

## Holy Cross School Newsletter Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

I know I said last week that it was going to turn colder but even I am surprised at just how cold this week has been! We started this week, with our Gospel Assembly, thinking about different ways that we prepare for special occasions. We also thought about the ways in which we can prepare for Jesus coming again by praying, going to Mass and following in His footsteps by being kind, loving and respectful to all.

I have not been in School for the last few days as I have been at the Lewisham Headteacher's conference in Brighton with Miss Collins. There have been some wonderful speakers from Paul Ramchandani, the Professor of Play, through to my favourite Baroness Floella Benjamin. I have always had great fondness for her, she was such a big part of my life when I was little. I grew up watching her on Play School. I know they say never meet your idols, but if you ever get the opportunity to meet Floella Benjamin take it, what an amazing and inspirational lady!

Enjoy the weekend and I look forward to seeing you all on Monday,

Catherine Mahony  
Head of School

### **Year 6 Class Assembly**

On Wednesday our fabulous Year 6 performed their assembly about World War II. They have loved this topic and all know so many facts. It is so hard for us to imagine what it was like, especially for the children who were evacuated. The singing was beautiful and when they sang 'The White Cliffs of Dover' it brought a tear to my eye. Thank you to Mr Foster, Miss Quinn and Mrs Ley for preparing the children so well.

### **Decorations**

Christmas decorations have been sent home for your child to decorate. Every class has a different decoration and these are put up around the School to make it look wonderfully festive. When yours is complete please bring it into School, and remember the more glitter the better!

### **School Council Gate Greeters!**

You might have noticed some new additions during the beginning and the end of the day at the School gates. These children are members of our School Council and they will be helping to welcome you into School each day, please say hello to them. I think you will agree that they are doing a magnificent job!

### **PSA Meeting**

There will be a PSA meeting on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November at 9am in the School Hall. All parents and carers are very welcome.

### **Science Session at St Ursula's Secondary School**

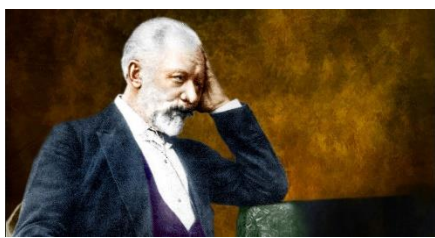
On Tuesday, the girls in Year 6 had an exciting visit to St Ursula's Convent School for Girls to take part in the Wiz Bang Crash science workshop. They experienced what science lessons will be like in secondary school, using equipment such as Bunsen burners to explore how heating different materials affects the flame. They also investigated how different materials combust and created their own magnetic maze games. It was a fantastic opportunity to develop their scientific knowledge, try out new experiments, and get hands-on experience with secondary school science equipment!



### **Wall of Remembrance**

Please continue to send in any names your departed loved ones to [jwilson52.209@lgflmail.org](mailto:jwilson52.209@lgflmail.org) or fill out form at the bottom of the letter that was sent to you. All names will be displayed in the School and will also be added to the newsletter each week. Please can you keep all of these names in your prayers throughout the month of November.

### **Composer of the Week**



This week, we focused on Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky as our Composer of the Week. Born in Russia in 1840, Tchaikovsky is one of the most celebrated composers of the Romantic era, known for his emotional and expressive music. His works, including The Nutcracker, Swan Lake, and 1812 Overture, are loved worldwide for their dramatic melodies and rich orchestration. Tchaikovsky's music often tells a story, capturing a wide range of emotions, from joy to heartbreak.

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

## **UNICEF Rights Respecting School**



This week, we celebrated World Children’s Day on 20th November, a day to promote international togetherness, raise awareness of children’s rights, and improve children’s welfare. This date marks the adoption of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child in 1959 and the Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1989. World Children’s Day reminds us that everyone—parents, teachers, leaders, and children—has a role in advocating for and protecting children’s rights. At Holy Cross, we reflected on the importance of these rights and their relevance to our lives.

For homework, children are encouraged to discuss their rights with their family, raising awareness of the work we do at Holy Cross to promote and uphold the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

### **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:	Grazia
Year 1:	Xavier
Year 2:	Damian
Year 3:	Finnan
Year 4:	Andrew
Year 5:	Sara
Year 6:	Marcel

### **Message from Miss Collins**

It has been a fabulous week at Holy Cross. The Year 6 assembly on Wednesday was superb and showed the enjoyment of their learning.

Myself and Mrs Mahony have been in Brighton for the last two days on the Lewisham Headteachers’ Conference. It has been a great opportunity to hear some excellent speakers and meet with other Lewisham Heads to discuss our Schools. We heard from Floella Benjamin who spoke about her coming to England as part of the Windrush generation. It was incredibly powerful and emotional, what a phenomenal lady she is. She called Headteachers guardian angels of our children and said she hoped to recharge us – she certainly did that for me. I felt truly humbled to hear from her.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

### **Names for Remembrance**

**Please keep these names in your prayers throughout the month of November:**

Vitalii Family	Pat and Eileen Hanlon
Moses Eboiyehi	Mary Trelford
Elizabeth Eboiyehi	Libby Macnamara
Nene Eboiyehi	Francesca Candita-Simpkins
Frank Banks	Carly Akehurst
Fiorenze Gonnella	Elizabeth Coutts
Lola and Dennis Collingwood	Gracey George
Fred and Morfydd Symons	John and Bernie Maher
June Porritt	Bunty Kane
Leonard Porritt	Bridget Doyle
Bernadette Kennedy	Happi Thomas
Tom Bevan	Kitty Tyler
Oliver Wilson	Graham and Erica Canelle
Mik Wilson	Lancelot Clapperton
Christopher Kowalski	Terry Farrelly
Becky Dunn	John Farrelly
Ogechi Uche	Sean Farrelly
Margarita Family	Martin Farrelly
Kircho Family	John Beirne
Miroslava Family	Agnes Adebanke
Francis Frenchy	Alakuro Otiko
Anacleto Gyanaprakasam	Omowunmi Otiko Adeniyi
John Broadley	Julie Collins
Charlie and Betty Broadley	Patrick Collins
Maurice and Dorothy Hart	Winifred Grundon
John and Shelia O'Hara	Leslie Grundon
Sheerin Family	
Fr John Mulligan	

### **Dates for the Diary**

11.12.24:

KS1 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<sup>th</sup> Birthday

31.1.25:  
Year 4 Class Assembly

12.2.25:  
Year 6 Class Mass at 10am

14.2.25:  
Academic Review Day