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

Newsletter 2: Friday 11th September 2025

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.

Please remember to read the information below from the Holy Name St Vincent de Paul society who would really like to help any of our families who may be in need.

PTA AGM – Tuesday 16th September at 6.30pm:

Holy Name Parent & Teacher Association will be holding their Annual General Meeting **in the school hall** on **Tuesday 16th September at 6.30pm**. The meeting will review the actions of the PTA during the 2024-25 school year and plan for the coming year. All parents are invited to join us – especially any parents who are new to school!

Service of Commitment – Wednesday 17th September:

Next **Wednesday 17th September at 9.15am**, Fr Jibu is leading a special service of commitment for this academic year. It is a special opportunity for all members of our school community to come together to make a promise before God to help, support and guide each other this academic year. We would like to warmly invite all parents, grandparents, governors, staff and parishioners and family members to join us in the school hall for this special service.

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.

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.

The help we can give covers all aspects of daily life. We have been providing families within the parish with foodbags every fortnight for the past three years and we can provide access to the local foodbank if that is required. We are able to help parents, and guardians, **with the purchase of school uniforms** and associated items such as **shoes and P.E. Kit**. When the weather turns cold, we can also help to provide winter coats. Families have also been helped with bedding, electrical white goods such as washing machines and energy bills.



Firstly, everything we do is confidential and is not shared with others. Secondly, we do not give anyone money, all purchases are made by ourselves on behalf of our beneficiaries. Thirdly, we cannot help everybody so it is necessary for us to be able to talk to those requiring help face to face so we can build a relationship with them for when further help may be needed.

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 [holynam.bham@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:holyname.bham@rcaob.org.uk)

School Places Available:

We have school places available in our new Reception class and a number of other classes in school.

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

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

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.

KS2 Poetry Writing Competition:

Calling all KS2 poets! Let your child's imagination come alive by writing a poem about a dream – a hope for the future, a magical world or something they can only imagine! There is no set word limit for this competition. Paper competition entries are available now from Mrs Kavanagh.

Deadline for completed entries is **Friday 26th September.**



Catholic School Council and Spiritual Council Elections:

Next week, on Friday 19th 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, delivering, 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.

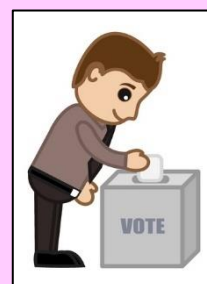
The **Catholic School Council** (Y2-Y6) will have the opportunity to support their peers in developing the Catholic Life of our school through implementing the principles of Catholic Social Teaching (CST). These pupils will be responsible for outreach work in our local parish and will coordinate any 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 19th September.**

The pupils who are awarded these special roles will receive their badges in our first celebration assembly of the school year on **Friday 26th September.**



ATTENDANCE ASSEMBLY - 100% ATTENDERS:

Congratulations to all of the pupils listed below who will be receiving their attendance certificates and badges in assembly on **Friday 26th September**. All of these pupils achieved 100% attendance last term or for the whole year – a fantastic achievement!

	Y6	Y5	Y4	Y3	Y2	Y1
Whole Year	Maddie A Emmie G King David RD Haysus W	Isla F Charlie M Oscar P	Princess RD	Christabel A Poppy TJ Henry G	Jayna B Nathanael M Prince Emmanuel RD Enzo M	
Summer Term	Chimamanda A Maddie A Emily B Andreea C Emmie G, Arabella H Cruz R King David RD Dan S Haysus W	Alexa B Lena C Isla F Jaxon H Brainard IS Arlo L Charlie M Ethan M David O Oscar P Martyna R	Grace F, Athena G Rowan G Avni K, Princess RD Arthur Ryan Meleyah S	Christabel A Alexander B Henry G Evan L Isaac O Maja RA Reggie S Benjamin T Poppy TJ Sebastian W	Tomini A Jack B Jayna B Derek B Niall B Lily F Stella K Mia M Enzo M Nathanael M Tina Q Prince Emmanuel RD	Ermias D Youssef H Saavi K Harry N Daya S

Celebration Assembly on Friday Mornings:

We are delighted to invite all of our parents to join us for our celebration 'Gifts from God' assemblies in the school hall on Friday mornings starting on **Friday 26th September**. Our assembly begins at **9.05am**. If your child has been named in the congratulations letter from the previous week then your child will receive their certificate in the following week's assembly.

In assembly on **Friday 26th September**, our new Catholic School Councillors, Spiritual Councillors and house captains will all receive their special badges.

Parent Consultation Appointments:

This term's parent consultation meetings will be taking place in the school hall on **Monday 13th** and **Wednesday 15th 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.**

Diary Dates:

Date:	Information:
Friday 12th September	SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS – Staff Training Day
Tuesday 16 th September	Y3/4 Tri-golf 3.15 – 4.15pm
Wednesday 17 th September	Service of Commitment in school hall at 9.15am (all parents welcome)
Thursday 18 th September	Y6 Day Retreat to Alton Castle KS2 French Club 3.15 – 4.15pm Y5/6 Netball Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Friday 19 th September	Attendance Assembly in the school hall at 9.05am (all parents welcome)
Tuesday 23 rd September	Y3/4 Tri-golf 3.15 – 4.15pm
Thursday 25 th September	KS2 French Club 3.15 – 4.15pm Y5/6 Netball Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Friday 26 th September	Celebration Assembly in the school hall at 9.05am (all parents welcome)

Date:	Information:
Tuesday 30 th September	Y3/4 Tri-golf 3.15 – 4.15pm
Wednesday 1 st October	Reception Welcome Prayer Service (in the school hall) at 2.30pm (parents are invited)
Thursday 2 nd October	Y5/6 Netball Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Monday 13 th October	Parents' Evening 3.35 – 5.45pm in school hall
Wednesday 15 th October	Parents' Evening 3.35 – 5.45pm in school hall
Half Term Break:	Monday 27th October to Friday 31st October

Term Dates 2025-26:

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

- Friday 12th September 2025
- Monday 20th July 2026

2025-26	Term starts:	Half Term Holiday:	Term Ends:
Autumn	Monday 1 st September Tuesday 2nd September for pupils	Monday 27 th October to Friday 31 st October	Friday 19 th December
Spring	Monday 5 th January	Monday 16 th February to Friday 20 th February	Friday 27 th March
Summer	Monday 13 th April	Monday 25 th May to Friday 29 th May	Friday 17 th July (for pupils) Monday 20 th July (for staff)

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**

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Gospel: John 3:13-17

In Sunday's gospel reading we hear that God loved the world so much that he sent us Jesus, to help bring us closer to him.

God sent us his Son, even though he knew that Jesus would be put to death on the cross.

God knew that Jesus Christ would rise again three days later.

Through his death and resurrection Jesus gave us all new life. He is the saviour of the world. This is what we celebrate on Sunday.

How does it make you feel to know that God loves us all so much that he was willing to send his only son, Jesus, to be with us here on earth, and to die for us?

Can you tell me two people who love you? And two people that you love? How should we treat someone that we love?

When we love someone we want what is best for them. We help them, we care for them, we try to make them happy. We support them when things are difficult and we celebrate with them when they are joyful.

God does not just love you and me, God loves everybody. God loves all people whether they are rich or poor, no matter where they live or where they come from. No matter whether they are healthy or ill, no matter the colour of their skin. We are all God's children. We are part of one global family.

We were made by God to love God and one another. God intended for us all to live our lives the best way that we can, but sometimes we do not make the right choices. Together we can build a better world where God's love for all shines through and all people have what they need to flourish.

Our Catholic Mission:

We can share God's love by working together with all the people in our global family to build a better world. A world where all people have enough food to eat, clean water to drink, and somewhere safe to live, learn and grow.

How will you share God's love with others over the coming week?

Prayer:

Loving God,
we thank you once more for the sign of your great love for us,
that is Jesus Christ on the cross.
Help us to share your love with others and to support one another to build a better world.
Amen.

Reflection taken from CAFOD Children's Liturgy

