

NEWSLETTER

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

7th October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a busy couple of weeks. The children gave fantastic speeches for the roles of Head of House and Class Apostles. All the roles have been announced and the children have already started undertaking their duties brilliantly. The House Captains are proudly wearing their new ties (these link to the colour of their house) and the Class Apostles each have a gold cross badge that they are wearing.

Have a lovely week.

Mrs Smith

Harvest Festival

As part of our preparations for the Harvest Festival, we are collecting items from the list below. These will be donated to the Bushey Food Bank.

- Tinned meat
- Rice
- Pasta
- Toiletries - shower gel, soap, toothpaste, shampoo

Children have already started to bring their donations into school and these are on display in their classes. We will be celebrating our Harvest Liturgy on Friday 9th October.

Curriculum Letters

Curriculum letters have been posted onto the website and will be sent out to parents. These include the key learning and topics for the year. Due to Covid-19 and lockdown, we are completing extra assessments to identify any gaps in the children's learning. These are being addressed to enable the children to then access the learning for their current year group.

Wellbeing

The emotional well-being of our children and their families continues to remain a high priority as we continue to settle back into school life.

www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters

is a new website that has been released by Public Health England. The website is endorsed by the NHS and offers practical advice for both parents and children related to well-being and emotional health. Please do not hesitate to speak to the school should you need any further information or require further support in this area.

Attendance

It is very pleasing to see whole school attendance is so strong this term. Currently our whole school attendance is 96.8%. Thank you to all families for continuing to make a concerted effort to ensure that children are in school, on time, each day, even in the midst of challenging national circumstances. As you may imagine, with such a strong whole school picture, individual class totals are similarly high.

Our attendance champions this week are Nursery, who are way out in the lead with 98.33% attendance; a fantastic achievement for our youngest pupils! Please remember that, despite what can seem to be confusing messages in the press, on social media and even from Government ministers themselves, there are clear guidelines about illness, Covid-19 and school attendance, which are printed below.

Important COVID-19 reminders:

Please remember to be vigilant for the common symptoms of Covid-19:

- A high temperature (37.8°C or above)
- A new continuous cough
- A loss or change in normal sense of taste or smell

A child or adult displaying any one of these symptoms must not come to school. They need to get a test for Covid-19. The whole household must self isolate until the results are received.

If a child displays any one of these symptoms whilst at school, the child will be kept separate from their peers and parents/carers will be called to collect their child immediately. Your swift response in such circumstances is important. If a child displays signs of illness that are not one of the common Covid-19 symptoms, e.g. a sore throat, and they are well enough to come to school, then they should continue to do so.

Secondary School Transfer Information

Secondary school admissions opened on Tuesday 1st September; the closing date for all applications is Saturday 31st October 2020.

Year 6 parents need to apply online at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions

Hertfordshire County Council recommend that parents complete their online application by **Friday 23rd October**, so that if there are any queries, they can be dealt with by the Admissions Team ahead of the deadline.

Please note, Catholic secondary schools require a Supplementary Information Form which can be obtained from the school you are applying to. Please be aware that the deadline (**31st October 2020**) for returning the Supplementary Information Form (SIF), which must be returned directly to the school as part of the application process, falls within the half term holiday. We advise parents to ensure that SIFs and supporting documents are completed and returned to Catholic secondary schools by **4.00pm on Thursday 22nd October 2020**.

The Certificate of Catholic Practice can be obtained from your parish priest. Fr. Jim will be signing the Certificate of Catholic Practice forms from Tuesday to Friday at 9am to 9:30am and 3pm to 3:30pm.

If you need any help with applying to secondary school please contact the school office.

Parking

Unfortunately, there have been some problems with inconsiderate parking by a small number of members of our school community over the last couple of weeks.

This has included parents parking across a neighbour's drive way, thereby blocking them into their drive. It is against the law to block someone into their drive way and not very thoughtful or considerate. We have also been told of parents parking across the corner of Clover Field and using the road to turn in, making it difficult for residents wishing to exit their driveways and blocking traffic along Merry Hill Road as a result. Please be aware, there is a 'no turning' sign at the entrance of Clover Field. In addition to this, I have had reports of parents verbally abusing others due to parking issues.

We appreciate how difficult the issue of parking and travel along Merry Hill Road can be. Unfortunately, there are no easy solutions to this problem and it takes common courtesy and respect from all road users, including parents and carers of our school, to help to ease this and to protect the reputation of our school in the local area. We all need to play our part in this.



Dates for Autumn Term 2020

Currently Masses and Liturgies are being held virtually and the children are accessing these from their classrooms.

Date	Event
Friday 9th October	Virtual Harvest Liturgy – for pupils only
Wednesday 21 st October	Year 4 Year Group Mass
Monday 19 st October – Thursday 22 nd October	Science & Creative Week – STEAM Week – Our Diverse Planet
Friday 23rd October	Inset Day
Monday 26 th October – Friday 30 th October	Half Term
Monday 2 nd November	Children return to school
Wednesday 4 th November	Year 5/6 Phase Mass – more information to follow
Thursday 5 th November	Influenza Vaccinations – All pupils from Year R up to Year 6.
Wednesday 11 th November 2019	National Child Measurement Programme (Height and Weight) and health questionnaire for Year 6 pupils.
Friday 13 th November	Open morning for prospective Reception Parents – more information to follow
Monday 16 th November – Friday 20 th November	Anti-Bullying Week – United Against Bullying
Friday 20 th November	Open morning for prospective Reception Parents – more information to follow
Tuesday 24 th November	Parents Evening These will be virtual meetings. More information to follow.
Wednesday 25 th November	Parents Evening These will be virtual meetings. More information to follow.
Thursday 26 th November	Parents Evening These will be virtual meetings. More information to follow.
Friday 27 th November	Occasional Day
Monday 30 th November	Non-Uniform day. To celebrate St Andrew's Day the children may wear blue, white or tartan clothes. We ask for a £1 donation towards the school funds via the School Gateway.
Tuesday 8 th December	Key Stage One (Years 1 and 2) Christmas Play – More information to follow.
Wednesday 9 th December	Key Stage One (Years 1 and 2) Christmas Play – More information to follow.

Wednesday 9 th December	Junior Advent Service – More information to follow.
Tuesday 15 th December	Foundation Stage (Nursery and Reception) Christmas Play – More information to follow.
Thursday 17 th December	End of term and Christmas Dinner Day. School finishes at 1:15pm. The children may wear their own clothes, a Christmas jumper and a Christmas hat.
Friday 18 th December	Inset Day

Spring Term 2021

Date	Event
Monday 4 th January	Start of Term
Friday 8 th January	Beginning of Term Mass for Years 1 – 6. Parents are most welcome Year 5 pupils will lead the Mass.
Wednesday 3 rd February	Year 6 Year Group Mass
Monday 8 th February – Friday 12 th February	Feeling Good Week
Tuesday 9 th February	Internet Safety Day
Wednesday 10 th February	Key Stage One (Years 1 and 2 pupils) Assembly – more information to follow.
Monday 15 th February – Friday 19 th February	Half Term
Monday 22 nd February	Children return to school
Friday 26 th February	Non-Uniform day. To celebrate St David's Day the children may wear red, white and green clothes. We ask for a £1 donation towards the school funds via the School Gateway.
Thursday 4 th March	World Book Day – the children may come to school dressed up as a character from a book or linked to an object from a book.
Tuesday 9 th March	Parents Evening - more information to follow.
Wednesday 10 th March	Parents Evening - more information to follow.
Thursday 11 th March	Parents Evening - more information to follow.
Friday 12 th March	All classes from Nursery up to Year 6 - Mothers' Day class assemblies – more information to follow.
Wednesday 17 th March	Non-Uniform day. To celebrate St Patrick's Day the children may wear green, white and orange clothes. We ask for a £1 donation towards the school funds via the School Gateway.

Wednesday 17 th March	Years 5, 5/6 and 6 Mothers' Day class assemblies – more information to follow.
Tuesday 23 rd March	Phase 3/4 play – more information to follow.
Wednesday 24 th March	Phase 3/4 play - more information to follow.
Thursday 25 th March	Junior Lent Service – more information to follow.
Friday 26 th March	End of term and Whole School Easter Bonnet Parade, school finishes at 1:15pm.

Summer Term 2021

Date	Event
Monday 12 th April	Children return to school
Friday 16 th April	Beginning of Term Mass - Year 4 pupils will lead the Mass – more information to follow,
Friday 23 rd April	Non-Uniform day. To celebrate St George's Day the children may wear red and white clothes. We ask for a £1 donation towards the school funds.
Monday 3 rd May	May Day Bank Holiday
Monday 10 th May to Thursday 13 th May	Year 6 Sats
Thursday 13 th May	Ascension Mass in Church at 2pm for Years 1 – 6 - Year 3 pupils will lead the Mass – more information to follow.
Tuesday 18 th May	Phase 1/2 Mass – more information to follow.
Tuesday 25 th May	EYFS Assembly – more information to follow.
Wednesday 26 th May	Year 5 Year Group Mass – more information to follow.
Monday 31 st May – Friday 4 th June	Half Term
Monday 7 th June	Inset Day
Tuesday 8 th June – 11 th June	One World Week – Working together for a just, peaceful & sustainable world
Friday 11 th June 2020	Sacred Heart Feast Day Mass at 11am for Years 1 – 6. Year 1 and 2 will lead. If possible, this will be followed by a whole school picnic at 12pm on the school field. More information to follow.
Wednesday 16 th June 2020	Phase 3/4 Mass – more information to follow.
Thursday 24 th June	Infant Sports Day at 9:15am Junior Sports Day at 1:30pm More information to follow.

	Children wear their PE kit with a coloured t-shirt to match their house. Mathew - Yellow, Mark - Red, Luke - Green and John - Blue
Tuesday 29 th June	St Peter and Paul Mass - Year 6 pupils will lead the Mass – more information to follow.
Monday 5 th July 2020	Year 5/6 Production – more information to follow.
Tuesday 6 th July 2020	Year 5/6 Production – more information to follow.
Wednesday 14 th July 2020	Year 6 Leavers Mass – more information to follow.
Friday 16 th July 2020	End of Term, school finishes at 12 pm for Years R up to Year 5. School ends at 1:30pm for Year 6 pupils.