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

## Newsletter 2: Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Parents

I hope that you are all now back in the routine of school and I also hope that everyone has settled in well and made a great start to the term: especially our new Nursery and Reception pupils and their families.

We will be trialling moving the school newsletter from weekly to fortnightly this term, so the next newsletter will be circulated on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September.

Please remember to read the information below from the Holy Name St Vincent de Paul society who would really like to help any of our families who may be in need.

### **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September – Staff Training Day:**

School is closed to all pupils tomorrow - **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September.**

#### **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.

The help we can give covers all aspects of daily life. We have been providing families within the parish with foodbags every fortnight for the past three years and we can provide access to the local foodbank if that is required. We are able to help parents, and guardians, **with the purchase of school uniforms** and associated items such as **shoes and P.E. Kit**. When the weather turns cold, we can also help to provide winter coats. Families have also been helped with bedding, electrical white goods such as washing machines and energy bills.

**Firstly, everything we do is confidential and is not shared with others.** Secondly, we do not give anyone money, all purchases are made by ourselves on behalf of our beneficiaries. Thirdly, we cannot help everybody so it is necessary for us to be able to talk to those requiring help face to face so we can build a relationship with them for when further help may be needed.

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 [holynamesandwell@rcab.org.uk](mailto:holynamesandwell@rcab.org.uk)**



### **Service of Commitment – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September:**

Next **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September** at **9.15am**, Fr Jibu is leading a special service of commitment for this academic year. It is a special opportunity for all members of our school community to come together to make a promise before God to help, support and guide each other this academic year. We would like to warmly invite all parents, grandparents, governors, staff and parishioners and family members to join us in the school hall for this special service.

### **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](#)

### **Yellow Polo Shirts:**

If your child does not have a 'Holy Name' yellow polo shirt(s), emblazoned with the school badge, then please contact the school office as we have pre-loved uniform in school that we can pass onto families. A small donation for this uniform is welcome, but this is optional.

Please remember that our parish Saint Vincent De Paul Society are very keen to help families with providing school uniform.

### **Catholic Council and Spiritual Council Elections:**

Next week, on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September, all of our pupils will be taking part in our annual 'Democracy Day'. Our Catholic Council (formerly School Council) and Spiritual Council elections will be taking place.

The **Spiritual Council** (Y1- Y6) have the responsibility of supporting their peers in planning, delivering, and evaluating prayer and liturgy in their own class. They also help to maintain and evaluate prayer areas in school and provide staff with feedback.

The **Catholic Council** (Y2-Y6) will have the opportunity to support their peers in developing the Catholic Life of our school through implementing the principles of Catholic Social Teaching (CST). These pupils will be responsible for outreach work in our local parish and will coordinate any charity work that takes place in school.

If your child would like to take part in these elections and have the chance to be their class representative on either council, they should write a short speech to present to their class next Friday explaining why they would be the best person to represent their class.

Y6 pupils also have the opportunity to become **house captains**. We have two captains for each of our four houses. The primary role of our house captains is to prepare and present our special house assemblies, which take place at least once every half-term.

Speeches should be submitted to your child's teacher no later than **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September**.

The pupils who are awarded these special roles will receive their badges in our first celebration assembly of the school year on **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September**.



### **New National Framework for Issuing Penalty Notices:**

You may have seen in the media during the summer holiday that there have been some changes to the National Framework for Issuing Penalty Notices for unauthorised school absence. Please read the attached document which outlines the changes and implications for taking leave of absence in term time.

### **Parent Consultation Appointments:**

This term's parent consultation meetings will be taking place **in the school hall** on **Monday 21<sup>st</sup>** and **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October** between **3.30pm** and **5.45pm**. Our classrooms will be open for you to view your child's work. We will write to all parents with further details, including appointment times, at the end of September. Please remember that these meetings are for **parents and teachers only**: there is no provision for children to be supervised at school. **We therefore ask you NOT to bring children back into school on these evenings.**

### **Y4 Swimming Lessons:**

Y4 swimming lessons start on **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September**.

### Y1 – Y6 Homework:

This will begin from the week starting **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September**. We will email a link to the class pages on our school website next week to share our 'useful information' guides for each class.

### Wonderverse – KS2 Poetry Writing Competition:

Calling all budding KS2 poets!

Is your child inspired to delve into their imaginations to write a poem 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. Deadline for entries is **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2024**.

### PTA AGM – Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September at 6.30pm:

Holy Name Parent & Teacher Association will be holding their Annual General Meeting **in the school hall** on **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October at 6.30pm**. The meeting will review the actions of the PTA during the 2023-24 school year and plan for the coming year. All parents are invited – especially any parents who are new to school!

### 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 2<sup>nd</sup> September and 30<sup>th</sup> 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 whilst doing your shopping at Asda.

### Holy Name Scout Group:

Holy Name Scout Group are looking for new members. Please see the flyer which has been circulated with this newsletter.

### Celebration Assembly on Friday mornings:

We are delighted to invite all parents to join us for our celebration 'Gifts from God' assemblies in the school hall on Friday mornings starting on **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September**. Our assembly begins at **9.05am**. If your child has been named in the congratulations letter from the previous week then your child will receive their certificate in the following week's assembly, so any children who have been named in today's congratulations letter will be receiving their certificates in next week's assembly.

In this assembly, pupils who have 100% attendance for the whole of last year or the summer term will be awarded with attendance certificates along with the badges for our new Catholic Councillors, Spiritual Councillors and house captains.

### Sacramental Dates for 2024-25:

The following dates have been arranged with Father Kuriakose. **Please note that there is a special mass of enrolment for our Y3 and Y6 pupils and their families in church at 10.30am on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September.** All children who will be receiving the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist (Y3) and Confirmation (Y6) **are required to attend** with their parents.

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Information:</b>
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> September 2024	Mass of Enrolment for <b>Y3</b> and <b>Y6</b> pupils preparing to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation in church at <b>10.30am</b>
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	<b>Y3</b> Parent Meeting for Sacramental Preparation at <b>5.30pm</b>
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	<b>Y3</b> pupils will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in church at <b>2.15pm</b>
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	<b>Y6</b> Mass with the Rite of Confirmation in church at <b>7.00pm</b>



**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 18 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>Y3 and Y6</b> joining the parish for mass in <b>church</b> at <b>11.30am</b>
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>Infants'</b> mass in <b>school hall</b> at <b>9.15am</b>
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	<b>Y4 and Y5</b> joining the parish for mass in <b>church</b> at <b>11.30am</b>
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> October	Harvest Mass: Whole school in <b>school hall</b> at <b>9.15am</b>
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>Infants'</b> mass in <b>school hall</b> at <b>9.15am</b>
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	<b>Y3 and Y6</b> joining the parish for mass in <b>church</b> at <b>11.30am</b>

**Diary Dates:**

Date:	Information:
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS – Staff Training Day</b>
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>Y2 Multi-skills Club 3.15 – 4.15pm</b>
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>Y5 &amp; Y6 Cricket club 3.15 – 4.15pm</b>
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>Y4 swimming begins</b> <b>KS2 French Club 3.15 – 4.15pm</b>
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> September	Service of Commitment in school hall at <b>9.15am</b> (all parents are invited)
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>Y2 Multi-skills Club 3.15 – 4.15pm</b>
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>Y5 &amp; Y6 Cricket club 3.15 – 4.15pm</b>
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>KS2 French Club 3.15 – 4.15pm</b>
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> September	Parent Teacher Association AGM in the school hall at <b>6.30pm</b>
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	Celebration Assembly in the school hall at <b>9.05am</b> (all parents welcome)
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> October	<b>Reception</b> Welcome Prayer Service (in the school hall) at <b>2.30pm</b> (parents are invited)
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	Celebration Assembly in the school hall at <b>9.05am</b> (all parents welcome)
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> October	Harvest Mass: Whole school in <b>school hall</b> at <b>9.15am</b> (all parents are invited)
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	School photographer taking individual photographs Nasal Flu Vaccinations in school
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Celebration Assembly in the school hall at <b>9.05am</b> (all parents welcome)
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	Parents' Evening <b>3.35 – 5.45pm</b> in school hall
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Parents' Evening <b>3.35 – 5.45pm</b> in school hall
<b>Half Term Break:</b>	<b>Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November</b>
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>Y3</b> Parent Meeting for Sacramental Preparation at <b>5.30pm</b>
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Y3</b> pupils will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in church at <b>2.15pm</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:**

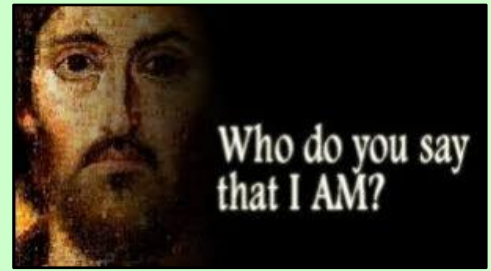
**Saturday 12.30pm**

**Sunday 8.30am and 10.30am**

## Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

**Gospel:** Mark 8:27-35

In this Sunday's gospel, Jesus asks his friends, the disciples, a question. He asks them who people think he is.



What answer do the disciples give? (Elijah, John the Baptist)

Jesus then asks the disciples who they think he is. What does Peter say?

Peter believes that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. He has faith in Jesus.

But then Jesus starts to tell the disciples about what will happen to him. That he will suffer and be killed, but that after three days he will rise again. Peter struggles to believe all this - he does not want to believe that his friend, the Son of God, will suffer and die.

Peter feels afraid that Jesus might leave them. And he wants to protect Jesus from harm because he cares about him.

It is sometimes hard to do what God wants us to do, just like it was for Peter, because we are afraid, and we do not want to get hurt, or for those that we love to be hurt.

Jesus tells us that it will not always be easy to follow him, but that we must have courage, because God will always be with us.

Can you think of a time when you were afraid and needed courage?

What does it mean to follow Jesus? What can we do to show that we are following Jesus?

### **Our Catholic Mission:**

Can you think of a time when you have found it difficult to do what you knew was right and follow Jesus? Why was it so difficult?

Will you be brave in the coming week? What will you do over the coming week to show that you follow Jesus?

### **Prayer:**

God of light,  
as we try to follow you,  
give us the courage to reach out and help others,  
so that we can build a fairer world.  
Amen.

*Reflection taken from CAFOD Children's Liturgy*