

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

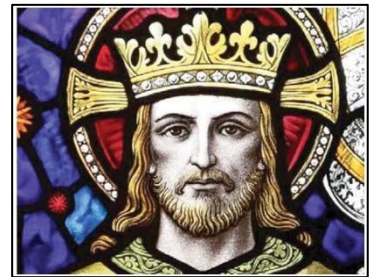
## **Newsletter 7: Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2024**

Dear Parents

I hope that you and your families are all well.

Thank you very much to our Reception and Y1 and Y2 parents who attended the reading workshops which have taken place during the past two weeks. It is really important to us that we work closely in partnership with our families to support our children's learning. Thank you also to our school staff for preparing these invaluable opportunities.

This Sunday is the feast of Christ the King – which is celebrated on the last Sunday before the season of Advent begins. When we celebrate Christ as King, we are not celebrating an oppressive ruler, but one willing to die for humanity and whose 'loving-kindness endures forever.' It is fitting that the feast celebrating Christ's kingship is observed right before Advent, when we liturgically wait for the promised Messiah (King).



Finally, thank you again for your generosity today in providing gifts for our PTA Christmas Fayre which is taking place immediately after school on **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December**.

### **Anti-Bullying Workshops:**

Thank you to our wonderful PTA who funded our anti-bullying week theatre group visit last Friday. Our infant children learnt all about how to be kind and treat each other with respect. Rupi and his puppet Millie told the story of The Hare and the Tortoise and with some help from some of our pupils they solved friendship problems that both characters faced. Our junior pupils put their drama skills to the test and acted out a range of scenarios.



### **PTA CHRISTMAS FAYRE DONATION DAYS:**

Our final donation day is next **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November**.

Thank you again in advance for your generosity and also to the dedicated members of the PTA who work so hard to raise substantial funds for our school.

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Donations</b>	<b>Information:</b>
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>BOTTLES</b>	Preferably alcohol: please check that any bottles that you have donated are unopened.

### **PTA CHRISTMAS RAFFLE:**

Raffle tickets were sent home last Friday for the annual PTA Christmas raffle. Please return raffle tickets and money to the school office by **5<sup>th</sup> December**. The raffle will be drawn at the Christmas Fayre on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

### **The Magical Map KS2 Creative Writing Competition:**

Calling all budding KS2 writers! Where will 'The Magical Map' creative writing competition take you? You could write about going ANYWHERE! Real, imaginary, past, present or future, in a short story of no more than 100 words.

KS2 entries are to be submitted to Mrs Kavanagh by **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024**.



### **Pray and Stay - Advent Family Prayer Services for Y4 and Y5 Parents:**

We would like to invite our **Y4** and **Y5** parents into school to join us for our special Advent Family Prayer Services on these dates:

**Y4 - 2.35pm on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December**

**Y5 - 2.35pm on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December**

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 2.35pm. It will not be possible to join the prayer service after it has started.



### **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](#)



### **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!**

**The next prize draw will be on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December.**

**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**.

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Information:</b>
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>Infants' mass in school hall at 9.15am</b>
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Y3 and Y6 joining the parish for mass in church at 11.30am</b>
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>NO CLASSES ATTENDING MASS</b>
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole School Thanksgiving Mass for the Sacrament of Reconciliation in <b>school hall</b> at <b>9.15am</b>

**Diary Dates:**

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Information:</b>
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>Y1 Multi-skills Club 3.15 – 4.15pm</b>
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>Y3 Multi-skills Club 3.15 – 4.15pm</b>
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>Infants' mass in school hall at 9.15am</b>
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>KS2 French Club 3.15 – 4.15pm</b>
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	NO ASSEMBLY
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	<b>Y1 Multi-skills Club 3.15 – 4.15pm</b>
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	<b>Y4 Advent Family Prayer Service at 2.35pm in school</b> <b>Y3 Multi-skills Club 3.15 – 4.15pm</b>
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Y5 Educational Visit to National Space Centre</b> <b>Y3 and Y6 joining the parish for mass in church at 11.30am</b>
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>KS2 French Club 3.15 – 4.15pm</b>
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Celebration Assembly in the school hall at <b>9.05am</b> (all parents welcome) PTA Christmas Fayre <b>3.15pm</b> (immediately after school)
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Y1 Multi-skills Club 3.15 – 4.15pm</b>
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Infant Nativity in school at <b>2.00pm</b> <b>Y3 Multi-skills Club 3.15 – 4.15pm</b>
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Infant Nativity in school at <b>9.30am</b> <b>NO CLASSES ATTENDING MASS</b>
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Y3 pupils will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in church at 2.15pm</b> <b>KS2 French Club 3.15 – 4.15pm</b>
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Celebration Assembly in the school hall at <b>9.05am</b> (all parents welcome)
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Y5 Advent Family Prayer Service at 2.35pm in school</b> <b>Y1 Multi-skills Club 3.15 – 4.15pm</b>
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Y3 Multi-skills Club 3.15 – 4.15pm</b>
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole School Thanksgiving Mass for the Sacrament of Reconciliation in <b>school hall</b> at <b>9.15am</b>
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>KS2 French Club 3.15 – 4.15pm</b>
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Celebration Assembly in the school hall at <b>9.05am</b> (all parents welcome)

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**

## Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (Year B)

### Gospel: John 18:33-37

In this Sunday's gospel Pilate asks Jesus if he is the king of the Jews. Jesus answers that his kingdom is not of this world. What do you think he means? Where is Jesus's kingdom?

Jesus doesn't wear a crown or have lots of riches. He doesn't live in a palace with lots of servants. What kind of king do you think Jesus is?

Jesus shows us that you do not have to be rich or powerful to be important. He shows us that what is more important is how you treat others. What we do and say is much more important than whether we are rich or poor or where we come from.

Pilate is confused. He couldn't understand what Jesus was saying. So he asks Jesus again if he is a king. Jesus replies that he was born to come into the world and share the truth with all people.

Pilate says, "Truth, what is that?" What do you think the truth that Jesus came to share is?

Jesus is the Son of God. He came to show us how to live. He came to teach us to help others, to love our neighbours and to share with them. And to pay more attention to what people do and say, than where they come from, or what they look like.

Jesus says that all those who are on the side of truth will listen to his voice.

Can you think of all the different people you listen to in a week? And what else do you listen to?

How do we listen to Jesus?

We can listen to Jesus by hearing the Gospels and thinking about what Jesus is showing us in them. Also we can listen to Jesus when we take time to be still and quiet and when we pray.

### Our Catholic Mission:

This week let's try really hard to listen carefully to everyone. But most of all let's try really hard to listen to Jesus, a very different kind of king, in our lives.

How will you show you are listening to Jesus in your life this week?

### Prayer:

Christ our King,  
help us to be like you,  
to listen to your truth and to see that all people are important,  
no matter who they are or where they come from.  
Amen.

*Reflection taken from CAFOD Children's Liturgy*

