

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

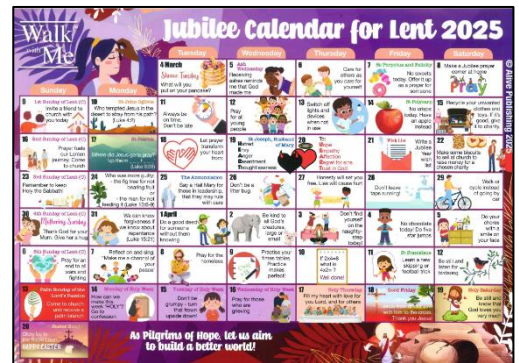
**Newsletter 14: Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

Dear Parents

I hope that you and your families are all safe and well and that you were all able to attend parents' evening last week and found the consultations with your child's teacher to be valuable.

Thank you to all of our Y1 parents who attended the phonics screening meeting in school last Tuesday.

Please remember to follow your Lenten 'Walk with Me' calendar to provide a daily focus for your family during this very special season of the church's year.



**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April and Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June – Staff Training Days:**  
School will be closed to all pupils on these dates.

**Y3 Parent Meeting for Sacramental Preparation – Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March at 5.30pm:**

All Y3 parents who have a child who is being prepared for the Sacrament of the Eucharist are **required** to attend our meeting in school on **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March**. This meeting will cover the preparation and arrangements for the children's First Holy Communion.

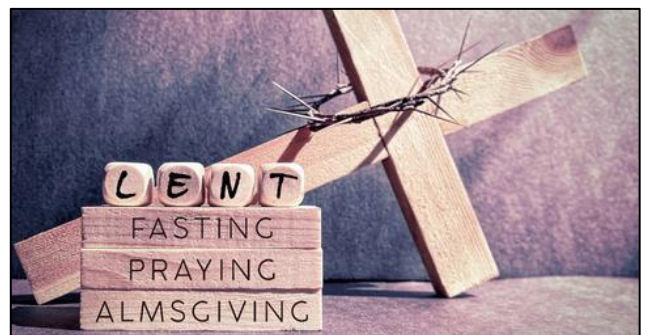


**Lenten Family Prayer Services for Y1 and Y2 Parents:**

We would like to invite our **Y1** and **Y2** parents into school to join us for a special Lenten family prayer service.

This is an opportunity for our family members to join with their child's class to pray together at this special time of year. Please do your best to join us for these special services and note that all attendees must be in the school hall at 2.30pm. It will not be possible to join the prayer service after it has started.

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 2.30pm** in school for **Y2**.  
**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 2.30pm** in school for **Y1**.



**Lenten Almsgiving DANCE-A-THON:**

To raise as much money as we can for Father Hudson's Caritas, our Catholic Life Council have decided to hold a Dance-a-Thon in school on **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April**. Father Hudson's Caritas is a charity that supports vulnerable people, offering services such as care for children, older adults, and those with disabilities. The aim is that as a school community we manage to keep the beat all day in a dance extravaganza! Each class will take part on a rota system and our Catholic Life councillors will lead a lunchtime session on the playground.



### **Magic Map – KS2 Writing Competition:**

Calling all budding writers! Is your child inspired to delve into their imaginations to write a story about any topic? Anything is possible when imagination and creativity come alive! Using any style or technique, they can write about incredible worlds or fantasy creatures, express their inner thoughts or emotions, describe their favourite people, places or hobbies, or write about a class topic.



For an entry form, please speak to Mrs Kavanagh. The deadline for entries is **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2025.**

### **PTA Chair's Update:**

We held an enjoyable Bingo Evening on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February which we raised £530 for the school. Thank you to everyone who attended.

Please put Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June in your diary for our annual Summer BBQ. This is our main fundraising event of the year. For it to be an enjoyable success we will need helpers from every year group.



**Neurodiversity  
Celebration  
Week**

**"Every individual matters.  
Every individual has a role to  
play. Every individual makes a  
difference"**

- Jane Goodall, Primatologist /  
Anthropologist

[www.neurodiversityweek.com](http://www.neurodiversityweek.com)

### **Neurodiversity Celebration Week 2025:**

Next week we are celebrating Neurodiversity Week through an assembly to celebrate our differences.

All around school we have posters up of famous people who are neurodivergent, along with inspirational quotes.

You can find some wonderful resources to support you at home here: <https://www.neurodiversityweek.com/resource-hub>

### **Ready, Steady Read!**

Don't forget, if you entered our sponsored read, please send in your sponsor money by Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March. All the money raised will contribute to books that school can purchase for the library!

### **World Book Day & Book Fair:**

Thank you so much for all your wonderful efforts for World Book Day! We were so impressed with the costumes and have all developed our vocabulary!

A huge thank you for your support with the Book Fair. We have raised £375 for school so far! This will enable us to purchase lots of new books.



### **Nut-Free School:**

Some of our pupils have nut allergies. For this reason, we would like to make Holy Name a safe, nut-free school. Please be careful to keep this in mind when preparing lunchboxes. Nuts can be found in many items, such as chocolate spreads (e.g. Nutella) and cereal bars. We have noticed some of these items in school recently. Thank you for your cooperation.



### **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:



**St Vincent  
de Paul Society**  
England and Wales  
Turning Concern into Action



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 a number school places in our classes in school.

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

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



**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!**

**School Masses:**

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 19 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Y3</b> and <b>Y6</b> joining the parish for mass in <b>church</b> at <b>11.30am</b>
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Y4</b> and <b>Y5</b> joining the parish for mass in <b>church</b> at <b>11.30am</b>
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	<b>Infants'</b> mass in <b>school hall</b> at <b>9.15am</b>
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> April	Whole School Mass – End of Term

**Diary Dates:**

Date:	Information:
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Y6</b> Educational Visit to St. Chad's Cathedral <b>Y3</b> Parent Meeting for Sacramental Preparation at 5.30pm
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Y2</b> Educational Visit to National Sealife Centre <b>Y5</b> Educational Visit to Islamic Exhibition Centre
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>KS2</b> French Club <b>3.15 – 4.15pm</b>
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Celebration Assembly in the school hall at <b>9.05am</b> (all parents are invited to join us)
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>Y1</b> Educational Visit to Dudley Zoo
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>KS2</b> French Club <b>3.15 – 4.15pm</b>
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	Celebration Assembly in the school hall at <b>9.05am</b> (all parents are invited to join us) British Values Day
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>Y4</b> Holy Week assembly at <b>9.05am</b> (all parents are welcome)



Date:	Information:
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>Whole School</b> Mass in school at <b>9.15am</b>
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>Y3</b> Holy Week assembly at <b>9.05am</b> (all parents are welcome) <b>KS2</b> French Club <b>3.15 – 4.15pm</b>
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>Y5</b> Holy Week assembly at <b>9.05am</b> (all parents are welcome) <b>LAST DAY OF SPRING TERM</b>

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 of Lent (Year C)

### Gospel: Luke 9:28-36

In this Sunday's gospel reading, Jesus goes up a mountain with Peter, James and John to pray. While he is there a great change comes over him. His face was changed and his clothes became sparkling white. How do you think the disciples felt when they saw this?

Then a voice came from the clouds saying, "This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him." Whose voice do you think this is? How do you think the disciples felt after hearing God speak directly to them?

How would you feel if you had been on the mountain with Jesus when all this happened?

Jesus is changed. And everything changes for the disciples too. After all they now know that Jesus really is the Son of God.

Lent is a time when we try to make a change to our lives too. We try to live the way God wants us to.

If we listen to Jesus and spend time with God in our lives then we too can be changed for the better.

How do you think we can best listen to Jesus?

### Our Catholic Mission:

God asks us to be kind and generous to others and to treat them as we would like to be treated.

What will you do to try and live more as God wants us to?

### Prayer:

God our Father,  
help us to see your Son in all people and to treat them as we would wish to be treated ourselves.  
Help us to listen and live our lives as you ask us to.  
Amen.

*Reflection taken from CAFOD Children's Liturgy*

