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

Newsletter 2: Friday 18th September 2026

Dear Parents

I hope that you are all now back in the routine of school and I also hope that everyone has settled in well and made a great start to the term: especially our new Nursery and Reception pupils and their families.

School Places Available:

We have school places available in our **Y1** and **Y2** classes.

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

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

PTA AGM – Tuesday 29th September at 6.30pm:

Holy Name Parent & Teacher Association will be holding their Annual General Meeting **in the school hall** on **Tuesday 29th September at 6.30pm**. The meeting will review the actions of the PTA during the 2025-26 school year and plan for the coming year. All parents are invited to join us – especially any parents who are new to school!

Class Information:

The school website has been updated with your child's class information document. This document explains the P.E. and homework arrangements for your child's class. It also provides links to our curriculum overviews which outline what your child will be learning this year.

Please visit our website: [Curriculum and Gallery](#) and click on the year group links on the left side of the page.

Y1 – Y6 'Meet the Teacher' Parent Sessions:

We would like to invite our **Y1-Y6** parents into school to meet our class teachers who would like to share information about routines and expectations for the year ahead and help parents to find out more about the curriculum for your child's year group.

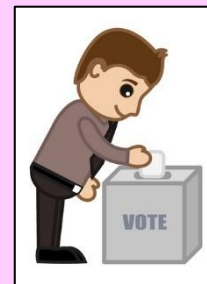
These sessions are for parents only, but school staff will be available to supervise children while these sessions take place. It is expected that each session will be **25-30 minutes** in duration. All sessions will begin at **3.30pm**.

Date:	Year Groups:
Monday 5 th October	Y5 & Y6
Tuesday 6 th October	Y3 & Y4
Wednesday 7 th October	Y1 & Y2



Catholic School Council and Spiritual Council Elections:

Next week, on Friday 25th September, all of our pupils will be taking part in our annual 'Democracy Day'. Our Catholic Council (formerly School Council) and Spiritual Council elections will be taking place.



The **Spiritual Council** (Y1- Y6) have the responsibility of supporting their peers in planning, leading, and evaluating prayer and liturgy in their own class. They also help to maintain and evaluate prayer areas in school and provide staff with feedback.

The **Catholic School Council** (Y2-Y6) have the opportunity to support their peers in developing the Catholic Life of our school through implementing the principles of Catholic Social Teaching (CST). These pupils will be responsible for outreach work in our local parish and will coordinate any charity work that takes place in school.

If your child would like to take part in these elections and have the chance to be their class representative on either council, they should write a short speech to present to their class next Friday explaining why they would be the best person to represent their class.

Y6 pupils also have the opportunity to become **house captains**. We have two captains for each of our four houses. The primary role of our house captains is to prepare and present our special house assemblies, which take place at least once every half-term.

Speeches should be submitted to your child's teacher no later than **Thursday 24th September**.

The pupils who are awarded these special roles will receive their badges in our Service of Commitment on **Friday 2nd October**.

Service of Commitment – Friday 2nd October:

We would like to warmly invite parents, grandparents, governors, staff and parishioners and family members to join us for a special service of commitment in our school hall on **Friday 2nd October at 9.15am**.



This is an opportunity for us to come together as a school and parish community to commit ourselves to this academic year and to ask God to bless us all.

We look forward to seeing you all there!

Catholic Social Teaching:

Each week in assembly we focus on a Catholic Social Teaching principle. We will be linking them to how we can enact these in the world and what we can do to make a big difference.

This half-term we will be discussing the following principles in assembly:

Date	CST Principle	CAFOD Animal
21.09.26	The Common Good	Chikondi the Giraffe
28.09.26	Participation	Patariki the Penguin
05.10.26	Solidarity	Shristi the Sun Bear
12.10.26	Preferential option for the poor	Poppy the Pōpokatea
19.10.26	Distributive justice	DJ the dolphin



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!](#)

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 'gift' from the school to the whole family.



The Season of Creation:

We are now well into the season of creation (01.09.26-04.10.26). Let us reflect on Pope Leo XIV's message for the *World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation*.

Pope Leo XIV urges all people to turn away from war and environmental destruction, beating "swords into ploughshares" (Is 2:4) through a conversion of heart that brings healing to the human family and the earth.



Caring for God's gifts
Stewardship

How can you care for creation? How can you care for God's Gifts?

Please bring in any photographs of you caring for God's creation to Miss Edmunds by **Friday 9th October** for a stewardship certificate!

Yellow Polo Shirts:

If your child does not have a 'Holy Name' yellow polo shirt(s), emblazoned with the school badge, then please contact the school office as we have pre-loved uniform in school that we can pass onto families. A small donation for this uniform is welcome, but this is optional.

Please remember that our parish Saint Vincent De Paul Society are very keen to help families with providing school uniform.

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 next prize draw will be at the end of October!**

The more books that you read the more chances that you have to win!

ATTENDANCE ASSEMBLY - 99%+ ATTENDERS:

Congratulations to all of the pupils listed below who will be receiving their attendance certificates and badges in assembly on **Friday 25th September**. All of these pupils achieved 99%+ attendance last term or for the whole year – a fantastic achievement!

	Y6	Y5	Y4	Y3	Y2	Y1
Whole Year	Isla F David O	Princess R D Oscar C	Henry G Cara B	Jayna B Lily F		Isla C Gideon A



	Y6	Y5	Y4	Y3	Y2	Y1
	Charlie M Lena C Ethan M Brainard I S	Arthur R Grace F Jayden B	Poppy T J Mark O Isaac O Christabel A Reggie S	Tomini A Ethan F Nathanael M		Joshua O Jason B
Summer Term	Brainard I D Logan M Jaxon H Isla F David O Duriel B Finley W Lena C Charlie M Natnael S Alexa B Elsie W	Grace F Avni K Fateh S Princess R D Eddie M Oliver O Abraham A Q Arthur R Jayden B Oscar C	Savan S Leo D Poppy T J Mark O Henry G Javaughn N Reggie S Cara B Isaac O Christabel A	Enzo M Mia M Jayna B Ethan F Tomini A Esmee W Nathanael M Lily F Lydia R	Jovanna F Trinity D E Saavi K	Amber K Joshua O Jason B Noah D Isla C Gideon A Ermias D

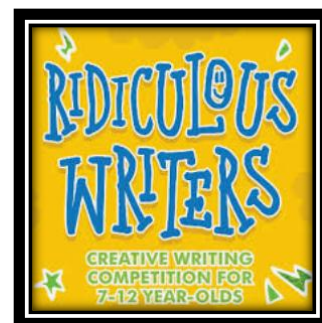
Parent Consultation Appointments:

This term's parent consultation meetings will be taking place **in the school hall** on **Monday 19th** and **Wednesday 21st October** 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, at the end of September.

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 Ridiculous Writers Competition:

Calling all creative Y3,4,5,6 writers! Please create a wacky character (like a dancing penguin or sporty pineapple) and write a mini saga of up to 100 words about their adventures. The goal is to have fun, be silly and original. Entry forms available from Mrs Kavanagh. Deadline for completed entries is **Friday 9th October!**



Y6 Catholic School Council Speech Writing:



Y6 have been working very hard on their Catholic Council speeches! They used iPads to research great ideas. They then included these ideas into their own writing, trying to be as persuasive as possible! They shared parts of their writing to their peers in preparation for voting on **Friday 25th September!** Good luck!

School Masses this Half Term:

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



Date:	Information:
Tuesday 22 nd September	Infants' mass in school hall at 9.15am
Tuesday 29 th September	Y4 and Y5 joining the parish for mass in church at 10.00am
Tuesday 6 th October	NO MASS IN SCHOOL
Tuesday 13 th October	Harvest Mass: Whole school in school hall at 9.15am
Tuesday 20 th October	Y4 and Y5 joining the parish for mass in church at 10.00am

Diary Dates:

Date:	Information:
Tuesday 22 nd September	Y3/4 Tri-golf 3.15 – 4.15pm
Thursday 24 th September	Y4 swimming Y5/6 Netball Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Friday 25 th September	Celebration Assembly in the school hall at 9.05am (all parents welcome)
Tuesday 29 th September	Y3/4 Tri-golf 3.15 – 4.15pm
Thursday 1 st October	Y4 swimming Y5/6 Netball Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Friday 2 nd October	Service of Commitment in school hall at 9.15am (all parents welcome)
Monday 19 th October	Parents' Evening 3.35 – 5.45pm in school hall
Wednesday 21 st October	Parents' Evening 3.35 – 5.45pm in school hall
Half Term Break:	Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October

Term Dates 2026-27:

We will be closed to pupils for training days on these dates (further dates to be advised):

- Friday 23rd October 2026
- Monday 2nd November 2026
- Monday 4th January 2027

2026-27	Term starts:	Half Term Holiday:	Term Ends:
Autumn	Tuesday 1 st September Wednesday 2nd September for pupils	Monday 26 th October to Friday 30 th November	Friday 18 th December
Spring	Monday 4 th January Tuesday 5th January for pupils	Monday 15 th February to Friday 19 th February	Thursday 25 th March
Summer	Monday 12 th April	Monday 31 st May to Friday 4 th June	Wednesday 21 st July

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.

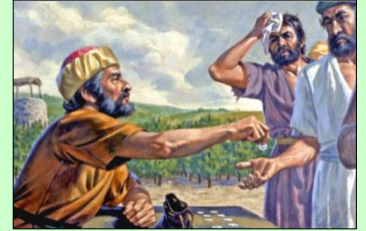
Mass at Holy Name Church:

Saturday 12.30pm

**Sunday 8.30am
and 10.30am**



Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)



Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus tells us a story about some workers who all receive the same wages, even though some worked all day and some just worked for an hour. Does that sound right to you? Let's think some more about this today.

Can you think of a time when you felt you deserved more than you were given? When you felt something was unfair? How did it make you feel?

Who do you think the landowner in the story is supposed to be? What is Jesus trying to tell us?

Jesus is showing us that God's idea of fairness (sometimes we use the word justice), is different to ours. God's fairness is about making sure that every single person gets what they need, no matter what their situation.

God is generous in giving us what we need – God created a world with enough for absolutely everyone.

But do you think everyone in our world does have enough food and water? Why/why not? Do you think this is fair? Do you think this is what God wants?

We can be generous with what we have, like the landowner in the story, sharing what we have with others.

And we can try to make a change to our world so that it is a fairer place for all people to live.

Our Mission:

What will you do this week to try to help make sure that all people around the world get their fair share of the things that God has given for us all?

Prayer:

Living Lord, we give thanks for your generosity and love.
Help us to take no more than we need,
to share all that we have
and to work together for change
so that the world becomes a fairer place for all to live in.
Amen.

Reflection taken from CAFOD Children's Liturgy