



Holy Cross School Newsletter
Friday 25th October 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

I can't believe that we are at the end of our first half term of the year. We have squeezed in so much learning, so many activities and lots of fun! The summer holidays seem like a long distant memory! The change in season from Summer to Autumn is one of my favourites and I especially love going for walks as the leaves change colour and fall from the trees. Please try and spend some time next week getting out into the amazing green spaces we have here in London and enjoying an Autumnal walk, the weather looks good so there is no excuse!

PSA

Thank you to all the parents and carers that joined us yesterday morning for the first PSA (Parent and Staff Association) meeting of this year. It was an amazing turn out with lots of enthusiasm. There was a WhatsApp group set up by the parents who attended, if you would like to join this group and you were not able to attend the meeting please let me know. I look forward to an exciting and successful year working with you all.

Rosary

Thank you to everyone who joined us today for the final Rosary during October. It has been wonderful to have so many families join with us each week, the numbers have been amazing. We have prayers every morning so if you were unable to join us throughout October please do come along next half term.

Names for Remembrance

Thank you to everyone who has emailed names of their loved ones for our Wall of Remembrance. We will be praying for all these special people throughout November.

Life Space



This week we have welcomed the Life Space back into the School. It is always such a pleasure to have Kate and Harold the Giraffe back in Holy Cross. The sessions looked at mental wellbeing with a focus on resilience, gratitude, self-care, managing feelings and understanding how the brain functions.

For more information about the session, please look at the SCARF website: <https://www.coramlifeeducation.org.uk/family-scarf>

There is also a wealth of information available to support parents with ideas for activities to do with your child.

Anglo-Saxon Workshop



Year 4 spent the whole of Tuesday participating in an Anglo-Saxon workshop with the Year 4 class from St Augustine's. It was a brilliant day lead by a real-life Anglo-Saxon! The children learnt so much and certainly have a much better understanding of how the Anglo-Saxons lived. Thank you to Mrs Parr for organising this amazing session.

Coffee Morning

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

Carnival



We finished our Black History Month celebrations on a high with our annual Carnival. The children all sang traditional songs that they had been learning and then we partied around the School with music, instruments and high spirits! What a fabulous way to end this half term!

The Diamond Club



On Tuesday, some of our Year 6 children had the opportunity to visit the Diamond Club, the senior citizens club that meets in Hartley Hall. They spoke about why they think Black History Month is important, what we have been doing in School to celebrate and they also recited some poems about Black History. The children all spoke beautifully, loudly and clearly! Well done to them all and thank you to the Diamonds for being a brilliant audience.

Harvest Festival



On Monday we had our Harvest Celebration lead by Father Antony. The whole school came together to thank God for all the food that we have. It was a lovely service with the children reading and singing beautifully. Thank you for your extremely generous donations, they have been donated to the local foodbank via the Parish.

Year 6 Trip



Today Year 6 enjoyed a fascinating trip to the Imperial War Museum, where they learnt about key events of World War I and explored what life was like for soldiers fighting in the trenches. Through interactive exhibits, they got to role-play as soldiers, gaining a deeper understanding of the harsh realities of trench life. It was an unforgettable experience that brought our studies to life!



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: Victoria

Year 1: Angel

Year 2: Elizabeth-Mia

Year 3: Kyle
Year 4: Clarence
Year 5: Henry
Year 6: Joythan

Wraparound Care

A survey has been sent out today regarding wraparound care. Please can you fill it in before Monday 4th of November.

Composer of the Week: Stormzy



This week, we celebrated Stormzy as our Composer of the Week. A modern icon in British music, Stormzy is known not only for his chart-topping grime tracks like "Shut Up" and "Blinded by Your Grace," but also for his powerful messages of social justice, equality, and empowerment. Born in South London, Stormzy has used his platform to speak out on important issues, from racial inequality to mental health awareness. His influence extends beyond music, with initiatives such as funding scholarships for Black students at Cambridge University. As we

explored his music and his impact, we reflected on the power of music to inspire positive change in society.

Have wonderful half term break, enjoy some time with your families and I look forward to seeing you all on Monday the 4th November at 8.45am,

Catherine Mahony
Head of School

Message from Miss Collins:

Finally, the half term break has arrived! Goodness me there are some tired staff and very tired children about!

It has been a lovely half term full of fun and learning. Our new comers to the Holy Cross Family in Reception and Nursery Class feel as if they have always been here.

I was delighted to see so many willing volunteers at the PSA (Parent and Staff Association) meeting on Thursday. I believe that together we can all achieve wonderful things for our precious School and children this year. If you couldn't make it to the meeting you have not missed out and can still be very much involved. Please speak to the School Office to have yourself added to the WhatsApp group.

I hope that you all enjoy a fabulous half term break. Enjoy time with the children making memories that will keep forever.

Dates for the diary:

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 10am for parents and younger siblings, 2pm for parents and carers
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