

Holy Cross School Newsletter

Friday 12th July 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a fabulous week here at Holy Cross, with lots of fun and excitement as we celebrated Sports Week. It has been lovely to welcome back many past pupils to complete their work experience. It is always wonderful to see how well they are doing and they have been fabulous helpers across the School. Yesterday, I went to the reopening of Our Lady and St Philip Neri School for a celebratory Mass. It was wonderful to see staff, children, parishioners and other visitors join together with Archbishop John Wilson for this special occasion.

PSA Summer Party



This time last week we were all enjoying the summer party. It was a fabulous afternoon with parents and carers coming together to make this a really memorable event. Even the weather was on our side! Thank you to everyone who helped to organise a stall, who donated time and goods and those who came and supported the party. We will be able to let you know next week how much money has been raised.

School Council Trip



On Monday, Mrs Downton and myself took the School Council on a special trip to visit the House of Commons and a sightseeing tour. As we walked along Whitehall, we saw removal vans outside of number 10 Downing Street, and we even saw Lewisham Street! Unfortunately, because of the general election the week before we were unable to go inside parliament but we were very fortunate as we had an extra special tour with one of our lovely parents, Mrs Pearce. The children were fascinated with her knowledge of parliament, and they could all remember a number of the facts that she shared with us. Thank you Mrs Pearce for making a special day even more special!



Sports Week



This week we have had a week filled with sporting events and experiences. It has been full of excitement and even the rain at the beginning of the week hasn't dampened our enjoyment! On Tuesday the EYFS children had a fabulous sports day, hastily changed to an indoor extravaganza as the rain came just on the dot at 2pm! The children had so much fun and loved the different events!



On Wednesday, after a few adjustments, we had Sports Day for Years 1 to 6 in the School playground. This was also a wonderful day with competitive spirit in full flow, and that was just the parents! My enormous thanks to Mrs Stoneham who was able to quickly adjust all her plans to make these Sports Days amazing!



Diamond Club Sports Day



As part of Sports Week, Year 5 prepared a special version of Sports Day for the Diamond Club. Despite the rain putting an end to our original outdoor plans, the children quickly adapted and transformed the event into an indoor sporting extravaganza. The ingenuity and flexibility displayed by the students ensured that everyone had lots of fun, participating in various indoor activities and games. The day was filled with laughter, friendly competition, and a wonderful sense of community, showcasing the spirit of Sports Week and the importance of staying active, regardless of the weather.



Leavers' Mass

On Monday 22nd July at 1.45pm, we will have our annual leavers' Mass in the church celebrated by Fr Antony. We will be saying farewell to our Year 6 Class and other leavers including Mrs Spencer and Mrs Fernandez. I know that it will be a wonderful celebration and you are all invited to join us for this special occasion.

Teachers for September

Please see below a list of the teaching staff for each class in September. I know that every teacher is looking forward to getting to know their new class. On Thursday morning the children will have the opportunity to spend some time in their new classrooms with the new teachers.

- Nursery - Mrs Stoneham (three days) and Miss Baptiste (two days)
- Reception - Ms Asamoah
- Year 1 - Mrs Wilson
- Year 2 - Mrs Davey
- Year 3 - Mr Parker
- Year 4 - Mrs Parr (two days) and Miss Honoré (three days)
- Year 5 - Mrs Mole (four days) and Mrs Byrne (one day)
- Year 6 - Mr Foster (four days) and Mrs Byrne (one day)

First Holy Communion Application Forms

Please see the message regarding First Holy Communion:

If your child will be in Year 3 from September 2024 (7-8 years), and you feel your child is ready to prepare to receive the Holy Eucharist, you are invited to see Fr Antony to get your application form. Confirmation application forms are also available for young people in year 8 and above. You may see Fr Antony after any of the weekday Masses (9.15am) or from 3pm to 5pm on Fridays when he has the parish surgery (you will need to check the newsletter or call the parish office 0208 698 3672 for the time).

The deadline for these applications is Sunday 28th July.

Altar Server Training

If you have received your First Holy Communion, we invite you to join us in serving at the altar.

A training session for all altar servers, both new and experienced, will be held this weekend of July 13/14th following ALL the weekend Masses:
- Saturday Vigil Mass: 6:30 PM; Sunday 9:00 AM and 11.30 AM. We look forward to seeing you there.

International Week

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered some of their time for next week. I know that it will be a wonderful celebration of all the different cultures and heritages we are fortunate to have here at Holy Cross.

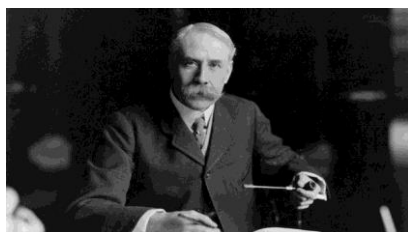
Class Parties

Next Friday we will be holding class parties. The children can wear their own clothes for this exciting day! Each class teacher will be able to share more information about any contributions of food which may be requested!

Reports

Thank you to everyone who has returned the letter regarding reports collection. Reports can either be collected or sent home next Friday, 19th July.

Composer of the Week: Edward Elgar



This week, we highlighted the life and times of Sir Edward Elgar as our Composer of the Week. Born in 1857 in Worcestershire, England, Elgar is celebrated for his contributions to classical music, particularly his

orchestral works. Some of his most renowned compositions include the "Enigma Variations," the "Pomp and Circumstance Marches," and the cello concerto in E minor, which have become staples in concert halls worldwide. Elgar's music is known for its emotional depth, rich harmonies, and distinctive English character.

You can learn more about the composers that we are exploring in school by visiting the Music section of the school website.

Head of School Awards

Edie, David, Oleks, Serah, Sebastian and Harini in Year 4 for amazing double page spreads about the Olympics and Paralympics. What superstars! Well done to you!

UNICEF Rights Respecting School



This week, in conjunction with Sports Week, our UNICEF Rights Respecting School focus has been on the importance of sports and physical activity, linked to UNICEF Article 31, which emphasises every child's right to participate in play and recreational activities. We celebrated major sporting events such as the current Euros and the forthcoming Olympics in Paris, discussing their significance in promoting unity, perseverance, and international cooperation. These events highlight the incredible achievements of athletes and the power of sports to inspire and bring people together.

For our UNICEF homework, children are encouraged to create a poster showcasing a sporting figure, past or present, who inspires them. This activity aims to recognise the positive influence of athletes and celebrate their contributions to sports and society.

Chocolate Award for Going Above and Beyond

Reception	-	Benjamin
Year 1	-	Amber
Year 2	-	Sofia
Year 3	-	Aiden
Year 4	-	Zachary
Year 5	-	Nicholas
Year 6	-	Matty

Well done to you all!!

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend,

Catherine Mahony
Head of School

Message from Miss Collins:

The end of term is full of such excitement, traditions and new experiences for our children. This week has been full of all of these! Sports Day was a fabulous event despite being on site and not at Abbotshall. Mrs Stoneham did a fantastic job of organising it all and Mrs Parr willingly volunteered to help set up during her PPA time - much appreciated Mrs Parr, thank you!

Mrs Stoneham really has done a marvellous job this week, we are so fortunate to have her expertise and enthusiasm for all things PE!

I hope you all enjoy the weekend - how many tired children and adults will we see on Monday morning? Hopefully people will be tired but happy if England have won the Euros! Good luck to Gareth Southgate and his team!

16.7.24	Year 6 Performance at 6.30pm
22.7.24	Leavers Mass at 1.45pm
23.7.24	School finishes at 2pm