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

Newsletter 5: Friday 25th October 2024

Dear Parents

I hope you were all able to attend parents' evening this week and found the consultations with your child's teacher to be valuable. It has been a very busy half term; I hope that you and your children will have a chance to get some rest next week!

Thank you to our wonderful PTA for hosting our annual Monster Disco last night. I hope that everyone enjoyed it!

Please remember that next **Friday 1st November** is a Holyday of Obligation as it is the **Feast of all Saints**.

New Reception Intake for September 2025:

There will be an open morning in school on **Tuesday 12th November** at **9.15am** for parents who have children who will be eligible for a reception place in September 2025. Please phone or email the school office if you wish to attend.

Sacramental Dates for 2024-25:

Y3 parents please note: the Parent Meeting for Sacramental Preparation is taking place on the first Thursday back after half term.

Date:	Information:
Tuesday 5 th November 2024	Y3 Parent Meeting for Sacramental Preparation at 5.30pm
Thursday 12 th December 2024	Y3 pupils will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in church at 2.15pm
Wednesday 5 th February 2025	Y6 Mass with the Rite of Confirmation in church at 7.00pm
Saturday 17 th May 2025	Y3 First Holy Communion Mass in church at 12.30pm

Reception Parents - Phonics Workshop:

All Reception parents are warmly invited to attend the Phonics Workshop in the Reception classroom on **Wednesday 6th November** at **9.05am**.



Please sign up using the following link: [RECEPTION PHONICS WORKSHOP SIGN UP FORM](#)

Goldfinch Award for Jesuit Values and Virtues:

Congratulations to the following children who have excelled at following the Jesuit Virtues of '**Curious and Active**' this half term.

They will be receiving special certificates in assembly on **Friday 8th November** at **9.05am**. All parents are invited to join us for this assembly. **N.B.** Nursery pupils will be given their certificates in class.

Nursery	Reception	Y1	Y2
Adonis Q Jason B	Simran B Saavi K	Noah H Tomini A	Cara B Alexander B
Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Jayden B Calia K	Martyna R Elijah S	Esther A Symora N	Kacper C Linh P



Harvest Donations Update:

Please see the message that we have received from The Great Barr Foodbank:

"I write on behalf of Great Barr Foodbank to thank you most sincerely for your very generous Harvest Festival Donation.

We have weighed in all the goods and can confirm that in total you have donated over half a ton of food which is a truly amazing amount and will certainly boost our warehouse stocks.

As you can appreciate, the demand for food is rapidly increasing, and your help and support will go a long way to supporting the many families in need.

Regards and thanks

The Great Barr Foodbank team."

Thank you to all our school community for truly putting Catholic social teaching into action and supporting the principle of preferential option for the poor.



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.

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



School Places Available:

We have school places available in our new Reception class and also in other classes in school.

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

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



SchoolComms App:

Please download the free SchoolComms App to your phone if you have not already done this - the details / links are in the circulation email for this week's newsletter. 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.

Fruit Snacks:

Please ensure that if you are providing your child with grapes for snack time or lunchtime, that they are cut into pieces (lengthways) to prevent a choking hazard. Thank you for your continued support.

Asthma forms:

Please can you return any asthma paperwork to the school office. If your child, no longer needs asthma medication in school please let the office staff know so that we can update your child's medical record. Thank you.

Holy Name PTA - Parentkind:

Parentkind – the charity that supports school PTAs - have teamed up with Asda, who is making millions of pounds available to donate to primary schools across the UK through their 'Cashpot for Schools' initiative.

All you have to do is, opt in through the Asda Rewards app, choose our primary school and shop and scan in store or shop online at Asda.com, between **2nd September** and **30th November 2024**.

Asda will donate **0.5%** of the value of your shop to our PTA. Also, every time somebody opts in, Asda will give an additional **£1** to the school Cashpot. Plus, it doesn't stop there – Asda are also giving **£50** to every school to get them started.

Please support our school if you shop at Asda.



PTA NOTICEBOARD

Thanks to everyone who attended our PTA Monster Ball this week. Next up is the Christmas Event after school on Friday 6th December.

In the last two weeks your PTA has contributed £300 to the upcoming Y6 Prom and £250 for Y3 books supporting our families to help their children to prepare for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.

Joe McNamara (joe.mcnamara3@googlemail.com)

PTA Chair

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!)

Congratulations to the following pupils who won a brand-new book of their choice for entering the reading competition:

Y6: Conor B	Y4: Oscar P	Y2: Valentine Q	YR: Daya S
Y5: Declan A	Y3: Avni K	Y1: Mia M	

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 on Friday 22nd November.

Masses next 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 6 th November	NO CLASSES ATTENDING MASS
Wednesday 13 th November	Infants' mass in school hall at 9.15am
Wednesday 20 th November	Y4 and Y5 joining the parish for mass in church at 11.30am
Wednesday 27 th November	Infants' mass in school hall at 9.15am
Wednesday 4 th December	Y3 and Y6 joining the parish for mass in church at 11.30am
Wednesday 11 th December	NO CLASSES ATTENDING MASS
Wednesday 18 th December	Whole school in school hall at 9.15am

Diary Dates:

Date:	Information:
Monday 4 th November	Y1 Multi-skills Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Tuesday 5 th November	Y3 Multi-skills Club 3.15 – 4.15pm Y3 Parent Meeting for Sacramental Preparation at 5.30pm
Wednesday 6 th November	Reception Parents - Phonics Workshop in school at 9.05am
Thursday 7 th November	KS2 French Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Friday 8 th November	Celebration Assembly in the school hall at 9.05am (all parents welcome)
Monday 11 th November	Y1 Multi-skills Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Tuesday 12 th November	Y3 Multi-skills Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Thursday 14 th November	KS2 French Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Friday 15 th November	Anti-Bullying Workshops in school (Reception – Y6)
Friday 6 th December	PTA Christmas Fayre 3.15pm (immediately after school)
Tuesday 10 th December	Infant Nativity in school at 2.00pm
Wednesday 11 th December	Infant Nativity in school at 9.30am
Thursday 12 th December	Y3 pupils will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in church at 2.15pm

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

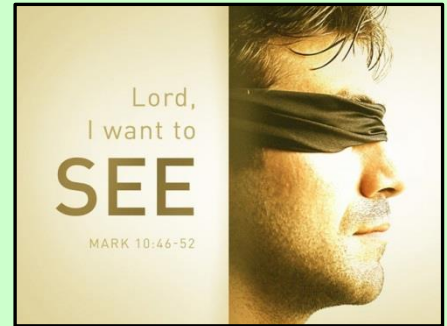
Sunday 8.30am and 10.30am



Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

Gospel: Mark 10:46-52

Jesus was leaving a town called Jericho with his disciples and a large crowd was following him. A blind man called Bartimaeus asked Jesus for healing, and Jesus agreed because he could see that Bartimaeus had faith.



Bartimaeus was able to see again and he followed Jesus along the road. How do you think Bartimaeus must have felt to be able to see again?

Sometimes we all try to ignore things that we see, or we pretend that we haven't seen them. Can you think of a time you did that?

Perhaps you pretended not to see when someone was being mean to someone else in the playground. Perhaps you pretended not to see the homeless person asking for money? Perhaps you pretended not to see when someone dropped something in front of you and needed help to pick it up again?

Why do you think that we sometimes pretend not to see things?

Sometimes we know that what we have seen isn't fair or isn't right, but we don't know what to do about it. It can be easier to pretend that we haven't seen the problem than to work out what to do to make it better.

We can tell others and help them to see that there is a problem, but also that there are solutions to help make the world a fairer place.

Our Catholic Mission:

What will you do this week if you see something that is unfair?

Prayer:

Christ Jesus,
help us to see what we can do to make a change to our world,
so that it becomes a fairer place for all people to live.
Amen.

Reflection taken from CAFOD Children's Liturgy