

Reflection on the week:

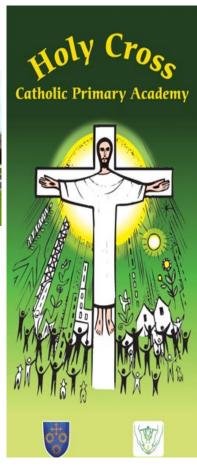
On Tuesday this week we had our beautiful service to pay devotion to Mary, our Mother. Our Head Girls and Head Boys placed a flower garland on Mary's head and all the children placed a flower at her feet. There is now a beautiful carpet of flowers in front of the statue of Mary and during the month of May, the children will visit Mary's statue to say the Rosary. We would encourage our families to pray the Rosary at home in devotion to our Blessed Lady.

Have a wonderful weekend

Mrs Kerrell

Headteacher





The King's Coronation

We hope that all our families have a wonderful extended weekend celebrating the coronation of King Charles III. This will be a historic and memorable event and to mark this special occasion we will be celebrating next week with a school picnic on Friday afternoon. There will be surprise activities for the children to take part in and this will be a non-uniform day; we ask everyone to comes dressed in Red White and Blue on Friday.

The children have been working hard on creating portraits of King Charles III in different styles and we will be displaying these in a special 'school gallery'. We are also holding a 'Design a Crown' competition (see the attached flyer) and we are looking forward to seeing all the entries next week.



SATs

We want to wish our Year 6 children lots of luck for their SATs tests which will take place from Tuesday to Friday next week. The children have worked incredibly hard along with our Year 6 Staff. We would also like to thank parents and carers for all of the support that you have given your children.

We are offering our Year 6 pupils a free SATs breakfast each day of the tests next week. Children should come to the office for 8am and where we will meet them.

Afternoon Tea

I was delighted to have Afternoon Tea with some of the children who have really been trying their best this term. Well done to them all.

Cafod

We will be having a new assembly every Thursday morning for Years 1-6 and our focus will be on Catholic Social Teaching. We want our children to think more closely about how they can look after our world, think of other people and be caring citizens. We were lucky to have John from Cafod, take our assembly this week and he will then be delivering workshops across the school to the children.

Thanks to everyone's efforts with Fundraising we were delighted to present him with a cheque for Cafod for £820



Gardening and Allotments

A huge thank you to all of the children, parents, carers and staff who gave up their time last Saturday to help clear and prepare the allotments. They are looking fantastic and ready for us to plant lots of lovely fruits and vegetables. Our new greenhouses are all in place thanks to all of the money that you helped to raise from our sponsored walk. Mrs Gallagher has worked incredibly hard over the last 2 weeks to organise everything and everyone; we are all very grateful to her for her special efforts. A special thank you too, to all our parent volunteers.

PE Uniform

Our new PE uniform is available to order, please see the details below. The current PE uniform or the new uniform can be worn this term and then from September it will be the new PE uniform only please.



Naming items

As we begin to enter the warmer weather (hopefully) and the children begin to take off coats, cardigans and jumpers please ensure that all uniform and belongings (including water bottles) are named.

Year 4 Poets

Congratulations to Praise and David from Year 4 Hares, who won a poetry competition, launched to raise awareness of the Equality Act.

No Discrimination by Praise
Be yourself
Everybody loves you the way you are so do not change yourself for other people
Love yourself and don't care what anyone thinks
It's only you who judges who you are
Equality is for you and me
Violence isn't good
Encourage everyone to be their best

Boldness is Key by David
Be bold and stand up for what is right
Respect and be willing to help others
Accept people for who they are
Violence is wrong
Encourage people to be the best they can be

School Photo Subscribers

We have been informed that everyone who pays the £3 monthly subscription will be sent a class photo automatically. There is no need to order one.

If you would like a class photo and do not use the subscription service, please order following the instructions on the card sent home with your child on Wednesday.



Congratulations to the joint winners of the KS1 Attendance Award, Butterflies, Ladybirds and Grasshoppers, achieving 99% attendance. Well done! The winners of the KS2 Attendance Award, are Eagles, also attaining 99% attendance. Well done!

Please ensure you are sending your child into school everyday, unless they are not well enough to attend. Attending school is so important and makes a huge difference to your child's learning. The gates open at 8:30am until 8.50am.

It is essential you notify us of your child's absence by 9am either by telephone or using the Pupil Asset report absence option on every day of absence. We need full details of why your child is unable to attend school. We are frequently having to contact parents, to find out why their child is absent from school. If you do not notify us of the reason for your child's absence it may not be authorised.

Absences over 3 days require supporting medical evidence, for the additional absence to be authorised. Medical evidence can take the form of prescriptions, antibiotics and medical appointments.

Butterflies	99%
Ladybirds	99%
Dragonflies	98%
Grasshoppers	99%
Hedgehogs	97%
Squirrels	95%
Badgers	96%
Foxes	94%
Hares	91%
Rabbits	98%
Kingfishers	95%
Robins	95%
Eagles	99%
Owls	93%

Parents of children below attendance targets will be invited in for a meeting with the Educational Welfare Officer.



Name	Class	Reason for Nomination	
Malachi	Butterflies	For an amazing attitude to learning	
Keziah	Ladybirds	For outstanding behaviour	
Amelia	Dragonflies	For always having a great positive attitude	
Hanley	Grasshoppers	For always making good choices and trying his best	
Roman	Hedgehogs	For impeccable behaviour and an outstanding role model	
Blake	Squirrels	For having a positive attitude	
Aimee	Badgers	For always doing the right thing and being an amazing model	
Feodora	Foxes	For always being very tocused and having lots of great ideas to share with the class	
Nayt	Hares	For being a fantastic role model and very polite	
Jeanette	Rabbits	For settling in well at Holy Cross and is a true asset to the class	
Joey	Kingfishers	For having a really good attitude to learning and trying his best	
Amelia	Robins	For outstanding behaviour and being a great role model	
Lucia	Eagles	For always putting lots of effort in to her work and being a wonderful role model	
Luciann	Owls	For being a fantastic role model	

The life of KING CHARLES III



Charles Windsor is born in Buckingham Palace to proud parents Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip. 1952
Charles' mother becomes Her Majesty Queen Flizabeth II of

Charles is made Prince of Wales bu does not have his investiture until 1969, when he is crowned in a televised ceremony. Following in the footsteps of his father, grandfather and two great-grandfather Charles serves in the RAF. After training as a jet pilot, he joins the Royal Navy.



The couple's first child, William, is born in St Mary's Hospital in London – and two years later, Prince Harry is born. Unlike many royal fathers, Charles was present at the birth of both his children.

The prince marries Lady Diana Spencer in a ceremony at St Paul's Cathedral after a five-month engagement.



Having divorced in 1996, Charles marries his second wife, Camilia arker Bowles, in a civil ceremony at Windsor Guildhall.

Charles becomes king following the passing of his mother, Queen Elizabeth II. He was the longest serving heir apparent



On leaving the navy, Charles uses his severance pay to set up The Prince's Trust a charity to help vulnerable young people which is still running today.



Charles is crowned in a ceremony at Westminster Abbey alongside his wif-Camilla, becoming the oldest British monarch to ascend to the throne.

Did you know?...

GOD SAVE THE KING ~





The new king has a degree from the University of Cambridge and A Levels in History and French.

Charles is a committed environmentalist who has supported campaigns to address climate change. In 2007, he won Harvard University's Global Environmental Citizen Award.



Charles is also passionate about architecture.
His charity – the Prince's Foundation for the Built
Environment – has helped design, construct and
refurbish important buildings around the world.
This won His Majesty the Driehaus Architecture
Prize from the University of Notre Dame.

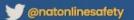


At 73, Charles becomes the oldest British king to be crowned. The previous oldest was William IV, Queen Victoria's uncle, who was 64 at his coronation way back in 1830.

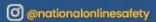




Written By Kyle Graham











THE KING'S CORONATION BY MAKING A CROWN

WE ARE HAVING A COMPETITION TO MAKE A CROWN FIT FOR THE KING.
BRING YOUR ENTRIES IN ON FRIDAY 12TH MAY.
PRIZE FOR EACH KEY STAGE

GET YOUR TICKETS FOR

ADVENTURE ISLAND SOUTHEND ON SEA









Times Tables Rockstars

Congratulations to the following children for trying really hard with their times tables this week.

Hedgehogs: Isla McNamara Squirrels: Tadhg Hanifin-Flynn

Badgers: Livia Mazurek Foxes: Jalyn Muigai

Hares: Evie Underdown Rabbits: Ilinca Branisteau

Kingfishers: Vicky Portaro Robins: Thomas Hyde

Eagles: Adjoa Kwakye Owls: Ruby La Ronde

Gospel Values Awards

The Gospel Value this week is...

Justice

- fairness and equality

"And will not God grant justice..." (18: 7) The Parable of the Ten Pounds (19: 11-26)

Congratulations to the following children who received the Gospel values certificate this week.



Butterflies: Ollie Kelly Ladybirds: Braven Andersen-Hamm

Dragonflies: Olivia Colussi Grasshoppers: Hanley Matthew

Hedgehogs: Lucas Jarczewski Squirrels: Nick Rzecholka

Badgers: Luke Kimmins Foxes: Attila Madarasz

Hares: Ellie Edmonds Rabbits: Aniyah Adenuga

Kingfishers: Heather Owusu-Kumi Robins: Eloise de-Souza

Eagles: Gilda Bosompem Owls: James Harten



Based on the gospel for Sunday 7 May, Fifth Sunday of Easter: John 14:1-12

"There are many rooms in my Father's house."

There are different possible destinations for the soul after death, and the Bible uses a variety of words to talk about this: Heaven, Hell, Sheol, Paradise, the Abyss and Gehenna. There is also Purgatory.

But in this passage Jesus is saying that he is in the Father and the Father is in him. No one comes to the Father but through him. Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life. He is offering us redemption and salvation and a place prepared for us after our death if we follow him, put complete trust in him and have faith in him alone.

Believing in Christ, the only way, we strive to seek him in the faces of our brothers and sisters whom we encounter every day, particularly people who are poor or who are undergoing any kind of difficulty in life. By showing solidarity with others, we allow Christ to act in and through us, as we seek to follow his way.

Dear Lord,

Help us to follow you and have complete faith in you, for you are the Way, the Truth and the Life. Help us to see your face in the people we encounter each day.

Amen.



The Words of Pope Francis

St Joseph teaches us that, in the midst of life's tempests. We must never be afraid to let the Lord steer out course.

Wednesday 3rd May 2023 - A WEEKLY PRAYER CUSTOM



Encountering Christ Prayerfully preparing for the Sunday Mass and praying in particular for our school families



Preparing for the Mass of Sunday 7th May 2023 - The Fifth Sunday of Easter



Relax & Remember

Set aside 10 -15 minutes and create a suitable environment by removing any distractions. Make sure that you are comfortable. Perhaps light a candle. Make the sign of the cross † and remain still for a minute of settling silence. **Call to mind the love that God has for you. Remember that through this scripture our Lord is truly present.** Then read the Gospel, preferably aloud and slowly, and pay attention to any words that stand out. If any do, meditate on them for a few minutes and be invited into a dialogue with God.



2 Read

Taken from the Gospel for Sunday 7th May 2023 - Jesus Warns of his Departure (John 14:1-12)

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am now going to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too. From this moment you know him and have seen him.' Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him, 'and you still do not know me? To have seen me is to have seen the Father, so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself: it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work. You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason. I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself, he will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father.'

3 Reflect

After spending a few minutes considering this Gospel, continue by reading Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection.

As the festival of the Ascension approaches, Jesus begins to prepare his followers for his own departure from the world. There are two aspects to this teaching. Firstly Jesus speaks of the final purpose, union with the Father, and his preparation of a place for us there. He says that there is a 'room' for each of them, suggesting not that there are plenty of separate cubicles for different sets of people (bishops, babies, monks and maniacs), but that there is no lack of space in heaven. No problem of 'only one wins the prize' in this case. The second aspect is preparation for the future Church on earth, and the almost shocking promise that in the absence of Jesus – but in the strength of his Spirit – his people will do 'even greater works'. Paul teaches that believers 'make up what is lacking in the sufferings of Christ', for in every age the Church fills up the measure of Christ's sufferings; it is a Church which shares its Master's trials. In the same way in every age the Church must carry on the works of Christ. In John the 'works' of Jesus are the marvellous deeds, beyond mere human powers, works of grace and generosity.

What is the real joy and excitement of heaven? How may we best carry on the 'work' of Christ?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB



Respond & Request

Now slowly and prayerfully read the Gospel once again but this time in silence. Consider how this Gospel could apply to your life in general. Then thank God for any insight you may have received. Conclude by asking God to bless you with one of the following spiritual gifts to help you act on any resolution you have made: love, understanding, wisdom, faithfulness, peace, self control, patience, or joy. Please remember to pray for the Church and particularly our school families. **Then conclude by requesting the prayers of Our Lady & St Joseph.**



The Wednesday Word is under the patronage of St Joseph, Patron Saint of Families and Protector of the Church Within the tradition of the Catholic Church, each Wednesday is dedicated to St Joseph

WEDNESDAY WORD PLUS +





First Reading: The Appointment of Deacons

Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

There are two really striking features about this story. The first is that the first officials appointed in the Church are called 'servers' or 'servants', which is what 'deacons' means. St Paul will stress, writing to the Corinthian community, that any job in the Church is a service to the community. A role in the Church does not confer a dignity which we can boast of, except in so far as it is a sharing in the service given by Christ himself, the Servant of the Lord. The most important part of our job is to attend to the needs of the community, not to preen ourselves on obtaining a grand position. The second feature of the reading is that (even so early in the life of the ideal early community) a squabble occurs. One group feels that it is being neglected. The split may even be worse than Luke allows us to see, for all the new officials appointed belong to only one of the two parties mentioned, that is to the Hellenists. This is not going to ensure an even distribution of food between the two occur constantly.

Is there any split in your community which needs to be reconciled?

Second Reading: A Royal Priesthood

1 Peter 2:4.9

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

The background of this reading is the covenant between God and his people of Israel on Mount Sinai. There the mountain was so sacred that the people were not allowed to approach it. Now the author tells us that the new people of God, chosen by God, is so valuable itself that all of us (not just a leading figure) are invited to huddle close to the true sacred rock that is Christ himself. In the Old Dispensation Moses alone was holy enough to approach the mountain and offer sacrifice; now it is the whole people. It is the whole people which is now constituted as a royal priesthood and it is a consecrated people which can offer sacrifice. One of the principal emphases of the Second Vatican Council was to underline that the Eucharistic sacrifice is offered by the whole people, not by the priest alone. Yes, the priest does have a special function, that of presiding at the Eucharist, and without this presidency the Eucharist cannot take place. Nevertheless, the Eucharist is the sacrifice of the people as a whole, which the laity offer just as much as the priest. The reading also uses another Gospel image: the people of God is a house built of living stones, a living holy Temple, built on the foundation stone who is Christ and topped by the keystone who is Christ.

What does it mean to think of the Eucharist as 'our offering'?

The people of God is a house built of living stones.

The Wednesday Word: Connecting Home, School & Parish through the Word of God w: www.wednesdayword.org e: info@wednesdayword.org





SHARING SUNDAY'S GOSPEL WITH PARENTS & FAMILIES

Dear Parents and Carers,

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus begins to prepare his disciples for his departure from the world. Jesus is returning to his Father and will make a place ready for each of them in heaven.

Jesus tells the disciples to trust in him. No amount of worrying will increase their safety or comfort; it's through trusting in Jesus that they will find security and hope. We too are called to trust in Jesus. Through the Holy Spirit we carry on his work and are empowered to do even greater works.

Wednesday 3rd May 2023

This does not mean performing a series of great, flashy miracles. It means being Christ in the world around us, generously sharing the love he brings into our own lives with those we meet. This isn't easy - it never was - but trust in Jesus and see what happens!

Enjoy hearing your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is TRUST.

Dom Henry Wansbrough

To see this week's Parish Version of The Wednesday Word: wednesdayword.org - Parents' Pages - Lectio Divina with Fr Henry.

Jesus said, "Do no your hearts be troubled.

Trust in God and trust/in/me

HE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 7th May 2023



On the night before he died, Jesus spoke to his friends, the disciples. "Do not let your hearts be troubled," he said. "Trust in God and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house, and I am going now to prepare

a place for you. I will come again and take you with me so that where I am, you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going." Then Thomas, a disciple, said, "Lord, we do not know where you are going: how can we know the way?" Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too. You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself; they will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father."

> Adapted from John 14:1-12 The 5th Sunday of Easter, Year A

You are warmly invited to learn more about the Gospel through your local parish church.

"Put your trust in God, dear young friends! He knows and loves us." Pope Francis

: + Marcus Stock, Bishop of Leeds. © Copyright 2023 The Wednesday Word™ A Registered Charity in E

RD CONNECTING HOME, SCHOOL AND PARISH THROUGH SUNDAY'S GOSPE



In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus tells his followers not to be troubled, but to trust in him. Jesus also wants us to place all our trust in him. There can be many things that trouble our hearts, but following and trusting in Jesus frees us from worrying in this life, and is the way to the joys of everlasting life too.

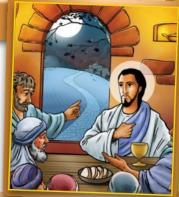


Our Special Time Together

Enjoy reading the Gospel overleaf (or below for younger children)

On the night before he died, Jesus spoke to his friends, the disciples. "Do not let your hearts be troubled, do not be worried. Trust in God and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house, and I am going now to prepare a place for you. I will come back to take you with me and we will be together again. You know the way to the place where I am going." Then Thomas, a disciple, said, "Lord, we do not know where you are going: how can we know the way?" Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life."

Who did Jesus say we should trust in? Which word or words stood out for you in this Sunday's Gospel, and why? What does the Gospel picture make you think about?



Word is ...

Wednesday's TRUST Loving God & Each Other

"Those who trust in God can do all things." St Alphonsus Liquori

Ask your child what the word 'trust' means to them. Knowing who to trust is really important. A friend who can be trusted is a gift from God! Who does your child really trust and why do they trust them? Ask your child if they can think of a time when they were trusted. Perhaps you can tell your child about those people in your life whom you trust the most, and say why you trust them.

"Trust the past to God's mercy, the present to God's love and the future to God's care."

St Augustine of Hippo

Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life and he asks us to place our trust in him. Each of you say how, in the days ahead, you can show your trust in God. Perhaps, rather than worry, pray and offer any concerns to Jesus. How can we show God, and others, that we are people who they can trust? Perhaps we can always try to: tell the truth; choose to do the right thing; be generous with our God-given gifts of time, talent and money; keep our promises.

Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for teaching us the truth and showing us the way to everlasting life. Please help us always to place our trust in you. Amen, EDNESDAY ORDSEARCH **SMART**SEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER ACROSS OR DOWN PREPARE FATHER'S **SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS** S U R T BACKWARDS OR DIAGONALLY Cross out the letters **M** i **C** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words. tromucbleid trumstic miheacrts Gimocd "Do not let your _____be ____

Trust in ____ and ____ in me."

Search for at least three differences between this picture

and the colour one. Then draw them in before colouring

In this Sunday's Gospel, the disciples were probably worried because Jesus would be leaving them. So Jesus comforts them by promising to prepare a place of everlasting happiness for them in his Father's house - that is in heaven.

Write a promise and then draw a big smile on Smiley

This week I will try my best to ...



Happy Birthday this week to...

Mark Adjaye-Kwofie, Faith Williams, Annaliesa Osei-Flint, Luke Kimmins, Myles Owusu-Adu, Ethan Smith, Dylan Ziya & Isla Tieu



Golden Awards:

Butterflies: Tilly Johnson, for writing a fantastic letter to the Evil Pea

Lucas Bright, for creating a detailed portrait of King Charles

Ladybirds: Zoe Mugadza, for a great King Charles portrait

Dragonflies: Caliyah Aboagye-Manu, for her amazing effort in literacy

Zuzanna Janczewska, for writing a fantastic story in literacy Grasshoppers:

Hedgehogs: Elsie Bethell, For excellent effort working on our King Charles art work

Maya Kluza, making great effort in her work Squirrels:

Badgers: Anayah Arbuah, for adding excellent input into class discussions

Foxes: Luna Milciute Blynovas, for fantastic effort and participation in all lessons

Hares: Ollie Kluza, for his super history work about King Henry VIII

Rabbits: Leah Hyde, for trying hard in all areas of the curriculum

Kingfishers: Rhea Matunge, for having a great attitude to learning

Faith Williams, for her excellent effort in all areas of the curriculum Robins:

Eagles: Lottie Askew, for effort and enthusiasm in all subjects

Owls: Damien Andersen-Hamm, for excellent effort in numeracy

Menu week 2

Diary Dates

Monday 8th May

Bank holiday - school

closed

Tuesday 9th May

Year 4 Reading Zone 9:00

May Procession 2:00

Year 3 & 4 Football 3:15 - 4:15

Year 5 & 6 Football 3:15 - 4:15

Choir 3:15 - 4:15

Wednesday 10th May

Class Photo Day - Winter

uniform

KS1 Karate 3:10 - 4:10

Year 2 and 3 Gardening Club

3:15 - 4:15

KS2 Rounders 3:15 - 4:15

Thursday 11th May

Butterflies Parent Road Safety Workshop 9: 00

Kingfishers Road Safety

Day

Year 4 Reading Zone 9:00

Year 1 Football 3:10 - 4:10 Year 2 Football 3:10 - 4:10

KS2 Karate 3:15 - 4:15

Please download our News & Events App for dates for the year. Details are available on the schools website under News & Events at www.holycross-pri.essex.sch.uk

18th Green ViElle

Wishing everyone a lovely weekend.

Mrs A Kerrell

Mr S Kelliher

House Points

Friday 12th May

KS2 Dodgeball 3:15 - 4:15

Congratulations to the winning house St David's