

HOLY NAME CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER: OCTOBER 2017

Please be advised that all school documentation is available in different formats, on request.

WELCOME MASS – TUESDAY 3 OCTOBER

Children from Year One upwards (not Nursery or Reception classes) will be attending Mass at Holy Name Church tomorrow am 9.15 am (not nurse) Parents and carers are invited.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS/BOOSTER CLUBS

Clubs run by teacher and booster classes for Year 6 start this week. The clubs run by teachers finish at 3.45 pm. The clubs run by sports coaches finish at 3.50 pm and the one run by the Military School finishes at 4.00 pm. If your child is attending the Gardening Club it might be advisable to ensure they have a pair of wellingtons with them as well as waterproof clothing in inclement weather. Furthermore, any adult volunteers would be more than welcome and very much appreciated.

EVENTS CALENDAR

The events calendar is now on the website in the parents section (a paper version will be sent home in the near future). When you click onto the document it will show September. If you scroll down to the bottom it will show you that you are on page 1 of 11. Click the forwards or backwards arrow to see the other months of the year. Please remember that dates and times may change and also we will continue to add to it throughout the year. Therefore, we advise that you look through it on a regular basis. Furthermore, please ensure you are signed up to our text messaging service (PMX2) to ensure you receive notices and reminders.

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING/CAKE SALE

Thank you to everyone who supported our Macmillan Coffee Morning, whether it be through cake donations, attending the actual coffee morning or giving your children money to spend. We managed to raise £451 which is fantastic. I am sure the charity will appreciate this money immensely. Thank you to Mrs Lane and the School Council for organising the event and helping out.

TESCO BAGS FOR LIFE SCHEME

We are pleased to announce that Holy Name School came first in the above scheme. We have been awarded the top prize of £4,000. This money will be spent on the school garden. Thank you to everyone who shopped at Tesco during this campaign and collected the tokens for us.

DOJO

The Dojo app has been running in nursery and has now followed through into Reception. Two other classes have trialled it and everyone so far has said it is very successful. It will soon be rolled out to every class in the school. Parents/carers will be invited to join their child's class Dojo app so that information can be shared with parents and carers. It is a two way process and parents/carers add comments to the class teacher. We ask that when you get a letter with the information about this app, you join up or if your child's class is already using it and you have not yet signed up because you are unsure about this app, we ask that you speak to other parents/carers who can tell you how useful it is proving to be.

SCHOOL RULES

School rules are made to ensure standards of behaviour and health and safety regulations are adhered to. Children are rewarded for good behaviour and a set of agreed consequences are followed by all staff if they are not. All children are required to follow our school's rules. It has come to our attention that comments have been posted on social media recently, of which some content is untrue. We would prefer to discuss matters concerning your child with you in a confidential way. Please find attached, a copy of the 'Good To Be Green' Scheme that is used in school to promote good behaviour. We ask that you support the school.

ASSERTIVE MENTORING

We are starting to see significant progress in the books of those children who are returning completed homework each week. I am sure parents/carers can see the benefits of this and also recognise how these children are becoming more confident. Everyone has received a guide to support them when working at home with their child but please do not hesitate to contact school if you wish to discuss any concerns or have any questions you would like answering.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

We need to ensure a rise in our overall attendance to meet the Government target of 97% attendance. Please ensure your child attends school regularly in order that your child does not “miss out” on learning opportunities. Children who are absent for 10% or more are considered to be ‘persistent absentees’. We are asked by the Local Education Authority to monitor these pupils and if it persists, the Education Welfare Officer will become involved which could lead to eventual prosecution. We therefore ask that you do not keep your child off school unless it is absolutely necessary. Furthermore, there are still too many children who are persistently late! The doors are open at 8.45 am but all children should be in school by the time the bell goes at 8.55 am to ensure that they do not miss out on important lessons. Please remember that once the bell has gone at 8.55 am, the doors will be closed and any child arriving after that will have to enter through the main reception. This is to facilitate lessons starting at 9.00 am prompt. Thank you for your support.

PE

Please be reminded that PE is a compulsory subject in school as it is part of the National Curriculum. The number of children who regularly ‘forget’ to bring their PE kit into school is concerning so we ask that you ensure that you provide your child with a PE kit which they can leave in school and take home at the end of each half term for washing. Thank you for your support.

CHILDREN’S HEALTH AND WELLBEING

We are concerned about the number of children who appear to be very tired coming into school of a morning. Just last week, two children fell asleep early on in the school day. Furthermore, it is disturbing to hear about some of the programmes the children tell teachers they watch at home. Children as young as 5 have informed us that they have been watching adult humour programmes or 18 certificate films. As part of safeguarding measures, I urge you to consider checking what your child has access to on tv or online and that you ensure they get enough sleep so that they come to school ready to learn.

HOLIDAYS

Holidays should not be taken during term time. Children will miss out on important learning and this could result in affecting their academic performance and attainment. Holidays will only be authorised under extenuating circumstances and we have been asked by the LEA to start prosecuting parents/carers who take their child out of school unauthorised during term time.,

PARKING

Please continue to keep OUR children safe. Our School Council have made a video about their concerns. It is posted on the playground screens, the one in the entrance foyer and is now also on the Website. We have noticed that there are still the same few parents/carers that park on the zig zag lines and this is selfish and unfair. Please park in safe areas. Thank you.

MARRIAGE & FAMILY SUPPORT TEAM (Archdiocese)

This is offered by Jackie Brougham who can be contacted on
Tel: 0789 179 5145 or by Email: jackiebrougham@btinternet.com.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2.10.17 = Black History Month

3.10.17 = Holy Communion meeting with Fr Kevin at OLSP School 3.00 pm

4.10.17 = Holy Communion meeting with Fr Kevin at Holy Name School 3.00 pm

6.10.17 = Holy Communion meeting with Fr Kevin at Holy Name School 3.00 pm

Please note: Attendance is only required at one of the above meetings

9.10.17 = Harvest Festival Week

13.10.17 = Non uniform day – children to bring in grocery item for local food bank

16.10.17 = Diwali Week

20.10.17 = Non uniform day – children to bring in 50p for school fund

29.10.17 = Y6 residential to Colemendy

3.11.17 = Year 6 return from Colomendy

13.11.17 = Anti Bullying Week

14.11.17 = Primary Inspirations Y5

15.11.17 = Primary Inspirations Y6

15.11.17 = Parents' Evening (letter to follow)

20.11.17 = Road Safety Week

1.12.17 = Christmas Fayre (pm)

5.12.17 = Parents/Carers Christmas Activity afternoon 2.00 pm

6.12.17 = Action for Children Concert Anglican Cathedral 7.00 pm

7.12.17 = Class 6 Mass at Holy Name Church (parents/cares invited)

8.12.17 = Reception Classes Nativity Play for parents/carers pm

12.12.17 = Infant Nativity Play for parents/carers 6.00 pm

13.12.17 = Infant Nativity Play for parents/carers 2.00 pm

14.12.17 = Christmas Disco

15.12.17 = Christmas Jumper Day

21.12.17 = Carol Concert Holy Name Church 2.00 pm

22.12.17 = End of term

School closes for half term on Friday 20 October at 3.00 pm

School re opens on Monday 30 October at 8.45 am