



Holy Family School Newsletter - 1

Friday 8th September 2023

With Christ at the centre, we live, love and learn together, reaching out to all. Together, with Jesus, we can do it!



'Only the best is good enough'

WELCOME BACK TO THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

What a week to start school in the heat and glorious sunshine. We got through it!

There are some tired faces this afternoon especially in our younger classes and we are sure that they will have plenty of rest over the weekend. We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all back to the start of a new school year and a special welcome to all our new families. Thank you all sincerely for your smiles, warmth and positivity as we begin another school year.

The children, as always looked amazing in their school uniforms and have settled in really well.

**WELCOME
BACK!!**

ATTENDANCE UPDATE

Please look out for the letter sent out on the Parent App yesterday. Schools have been instructed to highlight the importance of excellent attendance and punctuality for this academic year and beyond. We need to have clear strategies for poor attendees, and you will find information about our plan contained within that letter and also our attendance policy. For all the pupils who were with us last year, we will be sending out your child's attendance record from last academic year and a letter to accompany that too next week.



CONTACT DETAILS

If you have changed any of your details over the summer i.e. telephone numbers or have moved house please send the new details into school via our school App so that we can update our records accordingly.

ATTENDANCE NEWS

The race has now started for our Pizza Party competition for attendance. Remember any class that gets 100% receives 2 green marks that week!!

Attendance for this week from the 4th to 8th September is as follows: Come on children make sure your class gets in the green zone for your Pizza Party!!

Green - 97%+, Yellow - 94%+, Red - 93.9% & below

Class	% score	Rating	Total amount of green won this term
Year 6	94%	Yellow	0
Year 5D	96%	Yellow	0
Year 5Mc	95%	Yellow	0
Year 4	94%	Yellow	0
Year 3/4	97%	Green	1
Year 3	97%	Green	1
Year 2	99%	Green	1
Year 1/2	97%	Green	1
Year 1	96%	Yellow	0
Rec K	99%	Green	1
Rec M	94%	Yellow	0

BREAKFAST CLUB

We have a few places remaining in our Breakfast Club. Breakfast club will be open to pupils from Reception to Year 6 from 8:00 am - 8:45 am. This can be booked via the Parent App. Parents can choose to book full time for set days for the whole year to guarantee a place. Please phone Mrs Corker to inform us of this block booking. For those parents who need the service ad hoc, you must update us at least 24 hours via the Parent App.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF DEMOCRACY

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Can all parents please ensure that your child's uniform is clearly marked with their name as uniform is expensive to replace. Please ensure every item is clearly labelled alongside your child's PE kit, book bag, water bottle and packed lunch box if applicable. We are also selling book bags, ties, PE bags and ruck sacks in school. They are available from the school office if you still need to purchase them.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER

The school photographer will be in school on Tuesday 12th September to take individual photographs of every child who doesn't have a sibling in the school. Please ensure the children are in full school uniform and not the summer uniform. For those children who have siblings in the school, we will take a family photograph together. If these families would also like their child to also have an individual photograph taken as well as a family photograph, please phone the school and let us know otherwise a family photograph will only be taken.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR

All extra-curricular clubs will start on 18th September. We will launch the clubs on the app next week for you to book a place for your child. We will let you know the day this App will be sent out so that you can look out for the booking form.

As usual some of the sessions will require a payment as they will be provided by outside agencies.

ASPIRE DAY ONE

This week, all children across the school have taken part in our first Aspire Day of the year. This is our bespoke school programme in which we study British people who can aspire to.

In EYFS and Key Stage One, the children will study the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph who, as a Catholic community, are the first people we look to aspire to. For this term, their focal person will be Joseph the father of Jesus.

In Key Stage One, they will study a variety of jobs that are crucial to a successful society, including key worker jobs, roles that keep justice and the creative arts.

In Key Stage Two, each class will begin the year by studying an inspirational sports person. Between the classes, they will study; Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson, Kevin Sinfield, Donald Campbell, Steve Prescott, and Marcus Rashford.

The work always creates great discussion and debate. Why not ask your children all about what they have been learning?

This event takes place next Friday 15th September 2023. With this in mind, we have decided to have an election in our school community and explain to our children about one of our British Values - Democracy.

We are inviting all children, teachers, parents and family members to take part in a vote next Friday before (8:30am till 9am) and after (3:15pm till 3:30pm) school. Everyone has a choice to vote for a special day to take place in school this year. You will collect a polling card, go to the booth and vote and place in the ballot box.

WHAT TO VOTE FOR?

Option 1 - Chill Out afternoon (No lessons for 2 hours - just chill and complete well-being activities)



Option 2 - Extra playtime - 30 mins every day for one week.



Option 3 - Disco afternoon for all classes



Option 4 - Movie and Popcorn afternoon.



We have asked the children to start canvassing for their favourite option. They can make posters, badges, placards at home and bring them in all week.

Please remember every vote counts!

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

OUTSIDE PROVIDERS

As a school, we pay for specialist outside providers for a variety of curriculum lessons. We bring in a specialist P.E. provider, Mr Halpin, to take all classes for one of their weekly P.E. lessons. We also bring in a Modern Foreign Language specialist, Mrs Langley, who provides Spanish lessons for our KS2 children once a week. We buy in a music specialist, Mrs Cooke, from Knowsley Borough Council's Performing Arts Department who teaches our Y6 and Y5 pupils to play musical instruments. This year Yr 6 will be learning to play the flute and Yr 5 will learn the ukulele.

CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAYS

As always, we will be giving the opportunity for children to wear their own clothes on their birthday. We feel that this is a chance for us to celebrate each individual child. As a way of building self-esteem; the children would have the opportunity to feel unique from all other children in a positive manner. No theme, no payment just a privilege as it's their individual special day. Obviously, we know some children's birthdays will fall on weekends. Should this be the case, they may choose to wear their own clothes on the Friday before or the Monday after. Again, if their birthday falls during school holiday, they may choose to have their special day on the last day of the given term or the first day back. We felt it was important to give them a choice as again this privilege is a personal one. If your child had a birthday this week and didn't realise, they could wear their own clothes; they can come into school this Monday wearing non uniform.

MEET THE CLASS TEACHING TEAM

The first of our 'meet the class teaching team' meetings will take place from Monday 18th September onwards. This will be an opportunity for you to meet your child's class teacher and teaching assistant, have a look at the classroom, listen to updates for the class and ask any further questions if needed.

It would be great if every child could have a representative from their family, if at all possible. Don't worry if you can't as we will send the information home to any working parents who are struggling to get time off.

The first part of the meeting will be the MacMillan's Biggest Coffee Morning at 8:45am - 9:15am in the hall. Tea/Coffee/Juice/croissants/brioche will be available. Parents can donate money for MacMillan's Biggest Coffee Morning. The next part of the meeting will be 'Meet the staff' presentation at 9:15am to 9:45am in your child's classroom.

If any child in Year 2 to Year 6 would like to be considered as a School Councillor this year, they are welcome to apply as of next week. The children are asked to represent their friends and bring new ideas and initiatives that benefit the whole school.

Please note that the School Council meetings will take place every fortnight on a Thursday at 8:30am in Mrs Reeves room. The first meeting will be Thursday 21st September at 8:30am.

Those children who are interested in the role have been asked to complete a poster with reasons of why they should be the school Councillors and any ideas that they would like to bring. These children will present this to their class next week. Elections will take place next Friday 15th September during our International Day of Democracy event.

Good luck everyone!



EVENTS FOR THE YEAR

We are in the process of updating the school app with all the events for the year and will let you know when they are all typed up on the app for you to look at and save on to your device. There are some date already on there now.

MEET THE CLASS DATES

w.b. 18th September
Year 4 – 18.09.23
Year 5Mc – 19.09.23
Year 6 – 20.09.23
Year 5D - 21.09.23
Year 3/4 – 22.09.23
w.b. 25th September
Year 3 – 25.09.23
Year 2 – 26.09.23
Year 1/2 – 27.09.23
Year 1 – 28.09.23
Reception – 29.09.23 – inc Phonics presentation with Miss Wiggins and Class teachers

Nursery parents have already had their meeting. Reception parents have already met their teaching team during the induction meeting last term. However, this meeting will be to learn about our Read Write Inc phonics programme with Miss Wiggins (RWI Leader) and class teachers.