

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

Newsletter 12: Friday 13th March 2026

Dear Parents

I hope that you and your families are all safe and well and that you were all able to attend the recent parents' evening meetings and found them to be valuable.

Thank you also to the parents who attended the Y1 & Y4 parent and pupil workshops which took place this week. It was wonderful to be able to work together with you at these events.

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.



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](#)

Y6 Parent Meeting for KS2 SATS Preparation – Tuesday 17th March at 5.00pm:

All Y6 parents are invited to a SATS information session which is taking place in the school hall at **5.30pm** on **Tuesday 17th March**.

This session will explain the expectations and arrangements for these important assessments and explain how you can work in partnership with school to help us to work together to prepare our children as well as we possibly can.

Please confirm your attendance by completing this short form:



Y6 SATS MEETING FOR PARENTS

PTA Bingo Night – Friday 20th March:

The PTA are hosting a Bingo Night in the school hall next Friday - 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!



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!](#)

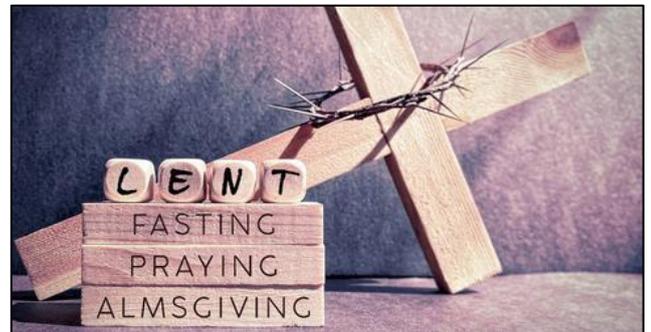


The Primary School Wednesday Word is an outreach project which shares Sunday's Gospel with all school families in a unique way. It is a weekly Gospel 'gift' from the school to the whole family.

Lenten Family Prayer Services for Y1 and Y2 Parents:

We would like to invite our **Y1** and **Y2** parents into school to join us for a special Lenten family prayer service.

This is an opportunity for our family members to join with their child's class to pray together at this special time of year. Please do your best to join us for these special services and note that all attendees must be in the school hall at 2.30pm. It will not be possible to join the prayer service after it has started.



Please note the date of the Y2 prayer service has changed:

Monday 23rd March at 2.30pm in school for Y2.

Tuesday 24th March at 2.30pm in school for Y1.

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 began during the half term break on **Ash Wednesday** (18th February). We are currently in **Week Four** of lent and our challenge is:

🌍 Week 4 – Monday 9th March – Caring for God's World:

- I picked up litter
- I recycled
- I turned off lights to save energy
- I enjoyed being outside in nature

📺 Week 5 – Monday 16th March – Giving & Sharing:

- I donated clothes or toys
- I gave something to charity
- I shared with someone
- I saved food instead of wasting it

How many will you complete this week? Don't forget to update the challenge sheet! For more information on how you can participate, click here:

[DISCONNECT TO RECONNECT LENTEN CHALLENGE](#)

Lent is a time to grow closer to God by praying more, giving more, and making small sacrifices.

School Behaviour Policy – Parent Views:

WE NEED YOU! We are in the process of updating our school Behaviour Policy and would like to gather your views.

Please complete this short survey to share your thoughts and inform our future policy:

[PARENT SURVEY - BEHAVIOUR 2026](#)

KS2 Writing Competition:

Calling all KS2 writers! Now is your chance to use your God-given imagination to write about an adventure of your choice – what will you choose to write about? Consider who will be your main character and plot, where will your adventure take you? What changes – is there a problem, surprise or discovery? Discover the world of a magical portal inside your mind!

Entry forms are available from Mrs Kavanagh. Closing date for completed entries is 27th March! Good luck!



Y5 Class Trip to the Islamic Exhibition Centre:

Y5 thoroughly enjoyed themselves visiting the Islamic Exhibition Centre last week. This is an interactive multi-media exhibition for schools on the faith, Islam, Islamic history, family life and Islamic attitude to science and the environment. The exhibition provided an opportunity for the children be able to talk and ask lots of questions to devout Muslims about their faith. Y5 learnt how to write their names in Arabic and made links between their own faith and Islam. Well done children!



Y4 Class Trip to Birmingham Think Tank.

Y4 had a fantastic time at Birmingham Think Tank Museum. The children were able to explore all the different levels of the museum from the future with robots to the past and how the first cars looked. While we were there, we took part in an amazing electrifying science show. Well done Year 4!



Y4 Multiplication Check Workshop for Parents:

This week Year 4 welcomed parents into school to find out about the Y4 national multiplication tables check. Thank you to all of our parents who attended. If you were unable to attend and would like a copy of the handouts, then please speak to Miss Simmonds.



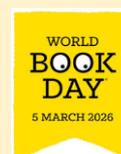
Whole School Book Fair:

We are a school of avid readers! To supplement their book collections, our children were delighted to have been given the chance to buy new books at our school book fair last week! Thank you for all your support with this – we have raised £300 to be able to purchase new books for the library.

Our school council will start shopping next week!



World Book Day - Vocabulary Parade:



We had great fun in school celebrating World Book Day! The children enjoyed dressing up as an exciting word or character and explored a wide range of vocabulary throughout the day.

Thank you so much for all your support with helping the children dress in their wonderful outfits. Your efforts truly make these experiences special, and they do not go unnoticed. We appreciate it very much!



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!

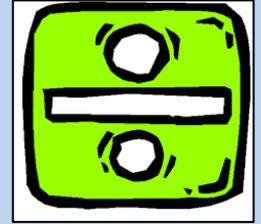
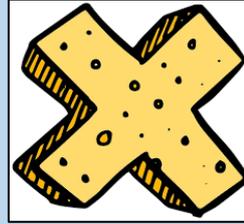
This week's multiplication and division facts are:

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

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

Next week's multiplication and division facts are:

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



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 20th March**

KS2 Easter 'Decorate the Egg' Competition – Thursday 16th April:

On **Thursday 16th April** we will be hosting our annual 'decorate the egg' competition for our junior pupils (Y3,4,5,6).

Entries (decorated boiled eggs) should be brought into school **carefully(!)** on this day for our Catholic School Council to judge.



Easter Bonnet Parade – Friday 17th 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 (during the season of Easter) on **Friday 17th April at 2.40pm**.

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 Catholic Life Council will judge the winners.



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 will be available from the school office from **Monday 23rd March**.

School Masses This 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 18 th March	Y4 and Y5 joining the parish for mass in church at 10.00am

Date:	Information:
Wednesday 25 th March	KS2 joining the parish for mass in church at 10.00am

Diary Dates:

Date:	Information:
Tuesday 17 th March	Y2 Educational Visit to Think Tank Y5 & Y6 Gymnastics Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Thursday 19 th March	Y1 Educational Visit to Dudley Zoo Y3 & 4 Basketball club 3.15 – 4.15pm KS2 French Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
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!
Monday 23 rd March	Y2 Family Prayer Service in school hall at 2.30pm – CHANGE OF DATE
Tuesday 24 th March	Y4 Holy Week assembly (Palm Sunday) at 9.05am (all parents are welcome) Y1 Family Prayer Service in school hall at 2.30pm Y5 & Y6 Gymnastics Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Thursday 26 th March	Y3 Holy Week assembly (The Last Supper) at 9.05am (all parents are welcome) Y3 & 4 Basketball club 3.15 – 4.15pm
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



Fourth Sunday of Lent (Year A)

Gospel: John 9:1-41

In this Sunday's gospel, Jesus makes a paste, puts it on the blind man's eyes and tells him to wash in a pool. When the blind man does this he can see.

How do you think the blind man felt at being able to see for the first time?

The Pharisees (some of the religious leaders of the time) question the man and his parents to find out how Jesus gave him his sight. The man tells them but they do not believe it and grow angry.

Jesus tells the Pharisees that they are blind because they cannot see that he is the Son of God.

While there is nothing wrong with their eyes, the Pharisees do not open their hearts to see the truth of who Jesus is. But the blind man is able to see and to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the son of God.

We also need Jesus to help us to see the truth about the world around us and how we should treat one another. We need to open our hearts to others so that we can reach out and help them when they need us.

Sometimes there are problems or things that are not right in this world. We can take notice of these problems and try to make them better.

We can see that it is not fair for some people in the world to have lots of money, power and things while others of us are poor or hungry or do not have a safe place to live.

We can see that we are damaging our planet and that the climate is changing. Floods, droughts and natural disasters are happening more often and affecting more people around the world.

God calls us to use our gifts and not to ignore the problems that we see. We can try instead to make a difference, to care for our earth and to help people who are poor to change their lives for the better.

Our Catholic Mission:

Look out for all the good things that you can see in the world this week. If you see anything that is wrong or unfair, think about what you could do to help to change it.

Prayer:

God of hope,
inspire us to look out into the world,
praising and thanking you for all that is good,
and seeking your help as we try to change what is not fair or right.
Amen.

Reflection taken from CAFOD Children's Liturgy

