



3rd July 2023



Newsletter

Reflection on the week:

We had a day of solemnity on Thursday last week as we celebrated the Feast Days of St Peter and St Paul. Father Bernard reminded us of how these two normal men, living everyday lives were chosen by Jesus to be his disciples. They were loyal friends of Jesus and servants of God, which reminds us that we must listen for God's call and be ready to serve him every day.

The children are learning about this in their RE lessons as they learn about the 7 Principles of Catholic Social Teaching. They know that we must serve God through doing good things for others in our community, through looking after his planet and by helping people who do not have as much as we do in our country. They are linking this to our 9 Gospel Values.

This has been a very busy week with two classes out today on trips, Reception to Southend and Year 4 to Kentwell Hall. These visits beyond the classroom, are very important experiences to bring the curriculum to life for the children. This week, our Year 6 pupils are off on their residential visit to The Isle of Wight and we all wish them a wonderful time.

Mrs Kerrell

Headteacher

Year 6 Residential

This week our Year 6 pupils will be away on their residential visit for the week. I will be leading the trip accompanied by, Mrs Ennifer, Miss Reeves, Miss Seers, Miss Wiseman, Mrs Mills and Father Bernard. Mr Kelliher will act as Headteacher for the week supported by Miss Clark and Mrs Noonan. Our Year 3 Badgers will be taught by Mrs Currie and Year 3 Foxes by Miss Clark and Mrs Noonan. We will post a daily update and photos every day on the windows of the entrance foyer.

End of Term

It is hard to believe that we are into July and that we only have just over 2 weeks to the end of the school year. There are lots of things taking place over the next few weeks, we have International Week (beginning 10th July), our Year 6 pupils are working hard on their production, we have Exhibition Evening and the Leavers Assembly. Please check our school calendar so that you know when everything is happening, we would hate for you to miss something important.

Earrings

If you are planning to get your child's ears pierced please arrange to do this at the beginning of the 6 week holiday so that they have time to heal. Please remember that children are not allowed to wear earrings or jewellery to school.

Reports

We will be sending out your child's end of Year report on Wednesday, in advance of Parent Consultation meetings on Thursday. Year 6 pupils will receive their reports on Monday next week when they return from the Isle of Wight. Please read your child's report with them and complete and return the parent comment sheet. Your feedback is very important to us. Class lists, for next year, will be given out in the final full week of term.



Catholic Social Teaching

We have been learning about the importance of Catholic Social Teaching in our lives. Our 9 Gospel Values are the bedrock of our school and what we would like the children to show to others. There are 7 principles of Catholic Social Teaching and these underpin our Gospel Values. The Gospel values are the golden threads that weave through all that we do at Holy Cross and the Catholic Social Teaching principles are the silver threads that run from the Gospel Values. Our first board as everyone comes through into our school, shows this.

Human Dignity is the cornerstone of these principles and the children have been learning about this, this week. We want our pupils to think about others and the dignity of human life as we are all made in the likeness of God and should therefore reflect this to others through our words and actions. We would like parents to support our work on Catholic Social Teaching at home and to find out more please follow this link: <https://cafod.org.uk/pray/catholic-social-teaching> . There is also a helpful video if you follow this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XNcBCPVbYDU>

Year 6 Retreat Day

On Monday, Year 6 were joined by Year 12 students from St Mark's for their retreat day. The theme for the day was "The Gifts of the Holy Spirit." The children spent time completing some team building activities. They were then given affirmation booklets for their peers to write comments in. Then, they thought about the one gift that they would need the most to support them as they transition to Secondary School. They wrote bidding prayers in their groups and learnt to sign a hymn before ending the morning with a liturgy service in the Church led by Deacon Tony. The morning was a great success and supported the children in their ongoing faith journey.





ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Congratulations to the winners of the KS1 Attendance Award, Squirrels, achieving 96% attendance. Well done! The winners of the KS2 Attendance Award, are Eagles, attaining 97% 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.

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



Times Tables Rockstars

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

Hedgehogs: Poppy McIntyre

Badgers: Dominik Gadomski

Hares: Sophie Philpot

Kingfishers: Vicky Portaro

Eagles: Ini Oyelami

Foxes: Freya Bown

Rabbits: Teodora Fedeles

Robins: Isaac Adisa

Owls: Karmella Marriott

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: Chloe Bushell

Ladybirds: Alice Thorpe

Dragonflies: Edie Fitzpatrick

Grasshoppers: Kaci McCann-Coombs

Hedgehogs: Krzysztof Czarny

Squirrels: Ivy Bennett

Badgers: Hendrix Johnson

Foxes: Freya Hyde

Hares: Emilie Patasuis

Rabbits: Amber Williams

Kingfishers: Harry Hollingworth

Robins: Aurora Milciute-Blynovas

Eagles: Ellice Osei-Flint

Owls: Aidan Cater



International Food Festival

Friday

14th July 2023

3pm to 4.30pm

**Come along and try some food from
around the world.**

**If you would like to bring dishes please
let Mrs Slater or Mrs Mills know.**



THE FEAST OF HOLY CROSS FESTIVAL



FAMILY FUN DAY



SATURDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER
2023

MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT

Gates open 2.30pm
3pm to 9pm
Family mass at 5.30pm

On Holy Cross field, bring a picnic
and chairs/ gazebo



Festival Events

Live Band Triple X

African Dancing

Ballroom Dancing Demo and free sessions

Karate Demo

Irish Dancing

All the children from Holy Cross will be performing!

Choir

Festival Face Painting

Bouncy Castles

Panna Pitch

Prize Raffle

Licenced Bar

Barbeque

Refreshments

GET YOUR TICKETS FOR

ADVENTURE ISLAND ***SOUTHEND ON SEA***

£15 PER PERSON FOR A DAY
TICKET AVAILABLE FROM
HOLY CROSS SCHOOL
OFFICE





Based on the gospel for Sunday 2 July, Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Matthew 10:37-42

"Anyone who welcomes you, welcomes me; and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me."

Jesus' instructions are not easy. He lays bare for the disciples that they may be called to choose him even above their own family. That they will face challenges and may even lose their life.

This is a scary prospect. It takes a particular sort of courage to stand up for what we believe in, and not quietly back down when things get tough. How prepared are we really to pick up our cross and follow Jesus?

Jesus goes on to promise a reward for those who welcome his disciples. This is a further challenge, when the messages we hear in so many places today are about what divide us.

Do we open ourselves to those who seek a welcome in our community, or in our country? Those who are fleeing conflict, persecution or poverty? Those who might have a different opinion to us or who open our eyes to the need for change?

Let us hold onto the idea that in welcoming others, we are welcoming Christ, and seek the courage to follow in his way.

Loving God,
open our hearts to welcome you in all our sisters and brothers. Grant us the
courage to answer your call in our lives each day.
Amen.



The Words of Pope Francis

Education does not consist in filling heads with ideas, but in accompanying and encouraging students on a journey of human and spiritual growth, showing them how friendship with the Risen Jesus enlarges the heart and makes life more human.

A Weekly Gift to you and your family from your Catholic School

THE Wednesday WORD



SHARING SUNDAY'S GOSPEL WITH PARENTS & FAMILIES

Dear Parents and Carers,

In this Sunday's Gospel, like teachers of that time, Jesus uses blunt language to grab his disciples' attention and promises unlimited rewards for even for the smallest act of kindness, like giving someone a cup of water. However, following Jesus would certainly mean making some difficult decisions for his disciples.

Through this Gospel Jesus is encouraging his disciples to be selfless – to give him first place in their lives. They are to forget about themselves and to put others' needs before their own – to be selfless. This message is for each one of us too.

Wednesday 28th June 2023

St Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa) reminds us, "We will be the happiest people in the world if we belong to God, if we place ourselves at his disposal, if we let him use us as he pleases."

Enjoy a special time this evening, hearing your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **SELFLESS**.

Dom Henry Wansbrough



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

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 2nd July 2023



Jesus instructed the twelve as follows: "Anyone who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who prefers son or daughter to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who does not take his cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me. Anyone who finds his life will lose it; anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me; and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me. Anyone who welcomes a prophet because he is a prophet will have a prophet's reward; and anyone who welcomes a holy man because he is a holy man will have a holy man's reward. If anyone gives so much as a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is a disciple, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward."

Adapted from
(Matthew 10:37-42 (the 13th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A))

**Everyone can learn more about this Gospel
in Church – all are warmly invited.**

"Jesus leads us to go out from
ourselves more and more,
to give ourselves and to
serve others." Pope Francis



Selflessness is part of everyday life. We prove our love by our actions – it is selflessness which makes people truly great, warmly remembered and deeply loved. The happiest people are actually those who are selfless and serve others.



1 Our Special Time Together

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

Jesus said to his disciples, "If you want to belong to me, you must love me more than anyone and even more than you love yourself. You must be willing to carry your cross and follow me. Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me and they also welcome my heavenly Father who sent me. And anyone who gives even a cup of cold water to someone who belongs to me will certainly be rewarded."



Who did Jesus say we should love more than anyone else? Which word or words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? What does the picture make you think about?

2 Wednesday's Word is ...

SELFLESS

3

Loving God & Each Other

Selfless people make the world a much better place.

Ask your child what the word 'selfless' means to them. Being 'selfless' is the opposite of being 'selfish'. It is about being very aware of others' needs or interests, and putting them before our own. Who are the most selfless people that your child knows – that is, people who put others' needs first? Why did they think of those people? It may help your child if you can talk about a historical figure or someone you know who can be described as selfless. What is it like to be in the company of a selfless person?

"Love God, serve God: Everything is in that."

St Clare of Assisi

To love God, we must be selfless. As a family, talk about how you can selflessly follow Jesus and serve others in this coming week, even in little ways, at home, at school or in the community. Perhaps you can: give extra help to your family around the house; give time or money where needed; resist pushing in and let others go first instead; support a charity; give some of your leisure or play time to be with God in prayer.



Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for the example of many selfless people who show us your way of love and kindness. Please help us to be selfless like them. Amen.

Gospel Gallery

G	F	S	E	L	P	I	C	S	I	D
S	I	S	S	E	L	F	L	E	S	I
D	W	V	B	E	L	O	N	G	E	S
E	F	G	I	V	I	N	G	S	L	C
D	A	C	F	N	M	H	F	U	F	I
R	T	M	S	L	G	G	W	S	L	P
A	H	F	H	C	N	F	D	E	E	L
W	E	L	C	O	M	E	G	J	S	E
E	R	L	L	W	J	E	S	U	S	S
R	M	E	D	R	E	H	T	A	F	C
P	B	E	M	O	C	L	E	W	F	S
R	E	W	A	R	D	E	D	L	E	W

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER **ACROSS** OR **DOWN**

- ☒ DISCIPLES
- ☐ SELFLESS
- ☐ BELONG
- ☐ JESUS
- ☐ WELCOME
- ☐ FATHER
- ☐ GIVING
- ☐ REWARDED

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS **BACKWARDS** OR **DIAGONALLY**



Search for at least three differences between this picture and the colour one. Then draw them in before colouring.

Cross out the letters **i a d** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

muidsat alodvie damie bedloanig

Jesus said, "If you want to _____
to _____, you _____ me."

Tomorrow (29th June) is the feast day of St Peter and St Paul – two great saints who selflessly served the Church.

Find out more at: missiontogether.org.uk/day-of-many-colours & Saint Fact Files at: wednesdayword.org/home/childrens

For more, see: wednesdayword.org and cbcew.org.uk



Write a promise and then draw a big smile on Smiley

This week I will try my best to...

.....



Happy Birthday this week to...

Caliyah Aboagye-Manu, Ohemaa Prempeh, Stanley Chambers,
Kyren Laidley, Will Bannister-How, Abigail Olagunju,
Hannah Mahalik-Berec & Medeina Kucinskaite



Golden Awards:

- Butterflies: Tilly Johnson, for a great enthusiasm for writing, always completing the sentence challenge
- Ladybirds: Melina Girciute, for working consistently hard during choosing time
- Dragonflies: Diona Sulaj, for producing some lovely writing about sustainable food
- Grasshoppers: Lyla Quinn, for her fantastic history work on the Victorians
- Hedgehogs: Joel Boateng, for fantastic effort with our imaginative writing
- Squirrels: Kiera Noonan, for amazing recount writing on our trip to the zoo
- Badgers: Gracie Freeman, for always doing the right thing and being a kind friend
- Foxes: April Thorp, for always being a great role model to others
- Hares: Violet Aldous, for her incredible attitude in all lessons
- Rabbits: Jemie Kuttin, for working very hard in our literacy lesson
- Kingfishers: Heather Owusu-Kumi, for always helping her friends
- Robins: Demi Osiname, for trying really hard in maths when adding and subtracting decimals
- Eagles: Teddy White, for always working hard in all lessons
- Owls: Bree Onwurah, for an excellent story in literacy

House Points

Congratulations to the
winning house St Andrew's

Menu week 1

Diary Dates

Monday 3rd July

Kingfishers Swimming

Years 1 & 2 Drawing
3:10 - 4:10

KS2 Basketball 3:15 -
4:15

Tuesday 4th July

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

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

Wednesday 5th July

Year 3 Eucharistic Service 9:00

KS1 Karate 3:10 - 4:10

KS2 Karate 3:15 - 4:15

Year 2 and 3 Gardening Club
3:15 - 4:15

KS2 Rounders 3:15 - 4:15

Thursday 6th July

Friday 7th July

KS2 Assembly 9:00

KS1 Assembly 2:30

KS2 Dodgeball 3:15 - 4:15

Mrs A Kerrell *Mr S Kelliher*

Wishing everyone a lovely weekend.

Mrs A Kerrell

Mr S Kelliher

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