

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

Newsletter 6: Friday 13th October 2023

Dear Parents

I hope that you and your families are all well. We had a wonderful whole school celebration of Mass this morning. The singing was brilliant! We are very **grateful** to our whole school community for their **generosity**. This harvest, all of our donations will be sent to the Great Barr food bank to help families in need in our local community.



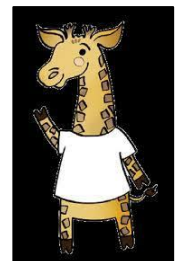
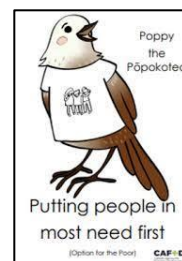
'He satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things' Psalm 107:9

For our harvest almsgiving, everyone at Holy Name has shown the importance of putting their faith into action by promoting the Catholic Social Teaching principles of

'The common good'

and

'Preferential option for the poor'.



Reception Welcome Prayer Service:

Last Thursday we had a really special celebration in school to 'officially' welcome our Reception pupils to our school family. Thank you to the Y6 buddies who supported their Reception buddies during the prayer service. Every year we ask our Y6 pupils to help to show our new Reception pupils how to truly live out our school mission statement.



Rosary Challenge:

October is the month of the Rosary. This October we would like to invite your child to take part in a challenge. To take part in this challenge your child should pray a decade of the Rosary each weekday in October. Begin each decade of the Rosary by carefully listening to a scripture passage (please follow the links below). Then, pray the Our Father, the Hail Mary (ten times) and finish with the Glory Be. As you pray please try to remember the words from scripture and pay attention to how God speaks and moves in your heart.

[The Joyful Mysteries](#)

[The Luminous Mysteries](#)

[The Sorrowful Mysteries](#)

[The Glorious Mysteries](#)

To complete the challenge your child will need to complete a Rosary challenge log sheet which they can collect from Miss Edmunds. Please encourage your child to hand in any completed challenge logs to Miss Edmunds by **Friday 10th November** to receive a certificate.



World Mental Health Day:

On Tuesday it was World Mental Health Day. As a school we took some time out at lunchtime to enjoy some relaxing colouring activities and games in our quiet area in the playground. The school council had a meeting to look at some new books that have been kindly donated by Cruz (Y4) and Rome's (Y1) mom. We have put these books in our bookshelves around school for all of our children to enjoy. We would like to say a big thank you to her for such thoughtfulness and generosity.

PTA AGM – Tuesday 17th October at 6.30pm:

Holy Name Parent & Teacher Association will be holding their Annual General Meeting **online** on **Tuesday 17th October at 6.30pm**. All parents are warmly invited to attend to review the actions of the PTA during the 2022-23 school year and plan for the coming year. All parents have been emailed a joining link with today's newsletter.

Library Events:

A message from Tracy at Great Barr Library:

'I just wanted to get in touch and let you know what we have going on at Hamstead & Great Barr Libraries. I have attached a copy our "What's On" for October which includes: Play Talk Read Storytime, Craft Clubs, Lego Club Author Talks, class visits and much more. I also have added links below with details of lots of exciting events coming up for both adults and children to enjoy as part of our Literature Festival and Black History Month.'

Black History Month <https://heyzine.com/flip-book/650ee576fc.html>

Literature Festival <https://prism.librarymanagementcloud.co.uk/sandwell/assets/-/brochure.html>

To book your tickets <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/sandwell-libraries-and-archiv...>

Please do have a look and take advantage of the wonderful events in on offer!

Hamstead Library Events

Great Barr Library Events

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 12×12 .

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:

$$7 \times 9 = 63$$

or

$$9 \times 7 = 63$$



Reception - Y6 Reading Challenges:

Just like last year, our reading challenges are up and running! It is 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: [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!

All of these books will support your child's love of reading and further enhance their vocabulary and encourage a love of reading.

**The first raffle will take place at the end of October!
All children should aim to have entered at least once by then. Good luck!**

Parent Consultation Appointments - Monday 23rd and Wednesday 25th October:

Please remember to book an appointment with your child's class teacher via School Cloud.

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 25 th October	Infants' mass in school hall at 9.15am

Diary Dates:

Date:	Information:
Monday 16 th October	Y5 Bikeability all week (in school) Y2 Archery Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Tuesday 17 th October	Y3 & Y4 Archery club 3.15 – 4.15pm Y1 Stories & Sounds Club 3.15 – 4.00pm Parent Teacher Association AGM online at 6.30pm
Wednesday 18 th – Friday 20 th October	Y6 Residential at Alton Castle
Thursday 19 th October	Y4 Swimming (AM) KS2 French Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Monday 23 rd October	Y2 Archery Club 3.15 – 4.15pm (CANCELLED due to parents evening) Parents' Evening 3.35 – 6.00pm in school hall
Tuesday 24 th October	Y3 & Y4 Archery club 3.15 – 4.15pm Y1 Stories & Sounds Club 3.15 – 4.00pm
Wednesday 25 th October	Parents' Evening 3.35 – 6.00pm in school hall
Thursday 26 th October	Y4 Swimming (AM) KS2 French Club 3.15 – 4.15pm PTA Monster Disco 5.30 – 6.30pm: Reception, Y1, Y2 7.00 – 8.00pm: Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6
Friday 27 th October	SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS – Staff Training Day
Half Term Break:	Monday 30th October to Friday 3rd November

Term Dates 2023-24:

We will be closed for a training day on **Friday 27th October**. The children's last day in school this half term will be **Thursday 26th October**.

2023-24	Term starts:	Half Term Holiday:	Term Ends:
Autumn	Monday 4 th September	Monday 30 th October to Friday 3 rd November	Friday 22 nd December
Spring	Monday 8 th January	Monday 12 th February to Friday 16 th February	Friday 22 nd March
Summer	Monday 8 th April	Monday 27 th May to Friday 31 st May	Friday 19 th July

Happy birthday to:

Samuel A, Kacper C (Y5) and Kian R (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

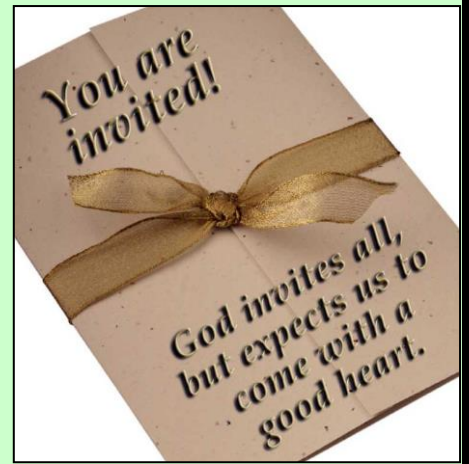
Sunday 8.30am and 10.30am

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus tells us another parable to try and explain what the kingdom of heaven is like.

The king's son is getting married. He invites lots of people to the party but when the day comes and the king sends out his servants to fetch the people they do not come. He tries again, but the people just aren't interested in coming.



How do you think the king feels about this? What does he do next?

The king sends out his servants to stand in the middle of the street and invite everyone they can find to the wedding. So they do, and the wedding hall is filled with guests.

Have you ever been to a wedding? Or another big party or celebration? What was it like? Did you have to do anything beforehand to get ready to go to the wedding/party?

When we go to a wedding, or any party, we tell the person who invited us that we are coming. We get out our best clothes and make sure we are clean and tidy. We buy a present and write the card. Can you think of anything else that we do to get ready for a party?

The king in Jesus' story represents God and the wedding is the kingdom of heaven. What do you think that Jesus was trying to tell us with this story?

We are all invited by God to enter into the kingdom of Heaven. It is a place where everyone is welcome. But we have to be ready to go.

Our Catholic Mission:

How do you think we can answer God's invitation and get ready for the kingdom of heaven? What do you think God asks us to do?

God asks us to be kind, to be welcoming and invite others to share in what we have, to bring peace, to stand up for what is right, to care for and respect one another and to love our neighbour, wherever they are in the world.

How does God want you to live your life? And how will you answer that invitation this week?

Prayer:

God who calls us,
strengthen and help us
as we try to say yes to your invitation to be with you,
by living lives of sharing, kindness, respect and love.
Amen.

Reflection taken from CAFOD Children's Liturgy