

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

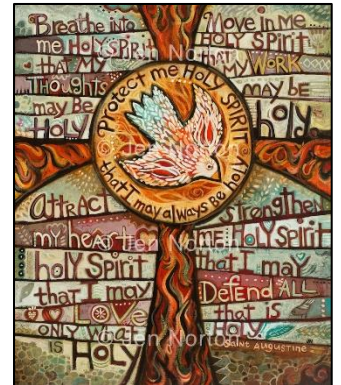
Newsletter 16: Friday 12th January 2024

Dear Parents

I hope that you all had a good Christmas holiday. On behalf of the staff and governors, I would like to wish you all a very happy new year! It was great to see all of the children back in school on Monday.

We had a wonderful mass in the school hall this morning. It was absolutely great to be joined by so many parents, family members and parishioners for this celebration.

Thank you to Mrs Kavanagh and Y6 for planning and leading a very thoughtful and spiritual pray and stay session yesterday. Thank you to all of the parents and family members who came and prayed with our Y6 pupils. It was wonderful to see the spiritual support for our children as they prepare to receive the sacrament of Confirmation next week. Please remember Y6 in your prayers at this special time.



Peace Sunday - Sunday 14th January 2024:

Every year, with the support of the Catholic Bishops' Conference, England and Wales, Peace Sunday is promoted as a way of observing the World Day of Peace.

Peace Sunday 2024 is Sunday 14th January and the theme chosen by Pope Francis is 'Artificial Intelligence and Peace'.

Pope Francis' overriding concern is that artificial intelligence should be used in the service of humanity and the protection of our common home and not to further injustice and inequality or to fuel division and violent conflict.



Dear God

We thank you for giving us your peace.
Help us to spread peace at home and at school
by loving and caring for one another
even when we don't agree.
Help us to spread peace
by sharing our time with those
who are lonely and who need a friend.
Help us to spread peace
by thinking and praying for
children who have no food
or who are frightened and live in fear.
Let us pray every day for peace for our families,
our friends and ourselves.
Amen

Goldfinch Award for Jesuit Values and Virtues:

Congratulations to the following children who have excelled at following the Jesuit Virtues of 'Attentive and Discerning' last- half term. They will be receiving special certificates in assembly on **Friday 19th January at 9.05am**. All parents are invited to join us for this assembly.

Nursery	Reception	Y1	Y2
Caleb J Nancy M	Enzo M Stella K	Consuela D Evan L	Millie S Emelie O'K
Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Arlo L Lena C	Brody B Alicija J	Masie P Kwaku O	Lola C Kornelia L



Well done to you all! You have shown that you are truly living our school mission statement: 'With Jesus as our guide: we love, live and learn together.'

**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 food bags 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 provided a family 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 consequently it is necessary for us to be able to talk face to face to those requiring help so that 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 holyname.bham@rcaob.org.uk

SchoolComms App:

Please download the free SchoolComms App to your phone (the details / links are in the circulation email for this week's newsletter) if you have not already done this. By doing this school will not have to pay for text messages to parents when they are used and this will save us quite a lot of money! Thank you for your support.

Admission Applications for Reception places for September 2024:

The deadline for applications to your Local Authority is:

Primary School Reception Class: **15th January 2024**

For those parents wishing to apply for a place at **Holy Name**, as soon as you have made your application to your Local Authority, please request a supplementary information form from the school office. You will need to complete and return this to school along with a copy of your child's Baptismal Certificate. This will enable the school to accurately rank your child as a Baptised Catholic and report this back to the Local Authority.

Sandwell residents can apply online at:

www.sandwell.gov.uk/admissions

If you require help or further information then please phone the Sandwell Admissions Parent Support Line:
0121 569 6765.

Extreme Weather:

If the school has to be closed in the event of snow or adverse weather conditions, then parents will be informed via text message and email and a notice will be placed on the homepage of the school website. Unless a text / email is received and an announcement made, the school will remain open.

100% Attenders:

Congratulations to all of the pupils listed below who will be receiving their attendance certificates and badges in assembly next **Friday 19th January at 9.05am**. All of these pupils achieved 100% attendance last term – a fantastic achievement!

Y6	Y5	Y4	Y3	Y2	Y1	Reception
Alfie B Jack B Olivia B Lola C Charlotte D Zylon F Perfect I-K Niamh K-G Elizabeth M Layla W	Samuel A Jessica C Isla F Elsie H Bridget I-S Savanna M Joseph O Chelsea O'S Linh P Maisie P Alyssa W	Esther A Monroe E Chrisler F Dylan H Symora N	Alexa B Deon B Isla F Logan M Charlie M David O Oscar P Martyna R Olivia T	Emmanuel A Abraham A-Q Athena G Olivia H Avni K Calia K Edward McN Oliver O'S Arthur R	Freddrick A Jax C Ria C Oscar E Pleasant I-K Isaac O Valentine Q Maja A-R Evie S-H Reggie S	Conor A Lily F Nathanael M Tina Q Maya S Esmée W

Year One Reading Workshop for Parents – Wednesday 24th January:

Miss Rackham is hosting a phonics and reading workshop for all Y1 parents at **5.00pm on Wednesday 24th January in the school hall**. Please register for this meeting by completing the form below:

Y1 READING WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM

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 which is accessible through 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 on Friday 19th January.

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!

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:

$$7 \times 8 = 56$$

or

$$8 \times 7 = 56$$



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 17 th January	Infants' mass in school hall at 9.15am
Wednesday 24 th January	Y4 and Y5 joining the parish for mass in church at 11.30am
Wednesday 31 st January	Y6 Thanksgiving Mass for the Sacrament of Confirmation in school at 9.15am
Wednesday 7 th February	Infants' mass in school hall at 9.15am

Diary Dates:

Date:	Information:
Monday 15 th January	Y4 Educational Visit to Bishops Wood Y5 & Y6 Cheerleading Club 3.15pm - 4.15pm
Tuesday 16 th January	Y1 & Y2 Dance Club 3.15pm - 4.15pm
Wednesday 17 th January	Y6 Mass with the Rite of Confirmation at 7.00pm
Thursday 18 th January	KS2 French Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Friday 19 th January	Values & Virtues / Attendance Assembly in school hall at 9.05am – all parents are welcome to join us
Wednesday 24 th January	Y1 Parent Workshop (phonics and reading) in school at 9.15am
Wednesday 31 st January	Y6 Thanksgiving Mass for the Sacrament of Confirmation at 9.15am

Happy birthday to:

Niamh K-G (Y6), Hayden K (Y5), Arthur R (Y2), Ethan O, Isaac O (Y1) and Ermias D (Nursery) who all have a birthday 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

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

Gospel: John 1:35-42

The Sunday's gospel tells us about how the disciples first became followers of Jesus.



Jesus looked at Simon and decided he should be called Peter, which means “rock”. Why do you think Jesus chose this name for Simon Peter?

Simon Peter was dependable (like a rock) and he was the foundation for the Church (buildings are built on rock foundations so that they do not fall over).

Names are very important. We all have one, or two, or maybe even three. And some of us have a nickname that we like to be called by our family or our friends.

How many names do you have? What are they? Do you know what your name means? What do you like about your name?

We are all part of God's family and so God knows us all by our name and loves and cares for us wherever we are in the world. God's family spreads out all over the world and includes all kinds of different people.

How does this make you feel?

How do you think God wants us to treat our brothers and sisters around the world – each of whom God knows by name?

Our Catholic Mission:

God wants us to treat each other fairly, with love and respect and to care for one another.

So, how will you treat your brothers and sisters here and around the world in the coming week?

Prayer:

Loving God,
help us to remember that all people throughout the world
are special because you know us by our names
and we are all your children.
Amen.