure that everyone has their fair share of food.

Prayer:

Creator God,
you made a world of plenty with enough food for everyone.
As we break bread together,
help us to make sure that all people have the chance
to get the food that they need.
Amen.

Reflection taken from CAFOD Children's Liturgy

