



Holy Cross School Newsletter Friday 20th September 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

What a glorious last couple of days we have had with the sunshine. It has been making everyone smile even more than usual! Tomorrow is the International Day of Peace, which was first organised by the United Nations in 1981. Its purpose is to 'provide a globally shared date for all humanity to commit to peace above all differences and to contribute to building a culture of peace'. I think that, especially at this time, thinking about the situation in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, and the issues we saw across our country at the beginning of the Summer, that we should all be striving for peace, and showing love and respect to everyone.

Lewisham Youth Theatre Workshop



On Tuesday some of our Year 5 and 6 children had the opportunity to participate in a theatre workshop with the Lewisham Youth Workshop.

The children had a wonderful time and all felt confident and empowered afterwards.

Online Safety Workshop



We are offering an online safety workshop for all parents on **Monday 30th September from 6pm - 7pm**. This is a wonderful opportunity to hear from the Breck Foundation, which is a self-funded charity set up by Lorin LaFave, in memory of her son Breck. Breck sadly lost his life to an online groomer through a gaming relationship. Since then, Lorin has made many TV and radio appearances to raise awareness of online grooming and promote digital resilience. The Foundation use Breck's story to educate young people, teachers and parents about the risks of online grooming to enable young people to make better choices when interacting online. A link to the meeting will be sent out in due course.

Year 6 Theatre Trip



On Wednesday, our Year 6 children had the opportunity to see Hamlet at Catford Broadway. It was a brilliant opportunity for the children to see a Shakespeare play live. They were amazingly behaved and were

transfixed by the play. Ines shared, "It was really fun to watch. My favourite part was when the ghost of Hamlet's father kept appearing in different places." It is so important that our lovely children have these opportunities and it certainly made the class realise that Shakespeare is so famous, so long after he was alive for a very good reason! Special thanks to Mrs Byrne who accompanied the class along with Mr Foster despite it not being her usual working day - true dedication!

Great Fire of London Workshop



On Wednesday the Year 2 class had a fabulous workshop about their topic of the Great Fire of London. They were transported by their visitor back to 1661! They had a fabulous time with lots of learning taking place, I can't believe how many facts they could remember!

Meet the Teacher

Please remember that on Wednesday 25th September we will be holding our annual Meet the Teacher meetings in the classrooms. The meetings will be 15 minutes long and will be held at:

Reception:	3:30pm
Year 1:	3:45pm
Year 2:	4:00pm
Year 3:	4:15pm

Year 4: 4:30pm

Year 5: 4:45pm

Year 6: 5:00pm

These meetings will give an overview of what will be taught and other information about the year ahead. They are really informative meetings and I look forward to welcoming you into our wonderful School. For your convenience there will be creche, run by our staff, to care for your children during the meeting of their class.

Secondary Transfer

Please remember to make an appointment to discuss your secondary transfer options with either myself or Miss Collins, or speak to the Office staff. There will also be more information during the Meet the Teacher meeting on Wednesday.

Parents Evening

We will be holding Parents Evening on Tuesday 15th October and Thursday 17th October. You have been sent an email with the link to book your appointment and information on how to do this. You will be able to book an appointment on Monday from 10am.

Jeans for Genes

Today we have all been wearing our jeans. This has been to support a wonderful charity, Jeans For Genes. This charity helps children and families affected by different genetic conditions. We will let you know next week how much money we raised, and remember that on Monday its back to School uniform again!

Composer of the Week: Ludwig Van Beethoven



This week, we focused on Ludwig van Beethoven as our Composer of the Week. Born in 1770, Beethoven is one of the most celebrated and influential composers in the history of Western music. Despite facing challenges, including progressive hearing loss, Beethoven created some of the most iconic and emotionally powerful works ever composed. His symphonies, such as the famous "Fifth Symphony" and "Ninth Symphony" with its "Ode to Joy," as well as his piano sonatas and string quartets, have left an enduring legacy.

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

Mikayla-Mae in Nursery class for being a superstar!

Oleks in Year 5 for being an amazing translator to another parent, I think I see a future career!

Well done to you both!

Chocolate Friday for Going Above and Beyond

Well done to all of these wonderful children who have gone above and beyond this week in School.

Reception: Mason

Year 1: Aneira

Year 2: Blaise
Year 3: Sasha
Year 4: Kymani
Year 5: Ryszard
Year 6: Nicholas

UNICEF Rights Respecting School



This week in our UNICEF work, we discussed the Convention on the Rights of the Child and why it is so vital in protecting the rights of children everywhere. Throughout the coming year, we will be exploring individual articles from the convention and reflecting on which ones are particularly important for children in both our local community and on a global scale. As part of the UNICEF OutRight campaign, our school will identify the articles we want to become advocates for, ensuring that these rights are upheld for all children.

For homework, children are asked to create a poster to highlight the article they feel is the most important to advocate for. This activity encourages children to think about how they can help protect the rights of children around the world. We look forward to seeing their creative ideas and passion for advocating for children's rights!

I hope that you all have a lovely weekend,

Catherine Mahony

Head of School

Message from Miss Collins:

Every week is busy I know but this one does seem to have been particularly so! Mrs Mahony and myself spent some time on Wednesday working with other school leaders in our Challenge Partner group. The rest of our teaching staff also shared good practice with staff from other Challenge Partner schools at a shared staff meeting. This is fascinating work and enables us to bring the very best ideas back to our lovely School.

We have had several visits from past pupils of Holy Cross who have now started their secondary school journeys. It is lovely that our precious children still return to see us and share with us how they are getting on. Once you become a member of the Holy Cross family you are always a part of us.

The online session from the Breck Foundation that Mrs Mahony has mentioned comes highly recommended and is much needed in today's world, I do hope that you are all able to listen in. At a meeting of Lewisham Headteachers this week we discussed the increasing demands for children to have basic mobile phones if and when they get their own and not smart phones which give them access to the internet. The research is absolutely overwhelming in looking at the long term damage smart phones can have on a child's mental health and concentration. If

you are buying a phone for your child please do think very carefully about the type of phone you buy.

Have a lovely weekend everyone!

I hope you all enjoy a lovely weekend and spend some quality time with your gorgeous children.

Dates for the diary:

21.9.24	International Day of Peace
25.9.24	Buddy Assembly at 9.15am Meeting the Teacher meetings from 3.30pm
4.10.24	Year 4 Class Mass at 10am
15.10.24	Parents Evening 5-7:30pm
17.10.24	Parents Evening 3:30-6pm
21.10.24	Harvest Liturgy at 2pm
28.10.24	Start of the half term
4.11.24	Children back to School at 8.45am
13.11.24	Year 5 Class Assembly at 9.15am
15.11.24	Flu injections for Reception - Year 6
20.11.24	Year 6 Class Assembly at 9.15am
20.12.24	School finishes at 2pm for Christmas