

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

Newsletter 11: Thursday 13th February 2026

Dear Parents

I hope that you are all well and also that you all have a good half term break next week.

Ash Wednesday is during the half term break:
Wednesday 18th February.

You can find out more about Ash Wednesday by clicking this video link and watching it with your child: [Ash Wednesday](#).

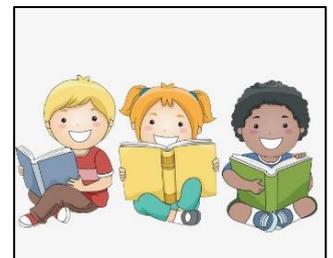
I look forward to seeing everyone back in school on **Monday 23rd February.**



Y1 & Y4 Parent Workshops:

There will be a pupil and parent workshop for **Y4** on **Monday 9th March** at **9.05am**. In this workshop pupils will work with their parents to practise strategies for learning the times tables to help to prepare for the national Y4 Multiplication Tables Check in June.

On **Thursday 12th March** at **9.05am**, there will be a reading workshop for pupils and parents to share how phonics is taught and practised in school to help to prepare for the national Y1 Phonics Screening Check which also takes place in June.



If any parents cannot attend these workshops, a grandparent or other family member is welcome to attend. Please note: only one adult should join us for each child.

Goldfinch Award for Jesuit Values and Virtues:

Congratulations to the following children who have excelled at following the Catholic Schools Pupil Profile values and virtues of '**Curious** and **Active**' this half term.

They will be receiving special certificates in assembly on **Friday 27th February.**

All parents are invited to join us for this assembly. **N.B.** Nursery pupils will be given their certificates in class.



Foundation	Y1	Y2	
Shalom M Isla C	Harry N Hanaa A	Ruben J Lydia R	
Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Jax C Alfie B	Grace F Levi M	Olivia T David O	Symora N Mahan S

Parent Consultation Appointments:

This term's parent consultation meetings will be taking place **in the school hall** on **Monday 2nd** and **Wednesday 4th 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.

KS2 Hot Lunches:

I have been informed by our catering staff that some children have been seeking hot lunches when these have not been booked and paid for by parents. Please make sure that you have booked and paid for lunches in advance as our catering staff only prepare for these numbers. Thank you.

PTA Bingo Night – Friday 20th March:

The PTA will be hosting a Bingo Night in the school hall on this date - doors will be at **6.30pm** for a **7.00pm** start. Bar and snacks will be available along with plenty of prizes! Everyone is welcome! More details will follow.



Disconnect to Reconnect Lenten Challenge!

This Lent, the Catholic School Council is inviting all pupils to take part in our special "Disconnect to Reconnect" Challenge. Lent begins on **Wednesday 18th February – Thursday 2nd April**.

Lent is a time to grow closer to God by praying more, giving more, and making small sacrifices. To help us do this in a fun and meaningful way, we have created a series of simple daily challenges. These include things such as limiting technology, doing good deeds, spending time in prayer, caring for others, recycling, helping at home, and supporting those in need. For more information on how you can participate, click here: <https://www.holynameprimary.co.uk/news/?pid=3&nid=1&storyid=155>

The Wednesday Word:

Please do take time to read the 'Wednesday Word' with your child, which will be uploaded to the school website each week. [You can find it here!](#) This week's issue is a half-term special to include three special Gospel stories and activities!

The Primary School Wednesday Word is an outreach project which shares Sunday's Gospel with all school families in a unique way. It is a weekly Gospel 'giff' from the school to the whole family.

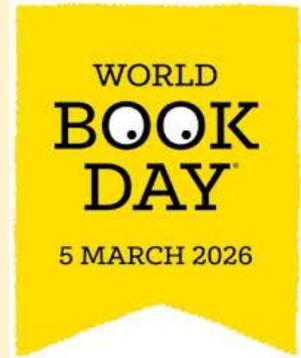


World Book Day - Vocabulary Themed Fancy Dress – Thursday 5th March:

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!



Please add the date to your calendar and start planning your outfits!

Book Fair – Friday 6th March:

Please come along to our book fair after school on **Friday 6th March!** The children will have the opportunity during the school day to have look at the books on offer. They will create a wish list. If you are able to, you can come along and order them a book. For every book sold, we will get some money to contribute towards new books in the library!

Our children will also be taking part in a Sponsored Read from Friday 6th March – Friday 13th March. Find out more information here:

<https://www.holynameprimary.co.uk/news/?pid=3&nid=1&storyid=137>

Y6 Class Trip to St. Chad's Cathedral:



As part of Y6's Confirmation sacramental programme, we visited St Chad's Cathedral. Our guide thoroughly explained the history of St Chad's, particularly during World War II, when St Chad's was hit by a bomb and even pointed out where it landed! We learnt that St Chad's Cathedral was designed by Pugin and we also learnt more about his architectural design and trademark work. St Chad's Cathedral was once surrounded by fields and a river - surroundings that are very different to today! Our lovely morning ended with mass. A great day was had by all!

Safer Internet Day – Tuesday 10th February:

This week in school, we have been celebrating safer internet day. The theme was all about artificial intelligence (AI) and how it can impact our daily lives.

We encourage you to join us in celebrating by continuing the conversation about AI technology at home.

Here are some helpful resources:

- You can complete the [UK Safer Internet Centre's interactive quizzes](#) with your child.
- Read the UK Safer Internet Centre's tops tips for parents and carers [here](#).
- You can share the UK Safer Internet Centre's [top tips for children and young people](#) with your child.

If you have any concerns or questions about keeping your child safe online, please do get in touch with your child's class teacher.

Y2 Design & Technology Week – Perfect Pizzas:

This week, Year Two have been busy making some delicious pizzas! We tasted a range of toppings to help us decide what to put on our own pizzas.

On Tuesday, things got a little messy! We made our dough, rolled it out, and carefully added our chosen toppings before placing our pizzas in the oven. We even had time to enjoy a slice of our hard work.

We had so much fun!



Y5 Science:

Y5 had great fun in science on Wednesday, when they were learning about reversible and irreversible changes.

Look what happened when they added mints to a bottle of coke! The carbon dioxide bubbles in the coke collected on the surface of the mints to cause a reaction.

Some of the children enjoyed it so much, they are now considering future STEM careers as a Material Scientist!

Foundation Stage Stay and Play:

Thank you to all the parents who came to our stay and play session on Thursday this week. We had a special launch for our Foundation Stage toy library; the children were very excited to be taking home some resources. Please **return the toy bags every Friday** so that they can be swapped by your child for a new resource. Please ensure that each bag is returned with all pieces inside!



Number Facts of the Week:

At Holy Name, we place a strong emphasis on pupils learning their multiplication and division facts and recalling them quickly and confidently.

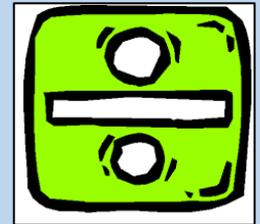
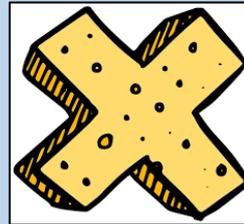
By the end of Year Four, all pupils are expected to know all multiplication and division facts up to 12×12 by heart.

Each week, Miss Doody, our maths leader, will be setting a challenge. Be prepared - our class teachers will be testing you!

This week's multiplication and division facts are:

$10 \times 5 = 50$ or $5 \times 10 = 50$

$50 \div 10 = 5$ or $50 \div 5 = 10$



Next week's multiplication and division facts are:

$11 \times 11 = 121$ $121 \div 11 = 11$

School Places Available:

We have school places available in a number of 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!

The next prize draw will be on Friday 27th February

School 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 **10.00am**.

Date:	Information:
Wednesday 25 th February	No classes attending mass
Wednesday 4 th March	No mass
Wednesday 11 th March	Infants' mass in school hall at 9.15am
Wednesday 18 th March	Y4 and Y5 joining the parish for mass in church at 10.00am
Wednesday 25 th March	Whole School Mass – End of Term - in school hall at 9.15am

Diary Dates:

Date:	Information:
Tuesday 24 th February	Y5 & 6 Gymnastics Club 3.15 – 4.15pm

Date:	Information:
Wednesday 25 th February	Y5 Educational Visit to Islamic Exhibition
Thursday 26 th February	Y3 & 4 Basketball club 3.15 – 4.15pm KS2 French Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Friday 27 th February	Celebration Assembly (Gifts from God) in the school hall at 9.05am (all parents welcome)
Monday 2 nd March	Parents' Evening 3.35 – 6.00pm in school hall
Tuesday 3 rd March	Y5 & 6 Gymnastics Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Wednesday 4 th March	Reception & Y1 Dental Check in school Parents' Evening 3.35 – 6.00pm in school hall
Thursday 5 th March	WORLD BOOK DAY – Fancy Dress Foundation Class - Stay and Play at 9.00am Y3 & 4 Basketball club 3.15 – 4.15pm KS2 French Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Friday 6 th March	Celebration Assembly (Gifts from God) in the school hall at 9.05am (all parents welcome)
Monday 9 th March	Y4 Parent & Pupil Workshop for Multiplication Tables Check at 9.05am
Tuesday 10 th March	Y5 & 6 Gymnastics Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Thursday 12 th March	Y1 Parent & Pupil Workshop for Phonics Screening Check at 9.05am Y3 & 4 Basketball club 3.15 – 4.15pm KS2 French Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Friday 13 th March	Celebration Assembly (Gifts from God) in the school hall at 9.05am (all parents welcome)
Tuesday 17 th March	Y2 Educational Visit to Think Tank
Thursday 19 th March	Y1 Educational Visit to Dudley Zoo
Friday 20 th March	Celebration Assembly (Gifts from God) in the school hall at 9.05am (all parents welcome) PTA Bingo Night in School Hall - doors at 6.30pm . Everyone is welcome!
Tuesday 24 th March	Y4 Holy Week assembly (Palm Sunday) at 9.05am (all parents are welcome)
Thursday 26 th March	Y3 Holy Week assembly (The Last Supper) at 9.05am (all parents are welcome)
Friday 27 th March	Y5 Holy Week assembly (Stations of the Cross) at 9.05am (all parents are welcome) LAST DAY OF SPRING TERM
Easter Break:	Monday 30th March to Friday 10th April
Monday 13 th April	First day of summer term – all pupils back in school.

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

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

Gospel: Matthew 5:17-37

In this Sunday's gospel, Jesus tells us that we must try hard not to get angry with our sisters and brothers or call them names. If we do argue with them we must try to make it up with them and become friends again as soon as possible.

Have you ever argued with someone? How did it make you feel to argue with them? How did you make up with them? Was it easy or difficult? How did you feel once you were friends again?

We are all part of God's family. That is one big global family that includes all people wherever they are in the world. All people are our sisters and brothers and God asks us to try to treat them as we want to be treated.

In our global family we are all different. Look at the person sitting next to you. How are they different to you? How are they the same as you?

Sometimes people spend too much time thinking about the differences between us, rather than seeing that we are all part of the same global family. This can lead to arguments and problems. In some cases it can lead to war or fighting between countries which means that people get hurt and have to leave their homes.

How do you think it would feel to live somewhere where there was a war?
We are all different but we all have our own special gifts. What is your special gift?

We can use these gifts to work together to make the world a fairer place for everyone rather than fighting with people who are different.

Our Catholic Mission:

Can you try not to argue with or hurt anyone this week? And if someone upsets you, what will you try to do this week?

Prayer:

God of mercy and peace,
forgive us when we get angry with others
and help us to make our peace with them
so that we can all work together to make a better world.
Amen.

Reflection taken from CAFOD Children's Liturgy

