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

Newsletter 10: Friday 17th November 2023

Dear Parents

I hope that you have all had a good week. We have again been very busy in school. On Tuesday we welcomed a number of special visitors: prospective Reception parents for 2024. Our Y6 pupils guided them around school and we received wonderful feedback about our pupils and our school from our visitors. We were very proud of everyone – especially our Y6 tour guides!

Our Y6 house captains led special prayer assemblies in school this afternoon which were focused on the Jesuit Virtues of 'Attentive and Discerning'. They explored and reflected on what these virtues mean through the story of 'The Calling of Samuel' when God called Samuel to be a prophet. The Y6 house captains did an absolutely fantastic job in preparing and presenting their assemblies!

Y1 and Y3 both enjoyed educational visits to Wednesbury Museum and the Frank Chapman Centre this week. Thank you to all of the school staff and parents who helped with these trips.

Thank you again for your generosity today in donating bottles for our parish Christmas Fayre which is taking place after 12.30pm mass tomorrow - Saturday 17th November.

Parent Survey:

We have set up an online questionnaire for parents to complete to gather your views. Please complete a questionnaire **for each of your children** so that we can analyse the completed questionnaires by class. We are very interested in your feedback and will share the results with parents next term. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and responses.

[2023 PARENT SURVEY](#)

Sacramental Dates for 2023-24:

The following dates have been arranged with Father Kuriakose. Please note that there is a special mass of enrolment for our Y3 and Y6 pupils and their families in church at 10.30am on Sunday 3rd December. All parents whose children will be receiving the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist (Y3) and Confirmation (Y6) **are required to attend**.

Date:	Information:
Sunday 3 rd December 2023	Mass of Enrolment for Y3 and Y6 pupils preparing to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation in church at 10.30am
Wednesday 17 th January 2024	Y6 Mass with the Rite of Confirmation in church at 7.00pm
Friday 15 th March 2024	Y3 pupils will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in church at 2.15pm
Saturday 11 th May 2024	Y3 First Holy Communion Mass in church at 10.00am

Holy Souls, November, the Month of Remembrance:

November is the month of remembrance. We would like invite all of our school community to let us know if there someone special that you would like us to include in our prayer intentions in school.

Please follow the link below to let us know:

[HOLY SOULS PRAYER FORM](#)



Eternal rest grant unto them,
O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine
upon them.
May the souls of all the faithful
departed,
through the mercy of God,
rest in peace.
Amen.

Donation Days:

We will be asking for donations for the next few Fridays to help our PTA to prepare for their Christmas Fayre.

If you are able to help then your donations will be very gratefully welcomed, **please do not worry** if you are not able to make a contribution.

Thank you again in advance for your generosity and also to the dedicated members of the PTA who work so hard to raise substantial funds for our school.

Date:	Donations	Information:
Friday 24 th November	GIFTS	Any unwanted items that you may have e.g. toiletry sets, games, stationery, candles etc.
Friday 1 st December	CHOCOLATES AND SWEETS	Donations of chocolates and sweets e.g. small selection boxes, chocolate santas, bars of chocolate.
Friday 8 th December	BOTTLES	Preferably alcohol: please check that any bottles that you have donated are unopened - for PTA CHRISTMAS FAYRE .

Look out for the Reading Book Fair at the PTA Christmas Fayre:

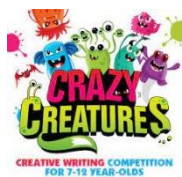
Friday 8th December, when the PTA are holding the Christmas Fayre, Usborne books will be joining us to sell books to you. Every purchase you make enables school to order books for our library and book prizes for our children.



Reception Parents - Fine Motor and Reading Workshop – Wednesday 22nd November:

All of our Reception parents and carers are invited to join us in school from **9.00 – 10.00am** on **Wednesday 22nd November** to find out more about how our Reception pupils have been learning to read in school and also to find out how you can support your child with their reading at home. We will also be focusing on developing finger strength to promote a strong pencil grasp to support early writing skills.

Creative Writing Competition:



Calling all creative writers aged between **7 – 11!** You are all invited to enter the Crazy Creatures Creative Writing Competition 2023. From a cute fluffball with a nasty bite, to a giant monstrosity who just wants to make friends, the possibilities are endless and your child can have fun, whilst putting the writing skills and techniques they have learnt at school into practice. The competition is free to enter and there is a bookmark and sticker for every entrant! Should your child wish to enter, please ask Mrs Kavanagh for a free application! You have until **Friday 24th November** to enter! Get writing!

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:

$$5 \times 6 = 30$$

or

$$6 \times 5 = 30$$



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 November!

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 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 **11.30am**.

Date:	Information:
Wednesday 22 nd November	Y4 and Y5 joining the parish for mass in church at 11.30am
Wednesday 29 th November	Infants' mass in school hall at 9.15am
Wednesday 6 th December	Y3 and Y6 joining the parish for mass in church at 11.30am
Wednesday 13 th December	No classes attending Mass
Wednesday 20 th December	Whole school mass in school hall at 9.15am

Diary Dates:

Date:	Information:
Saturday 18 th November	Parish Christmas Fair in the parish centre at 1.30pm
Monday 20 th November	Y3 & 4 Cheerleading Club 3.15 – 4.15pm Choir Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Tuesday 21 st November	Y1 & Y2 Dance club 3.15 – 4.15pm Y1 Stories & Sounds Club 3.15 – 4.00pm
Wednesday 22 nd November	Reception Parents' Workshop 9.00-10.00am
Thursday 23 rd November	Y4 Swimming (AM) KS2 French Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Friday 24 th November	Celebration Assembly in the school hall at 9.05am (all parents welcome)
Friday 8 th December	PTA Christmas Market 3.15pm (immediately after school)
Tuesday 12 th December	Infant Nativity in school at 2.00pm
Wednesday 13 th December	Infant Nativity in school at 9.30am
Friday 22 nd December	Last day of term

Happy birthday to:

Robbie M (Y6), Elsie H (Y5), Maya K S (Reception) 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

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30



In this Sunday's Gospel Jesus tells us another parable. This time a man is about to go abroad and so he calls his servants to him and gives them each something to look after.

He gives the first servant five talents ("talents" was a word for money in Jesus' time). He gives the second servant two talents. And the final servant one talent. What did the servants do with the talents they had been given?

The first one used the five talents he had been given and made five more. So he gave the master back ten talents all together. The second one used the two talents he had been given and made two more, giving the master back four talents all together.

The final servant hid his talent in the ground. When his master came back he dug it up and returned it to him.

How did the master react? Why do you think he was so angry? What do you think Jesus is trying to tell us in this parable?

Jesus is telling us that it is important to use the gifts that God has given us. We are all good at different things. We all have different skills and talents. What is your talent?

Some of us are good at singing, some of us are good at sport. Some of us are good at dancing, some of us are good at drawing. Some of us are good at baking. Some of us are good at building lego. Some of us are good at speaking out when we see that something is wrong or unfair. Some of us are good at helping others.

Our Catholic Mission:

Whatever your talent is, Jesus is saying that it is important not to hide our talents from others – to just keep them to ourselves and never let them grow. Instead, it is by going out into the world, by sharing our talents and using our skills to help others that we serve God.

Prayer:

Generous God, you gave us a voice.
Help us shout loud for what is right and fair.
You gave us ears.
Help us listen to those in need.
You gave us talents.
Help us share and multiply them for the good of all your people.
Amen.