

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

Newsletter 12: Friday 7th February 2025

Dear Parents

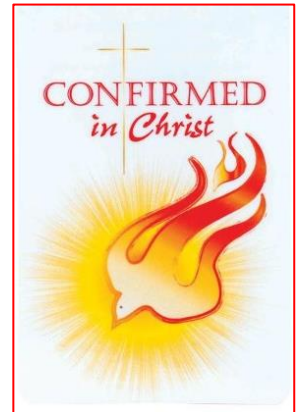
I hope that you and your families have all had a good week.

On Wednesday, we had an absolutely wonderful celebration of Mass with the Rite of Confirmation in our parish church. It was a very moving occasion and one of the most special moments in our pupils' lives. Thank you to Bishop David, Father Kuriakose, Father Jibu and all who helped to make this celebration such a success.

In school, we would like to especially thank Mrs Kavanagh for all of her hard work 'behind the scenes' to organise the Mass and prepare the children. I would also like to give a special mention and thank you to all of the pupils in our school choir who came to sing so wonderfully.

We will be celebrating a special whole school Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Confirmation for Y6 on **Wednesday 26th February in the school hall at 9.15am.**

Thank you also to Mrs Kavanagh and Y6 for planning and leading a very thoughtful and spiritual family prayer service last Friday. Thank you to all of the parents and family members who came and prayed with our Y6 pupils



Monday 28th April – Staff Training Day:

School will be closed to all pupils on this date – which is the first day of the summer term.

Road Safety Assembly:

On Monday 10th February, Sophie Lounds, who is the Road Safety Education Officer & School Crossing Patrol Operatives Supervisor for Sandwell Council, will be visiting school to present an assembly to our children about road safety.



PTA Update:

In the next few weeks your PTA will be funding the coach for the Year 6 residential saving parents at least £20 each. Our next event is a family bingo evening in the school hall on **Friday 28th February**. Please see the attached flyer.

Parent Consultation Appointments:

This term's parent consultation meetings will be taking place **in the school hall** on **Monday 3rd** and **Wednesday 5th March** 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, shortly. 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.**

School Comms App:

Please make sure that you have turned on notifications for this app on your phone so that you are alerted to any text messages which are sent to parents from school. Thank you.

World Book Day - Vocabulary Themed Fancy Dress – Thursday 6th March:

Every year we always dress up for World Book Day. Just like last year we would like you to participate in a 'Vocabulary Parade'.

We would like you to dress up as a word which we don't always hear every day. Here are some tips to help you plan your costume:

1. Research ideas: search for 'Miss Alaineus, A Vocabulary Disaster' or 'Vocabulary Parade' on Google / Pinterest etc.
2. Choose a word.
3. Make a costume – the more creative the better!
4. Make a label with your word and definition on.
5. Strut into school!

Please add the date to your calendar and start planning your outfits!

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!

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 12 th February	Infants' mass in school hall at 9.15am
Wednesday 26 th February	Whole School Mass of Thanksgiving for Y6 Sacrament of Confirmation in school hall at 9.15am
Wednesday 5 th March	Whole School Mass – Ash Wednesday in school hall at 9.15am
Wednesday 12 th March	Infants' mass in school hall at 9.15am
Wednesday 19 th March	Y3 and Y6 joining the parish for mass in church at 11.30am
Wednesday 26 th March	Y4 and Y5 joining the parish for mass in church at 11.30am
Wednesday 2 nd April	Infants' mass in school hall at 9.15am
Wednesday 9 th April	Whole School Mass – End of Term

Diary Dates:

Date:	Information:
Wednesday 12 th – Friday 14 th February	Y6 Residential at Alton Castle
Thursday 13 th February	KS2 French Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Half Term Break:	Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February
Thursday 27 th February	KS2 French Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Friday 28 th February	Celebration Assembly (Gifts from God) in the school hall at 9.05am (all parents welcome) PTA Bingo Night in School Hall - doors at 6.30pm . Everyone is welcome!
Monday 3 rd March	Parents' Evening 3.35 – 6.00pm in school hall
Tuesday 4 th March	Y1 Parents' Meeting for Phonics Screening Check at 9.05am
Wednesday 5 th March	Parents' Evening 3.35 – 6.00pm in school hall
Thursday 6 th March	WORLD BOOK DAY KS2 French Club 3.15 – 4.15pm
Friday 7 th March	Celebration Assembly (Gifts from God) in the school hall at 9.05am (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



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

In this Sunday's gospel, Jesus borrows Simon's boat so that he can teach the crowds that are surrounding him on the shore. When he has finished preaching, he tells Simon Peter to put out his fishing nets into the water.

Do you remember what Simon says? He does not think they will catch anything, as they haven't caught anything all night.

What happens when Simon Peter and his friends put out the nets? They catch so many fish, and they are so heavy, the boat nearly sinks! How do you think Simon, James and John feel when they see this?

Jesus tells the disciples they will become fishers of people. What do you think that this means?

At the end of the reading the disciples leave everything behind to follow Jesus. From now on they will spend their time with him, sharing his message with other people. How do you think it must have felt for the disciples to leave all their belongings and all their family and friends behind, to follow Jesus? How do you think their family and friends felt?

How would you feel if you had to leave everyone behind to follow Jesus?

How do you think we can follow Jesus in our lives and share his message of love and good news for all people?

Our Catholic Mission:

How will you show others that you follow Jesus this week?

Prayer:

Loving God,
may we try our best to follow you and serve you more faithfully each day
in our words and in how we treat others,
especially our brothers and sisters around the world.
This we pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

Reflection taken from CAFOD Children's Liturgy

