



Holy Cross School Newsletter

Friday 18th October 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

We are nearly at the end of this first half term. What a busy time we have had, and next week we have even more activities planned! From Anglo-Saxon day for Year 4, the Life Space joining us, the Imperial War Museum trip for Year 6 and the end of Black History Month Carnival on Friday, I think by the end of next week we really will be ready for a break!

Parents' Evening

It was wonderful to see so many of you here this week for the Parents' Evening. I hope that you found the meetings really informative and now have a good understanding of what your child has been learning and the next steps that they will take over the course of this year so they can make the most amount of progress possible.

Reading

Reading is one of the greatest joys that we have. It is so important that we instil a love of reading from an early age. Here at Holy Cross on a Friday between 2.45-3pm we all have DEAR time, Drop Everything and Read. The children love having that time just to enjoy the book that they are reading. As adults, we are our children's role models, please consider

putting down your phone and picking up a book. We have an adult lending library in the entrance to the School, please do come and borrow one of books.

Rosary

Next Friday will be our last opportunity to say the full Rosary together. It has been a joy to see so many of you join us over the last three weeks. If you haven't attended yet then please do try and join with us next week.

Carnival



Next Friday, we will be holding our Carnival celebration for the children. Children can wear their own clothes for the day, except for Year 6 as they are going on a special trip to the Imperial War Museum. I am sure you might be able to hear the celebrations all across Catford!

Names for Remembrance

During the month of November, we will be remembering all of our loved ones who have passed. If you would like the name of a family member to be put on our Remembrance Wall please email Mrs Wilson at jjwilson52.209@lgflmail.org by the end of next week.

Harvest Festival

Please join us on Monday 21st October, at 11am, for our Harvest Festival Celebration in the Church. This is a time where we give thanks for the

food that we have. There is still time to send in any donations. We are looking for donations of dried goods, including pasta and rice, or tinned food. The food collected will then be donated to a local Foodbank supported by our Parish.

Coffee Morning

All parents and carers are invited to join us for a coffee morning led by our amazing Speech and Language Therapist on 5th November at 9am in the hall. This will be an invaluable session that is open to all parents and carers.

Wraparound Care

I just wanted to update you with regards to wraparound care at Holy Cross. We have reached out to several outside providers; two have unfortunately declined the opportunity to work with us, but we are in discussions with several others. We are hoping to have a survey sent out so we have a more up to date idea on the number of children who would require wraparound care.

PSA

Next Thursday, we will have a meeting about the PSA. If you are new to the School or if you have never joined in with PSA events before please do come along as we want to make this a really successful group helping our lovely School and having fun along the way! Please join us for a coffee from 9am in the school hall. I look forward to seeing you there, it would be amazing to see as many parents and carers as possible, and make the PSA a true reflection of our school community.

Head of School Awards

Matteo R in Year 4 for a wonderful PowerPoint that he produced independently all about Italy.

Sasha in Year 3 for being an amazing author and producing a wonderful book!

Well done to you both!

Christmas Cards

Please order your Christmas cards as soon as possible to ensure that arrive in time!



Composer of the Week: Miriam Makeba



This week, in celebration of Black History Month, we featured Miriam Makeba as our Composer of the Week. Known as "Mama Africa," Miriam Makeba was not only a talented singer but also a powerful voice in the fight against apartheid in South Africa. Her music, which blended traditional African sounds with jazz, captivated audiences around the world, with hits like "Pata Pata" and "The Click Song." Beyond her music,

Makeba used her platform to speak out against racial inequality and injustice, becoming an influential figure in the global struggle for human rights. Through her songs and activism, Makeba left a lasting legacy as both an artist and a champion for freedom and equality.

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

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: Adonijah
Year 1: Paule-Hosanne
Year 2: Sophie
Year 3: K'Leigh
Year 4: Milan
Year 5: Nicole
Year 6: Ines

UNICEF Rights Respecting School



This week, our UNICEF focus has been on Harvest and understanding where our food comes from, linking to Article 24 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, which emphasises children's right to nutritious food and a clean, safe environment. As part of our learning, we

discussed the importance of food security and the role we can play in helping others.

Our Harvest Festival Mass on Monday will be a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the importance of giving and supporting those in need within our community. We would like to remind everyone to continue bringing in donations, which will be sent to local food banks in conjunction with the church, to help those who need it most.

Thank you for your generous support!

Secondary Transfer

There is only a short time left for the parents and carers in Year 6 to fill in the secondary transfer forms. These must be completed online by next Friday. If you have any questions please come and speak to either myself or Miss Collins.

I hope that you all have a wonderful weekend,

Catherine Mahony

Head of School

Message from Miss Collins:

I have had an exceptionally busy week as we have had a Catholic School Inspection at St. Augustine's and so I have spent most of the week there. It has all gone very well and I am very proud of the children and staff of our sister school however, I am also exhausted and ready for a restful weekend!

Next week I will be spending much more time at Holy Cross and I look forward to seeing you all, especially any parents who are able to join

us for our PSA coffee morning on Thursday at 9am in the School Hall. We want to make sure that we have as many people as possible helping with a range of projects for the good of our School. The more people get involved the less work there will be for everyone so please do pop along. We have a guest from the St. Augustine's PSA who will be sharing lots of excellent ideas with us about the exciting activities that are organised there.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Dates for the diary:

21.10.24	Harvest Celebration at 11am
24.10.24	PSA Introduction Meeting at 9am in the Hall
25.10.24	Year 6 to the Imperial War Museum
28.10.24	Start of the half term
4.11.24	Children back to School at 8.45am
5.11.24	Speech and Language Coffee Morning at 9am in the Hall
7.11.24	Nursery Class Trip to see Dear Zoo
12.11.24	Flu injections for Reception to Year 6
13.11.24	Year 5 Class Assembly at 9.15am
14.11.24	SEND Coffee Morning at 9am in Hartley Hall
15.11.24	Individual and Family Photos
20.11.24	Year 6 Class Assembly at 9.15am
11.12.24	KSI Nativity at 10am and 2pm
17.12.24	Class Christmas Parties
18.12.24	EYFS Nativity at 10am KS2 Christmas Celebration at 6.30pm in the Church
19.12.24	Christmas Dinner Day
20.12.24	School finishes at 2pm for Christmas

6.1.25	Inset Day, School is closed to pupils
7.1.25	Start of the Spring term from 8.45am
13.1.25	School's 50 th Birthday
31.1.25	Year 4 Class Assembly
12.2.25	Year 6 Class Mass at 10am
14.2.25	Academic Review Day