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

Newsletter 17: Friday 17th July

Dear Parents

I hope that you and your families are all well.

This is the last newsletter of this school year. On behalf of the governors and staff, I would like to thank you for all of the great support you have given to our school this year. Thank you also for attending our recent music showcases and sports days, leavers' play and leavers' mass.

We wish our Year Six leavers and their families all the very best as they look forward to beginning their secondary education. They have been a fantastic group of young people to work with and we will really miss them! It is a big step forward when you leave your primary school. I hope all of them settle in well at their new schools as they mature into young adults and achieve all of their ambitions as they grow old!

Finally, I would like to wish you all a restful and wonderful summer holiday with your families.

Feedback from End of Year Reports:

Thank you very much to all of the parents and pupils who completed the feedback form which was sent home with the end of year reports. I have been working my way through reading all of them.

Pupil Wellbeing Form:

We have created an online **wellbeing** form for **parents** to use if there are any significant changes to any of our pupils' circumstances, during the summer break, that you would like to make school aware of before September. For example, circumstances such as family illness or bereavement. The responses will be monitored during the summer holiday.

Please click on the link below to access the wellbeing form:

[PUPIL WELLBEING FORM](#)

Sacramental Dates for 2025-26:

The following dates have been arranged with Father Christopher. Sacramental preparation meeting dates will be advised in the new school year.

Date:	Information:
Sunday 15 th November 2026	Mass of Enrolment for Y6 pupils preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in church at 10.30am
Sunday 24 th January 2027	Mass of Enrolment for Y3 pupils preparing to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist in church at 10.30am
Thursday 4 th March 2027	Y6 Mass with the Rite of Confirmation in church at 7.00pm
Saturday 22 nd May 2027	Y3 First Holy Communion Mass in church at 12.30pm



PTA Summer Fayre Fundraising:

Thank you to our amazing PTA who raised £2800 for school at the annual Summer Fayre. Thank you to everyone who helped out and attended on the day - especially our PTA chair: Mr McNamara and PTA treasurer: Mrs McNamara.



God's Eco Warriors looked after our environment and did a litter pick in the local area!

The children wanted to do something for our environment and organised a litter pick – we are very proud of them and the difference they made!



Y3 Educational Visit to the Botanical Gardens:

Year 3 enjoyed an exciting trip to the Birmingham Botanical Gardens, where they explored a variety of plants and habitats from around the world, including Arctic, tropical, and alpine environments. They took part in an interactive lesson about how plants grow, saw the koi fish, and finished the day with a lovely picnic on the lawn.



Y6 Trip to St. Mary's College, Oscott:

As part of the Schools' Outreach Programme, Year Six pupils experienced a fun packed day to Oscott College 26th June. Pupils joined seminarians for a day of varied activities, where they learned about the Holy Mass, about prayer, about the idea of God's call in their life, and about seminarian daily life whilst they live in the seminary. The pupils also participated in a Q & A session with seminarians, asking them all about their vocation. Well done Year Six!



Y5 Design & Technology:

Y5 had great fun building bridges last week! Here are some of their products:



Y5 Litter Pick:



Year 5 have been learning about the importance of looking after our environment and the impact that litter has on our oceans. They have learnt about how oceans are vital for supporting global trade, providing ingredients for medicines and sustaining a wide variety of marine life. The children discussed how small actions, such as reducing litter and recycling, can help protect these precious environments for future generations.

KS2 Sports Day:

KS2 enjoyed a fabulous morning of competitive sports on Friday 4th July. Children in each house participated in relay, obstacle and sprint races and had a wonderful time! Well done to you all!



Y5 & Y6 Music Showcase:

Y5 and Y6 delighted parents with their God-given musical gifts last Monday!

Y5 treated parents to a rendition of 'Fresh Prince of Bel-Air' and Adele's 'Make you feel my love', accompanied by glockenspiels.

Y6 performed 'Happy' by Pharrell Williams and 'If you ever need a Friend' by James Taylor & Carole King, accompanied by playing their recorders. A fun afternoon was had by all. Well done!



Y6 'Healthy Burgers' Design & Technology Project:

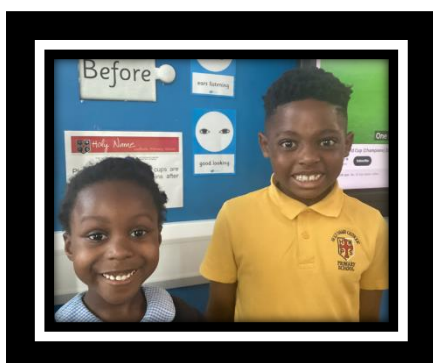
Children in Y6 have designed, taste-tested and made burgers this week for their BBQ which took place on Wednesday! The children tried to focus on the nutritional value of ingredients and taste in an effort to be as healthy as possible!



Y6 Leavers' Performance:



We had a super performance in school on 30th June, when our Y6 leavers' play 'An Inspector Calls' took place. There was fantastic acting, singing and dancing and some wonderful outfits – some items may have been 'borrowed' from some of our parents' wardrobes! It was a fantastic show – we were so proud of you all!



Poetry Writing Competition Winners:

We are a school of talented writers! Well done to our winners, Jovanna and Enzo, who created fantastic 'Recipe Poems' and to all those who entered. Keep your eyes peeled for the next writing competition coming your way soon!

Talent Show 2.0:

Our talent show entrants, who won their class heats, performed for the whole school today – following on from their fantastic performances at our recent PTA summer fayre. The superb acts were as follows:

Y6: Haysus W

Y5: Lena C, Weronika M, Martyna R, Sofia S

Y4: Rowan G

Y3: Maja R-A, Evie S-H

Y2: Jayna B, Lily F, Mia M, Maya S, Esmee W

Y1: Renayah M



I WOULD LIKE TO REMIND ALL PARENTS OF THESE ITEMS IN PREPARATION FOR SEPTEMBER:

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Please note: if you are unsure whether any item that you have purchased meets the requirements of our School Uniform Policy, then please check with the headteacher before giving an item to your child to wear to school. Our School Uniform Policy can be viewed in full on our school website.

FOOTWEAR:

Black sturdy, flat soled shoes without 'open toes' and suitable for all weathers (shoe heels should be less than 1.5 inches)

Shoes should not feature any branded logos, stripes or ticks even if they are all black.

Trainers (including black), **crocs** or other similar forms of footwear **are not permitted** or appropriate as these items of footwear are not in keeping with the smart appearance of our school uniform.

CLOTHING:

All **polo shirts**, **sweatshirts** and **cardigans** should be **emblazoned** with the Holy Name **school badge**.

Children are to attend school in / with the following items, in a clean and good condition:

- Light grey trousers or shorts (with '**inner**' **pockets only** – no 'combat trouser' style outer pockets) or
- Skirt or pinafore dress (no 'playsuits')

* N.B. '**Playsuits**' are not allowed as these require disrobing in order to use the toilet.

JEWELLERY:

For the safety of pupils and adults working with them, **we do not allow children to wear jewellery** to school (except for small, plain studs for pierced ears).

Ear studs will need to be removed for PE and swimming activities. Staff are not permitted to remove or fit studs in ears, this must be done independently by the child. If this is not possible, plasters or tape, **provided from home**, can be applied.

HEADWEAR:

We do not allow headwear to be worn during class time or inside school buildings, except for religious or medical reasons. However, caps and hats are actively encouraged for sun protection and winter hats may be worn when it is appropriate to do so.

HAIR:

Hair should be kept neat and tidy with **longer hair tied back**, plaited or in a 'bun'.

Plain hair / headbands, preferably **blue** or **black** may be worn to keep hair in place.

More extreme haircuts, including irregular shaving of the head, bright colouring or patterns are not appropriate. If your child has such hairstyles, it is expected that they will be allowed to 'grow out' and not be re cut or coloured.

PERSONAL EQUIPMENT:

You should provide your child with a **labelled water bottle** in order for them to stay hydrated during the school day.



If your child has a cold lunch (sandwiches) at lunchtime then they should bring these to school in a **labelled lunchbox** for reasons of hygiene.

SNACKS AND DRINKS:

The only 'snacks' that are allowed to be brought into school are **fresh fruit**. No other snacks are permitted.

Water is available in school for all pupils at all times. Any 'water' brought into school should **not be mixed with squash** to promote a healthy diet.

PACKED LUNCHES:

Please do not provide your children with any items which contain **bones** e.g. chicken wings, chicken thighs etc. as there is a risk of choking on such items.

NUT- FREE SCHOOL:

Some of the children at our school have severe nut allergies. For this reason, Holy Name is a nut-free school.

Please be careful to keep this in mind when packing lunchboxes. Nuts can be found in many items, such as some chocolate spreads and cereal bars. Your help and support is greatly appreciated.



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 in September.

Term Dates 2026-27:

Pupils will return to school after the summer holiday on **Wednesday 2nd September**. We will be closed to pupils for training days on these dates (one further date to be advised):

- Tuesday 1st September 2026
- Friday 11th September 2026
- 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**

