



Holy Family Catholic Primary School

October 2022 Newsletter

*The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the word of our God will stand
forever. Isaiah 40:8*

Dear Parents,

Welcome to our October newsletter and the end of the first half term of this academic year.

It is lovely to see all of our children settling back into the routine of school so well and welcoming lots of new members of our school family.

Curriculum and Enrichment

Caring for Holy Family - Groundwork

A key focus for us at Holy Family is to create children who will become 'architects of a better world.' With that in mind, we have started a weekly gardening club run by the green-fingered Mrs Nailor! Each week, children will assist Mrs Nailor in looking after our grounds. Last week, the first group of children helped set the flower gardens for winter by clearing weeds and mulching. They planted daffodil and crocus bulbs and started the journey of creating an edible kitchen by sowing spinach seeds and planting strawberries.



The children were kitted out in overalls and wellies from the 'Go-fund me' initiative of a few years ago, after the 'Great Sensory Garden Fire of 2019'.

Every child at Holy Family will have an opportunity to join in at various stages of the year. We look forward to seeing (and tasting) the fruits of their labour in a few months time.

National Poetry Day

On Thursday 6 October we celebrated National Poetry Day! The theme this year was 'The Environment'. Our children wrote and performed some beautiful poems around ensuring our planet is preserved for years to come.

Watch this space to see the finished poetry - we will be collating an anthology from across the partnership!

Bikeability

Our Year 5 pupils had a fantastic time taking part in Bikeability at the start of the month.

It was wonderful to see how much the children improved in their cycling abilities and confidence. We had several non-riders at the start of the week that were competent riders by the end. Well done to all of the children that took part. It is so important to ensure that our children know how to ride safely out on the roads and how to be respectful and mindful of other road users.



School Council

Each class has now elected a new set of school council representatives. In order to undertake the position, the children prepared and presented a speech explaining why they would make a great candidate for the role. All children cast a vote and we are pleased to announce the list of children who were elected below:

Well done to these children and thank you to all who applied!

Year 1: Anabel and Archie

Year 2: Lara, Gowtham, Phaniel and Aisha

Year 3: Maya M, Oscar S, Esmee, Mark, Charlie and Belle

Year 4: Milena, Joey, Natasha, Jayce, Iylah and Gabriel

Year 5: Philip, Majiec, Maria and Gia

Year 6: Elliot, Alina, Martyna, Ayden, Brody and Adria.



This year, the children will be working on 'Experience Passports' – compiling a list of opportunities and initiatives that should be available to all children in school. They will also be working alongside our Eco Council to maintain our Eco Green Flag status.

House Captains 2022-2023



Congratulations to the following children for becoming this year's House Captains and Vice Captains:

St John

House Captain: Freya

Vice Captain: Romel

Sports Captain: Oliver M

St Joseph

House Captain: Lilli Rose

Vice Captain: Maria

Sports Captain: Logan

Sacred Heart

House Captain: Ava

Vice Captain: Oliver C

Sports Captain: Dawid

Our Lady

House Captain: Eleanor

Vice Captain: Shenyce

Sports Captain: Piotr

Captains will support their house teams in our three half termly competitions – one academic, one charity and one sport based.

During Autumn 1 our competitions have been: Times Tables, Rotary Shoe Box initiative and Cross Country. Watch this space for the results!

Prayer Leaders

Our prayer leaders from Year 5 and Year 6 have been doing a wonderful job in the prayer corner each lunchtime.

Well done to – Alfie, Nadia, Martha, Grace, Isabella, Owen, Lexie, Ava, Emily, Eunice, Cindy, Quade, Georgia, Ashton, Mia P, Mia A, Lillie, Gracie, Joanna, Maciej, Alina and Shenyce.



Reading Buddies

This term, year 6 leaders have set up a Book Buddy lunchtime club. Up to 6 children can sign up each week from Years 1 - 5, and spend one lunchtime reading together and exploring the library. We have had some excellent book reviews and children have really enjoyed sharing their passion for reading with others. The Year 6 leaders have been incredibly enthusiastic and dedicated, and have developed their leadership skills. The current theme is 'books about gardens', so if you have any fiction or non-fiction suggestions we would love to hear them!



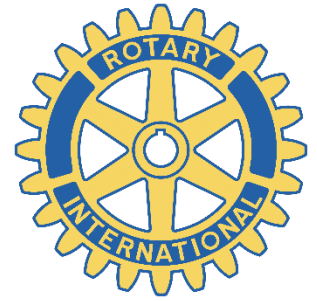
Pip and Pap Parent Workshops – Year R

Mrs Haynes is running a Year R parent and child group once a week to support children with early reading and writing skills! As part of the session, you and your child will get to share a story together, followed by a game and an art activity! Our children love to see their parents in school and to show off all they have been learning. We do still have some spaces available – please ask the office for more details.

Rotary Shoebox Appeal

On the last day of last half term the Rotary Club collected nearly 100 shoeboxes from Holy Family School. Each box (filled with little gifts, such as a notepad and colouring pencils) will make a child smile this Christmas time.

Thank you for your continued support.



Parents' Meetings

Thank you to all of our parents for attending the parents meetings earlier this month. Hopefully you have all had a chance to catch up with your child's class teacher now.

We look forward to watching all of the children continue to progress over the course of the year.

Thank you for all of your support.

P.E. kits

Please ensure your child has their P.E. kit in school at all times and that it is labelled. Below are the P.E. days for each year group:

Monday – Year 1

Tuesday – Year 2

Wednesday – Year 3 and Year 4

Thursday – Year 5

Friday – Year R and Year 6



School Applications

Deadline for September 2023 entry:

Year 7 (secondary school) places: **31 October 2021 at 23:59**

Year R (infant/primary school) places: **15 January 2022 at 23:59**

Please ensure you have submitted your applications on time and used all 3 preferences. Late applications can result in your child missing a place at your preferred school.

Appointments in school time

We appreciate that it is not always possible to make doctor/dentist/hospital appointments outside of school time. If your child does have an appointment during school hours please ensure you notify the school office and the class teacher as far in advance as you can. Please do not be offended if you are asked to provide evidence of the appointment as we require this to approve the absence.

School Messages (collection arrangements)

School is a very busy place especially at the start and end of the day. Please note that the office cannot guarantee that messages received after 3.00pm will be delivered in time for the end of the school day. Please plan as far in advance as you can, as we want to keep our children safe and last minute messages do not support this.

INSET Day Reminder

Thursday 20th October 2022

Friday 21st October 2022

Thursday 25th May 2023

Friday 26th May 2023

Dates for your Diary

- **Wednesday 2nd November** - Year R Teddy bear hospital
- **Thursday 17th November** – Individual pupil photographs
- **Tuesday 22nd – Monday 28th November** – Scholastic book fair (details to follow)
- **w/c 10th July 2023** – Year 6 Residential to Skern Lodge

