



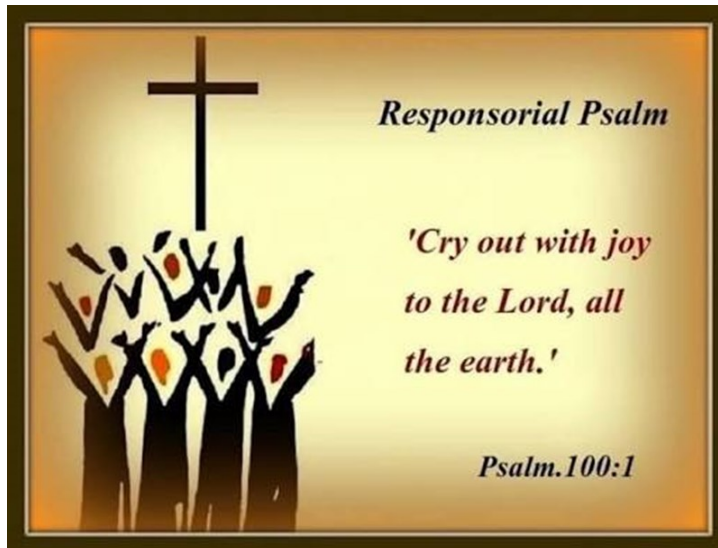
5th June 2026



GOSPEL VALUE: Our Gospel Value for this week is Hope . Please reflect on this at home with your child.

Weekly Reflection

In the readings this Sunday we are reminded that Jesus is The Good Shepherd and that we are His flock. We hear how He will look after us and not to doubt that He will keep us safe as a good shepherd guards their flock. We are told to give to others of ourselves as God has given goodness to us. The beautiful words of the Psalm, this weekend, reminds us of the goodness of God in our lives. The words encourage us to know that we must all rejoice in the Goodness of God!



Wishing everyone a peaceful and happy weekend.

Mrs Kerrell
Headteacher

Going Forth Mass

Congratulations to our First Communion children, who we celebrated in the Going Forth Mass. The children then had a party with their classmates in the afternoon.



Relationship and Sex Education

We will be delivering our Relationship and Sex Education teaching (Journey in Love) to our Year 5 and 6 pupils. We would like to invite parents and carers (only) to a meeting about the content of the RSE curriculum on Monday 22nd June at 3.30pm. Children in Year 3 and 4 and Key Stage One, will also be taught the relationships aspect of this curriculum. For more information please follow this link to the RSE curriculum, which was written by Brentwood Diocese-please scroll to the bottom :

<https://www.holycross-pri.essex.sch.uk/page/?title=Journey+In+Love+%28RSE+Curriculum%29&pid=71>

Sports Week and Sports Day Picnic

We are really looking forward to the exciting week of sport, next week. There are lots of activities taking place and we would like to invite parents and families to come and watch the 'traditional' races on Wednesday 17th June, in the morning. Reception and Key Stage One will be from 9.00am-10.15am and the Key Stage 2 will be 10.30am-12 noon. We would like to invite families to stay after the races and have a picnic lunch with their child from 12noon to 1.30pm.

The plan is that after the Key Stage 2 Races the children will go back into class to have a drink, use the toilet and wash their hands. This will give families, a chance to move from watching the races and find a spot on the field for their picnic blanket. We will then line the children up as we do at the start of the day and once in their line we will send them to you. **If your child is eating with another family because you can't make it, then it is very important that you let the office know this. Children whose family can't make it along will eat with their class teacher and other class staff.**

At 1.30pm we will ring the bell, the children will then line up and go into class for their afternoon lessons. We kindly ask that parents and families vacate the playground so that we can secure the school site.

On Thursday 18th June we will have our famous **COLOUR RUN**. This year we don't have sponsorship so we are charging everyone £1.00 please to take part. If you would like your child to take part please contact the office for a payment link.

IOW-22nd June (only 1 week away!)

We are fast approaching the departure date for our Year 6 visit to the Isle of Wight. Please remember that we need forms and pocket money in to the office by Monday at the latest as these are now overdue. I have put a note on Seesaw this evening with a few reminders and reassurances.

Year 6 parents, If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office.

YEAR 5 Parents: we will be having an initial Isle of Wight information meeting for Year 5 children on Monday 6th July at 3.30pm.

New Reception pupils

We are really excited to meet our new Reception children and their families on Monday when they come for their first induction session. We are really looking forward to you joining our Holy Cross family.

Uniform

I realise that we have 5 weeks of the summer term left and as such your child may be starting to grow out of their school uniform and shoes. However, it is very important that we maintain our school uniform standards and I kindly ask that parents are supportive of this. We have a second-hand uniform shop where items can be purchased very cheaply and also I have made the uniform as affordable as possible by only requesting three logoed items.

Next week is Sports Week and children **MUST** be in the correct school PE Kit every day. I have seen blue shorts this week and various different coloured sweatshirts. These are not part of our school PE Kit. If children are not in the correct kit for PE then they may not be permitted to take part in the lesson or activities.

Please also remember that trainers are not part of the school uniform. In this week's break away from school uniform, I kindly ask that if your child does not have the correct uniform or school shoes that this opportunity is taken to purchase it.

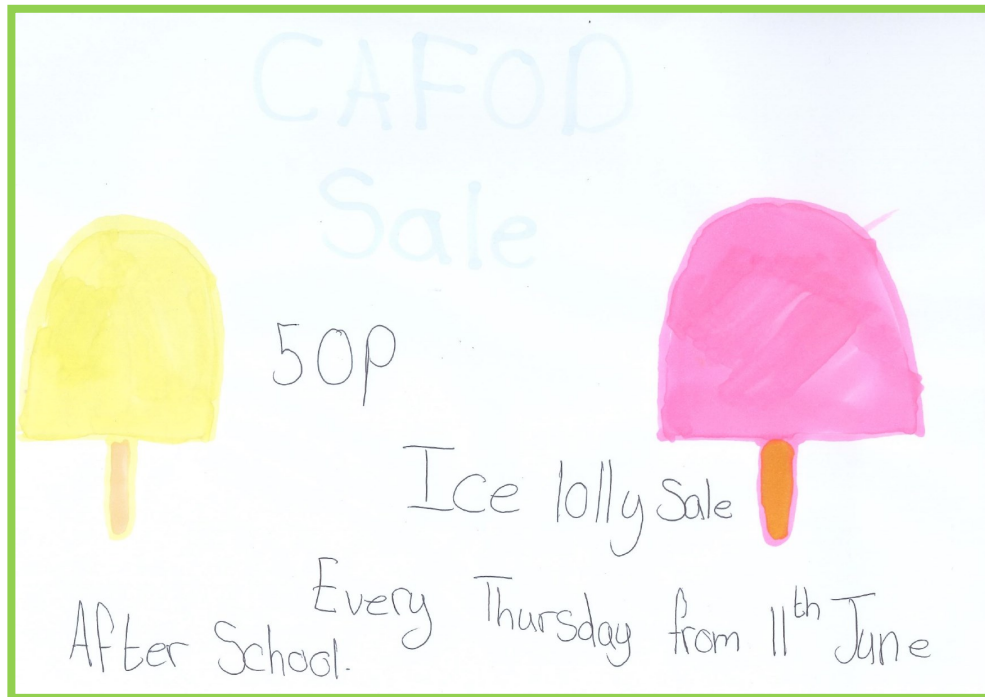
Save the Date

We have some important events coming up that I would like to highlight in case you need to ask for some time off work.

Leavers Mass: This will be in the church this year and will take place on Monday 16th July at 9:30am. This will be limited to our Year 6 parents or parents of children who are leaving our school.

All the other important dates for the summer term can be found by following this link to our website:

<https://www.holycross-pri.essex.sch.uk/calendar/?calid=3&pid=133&viewid=41>



The Words of Pope Leo XIV

Let us ask Mary, Queen of Peace, to teach us to renounce hurtful words, hasty judgement, gossip, and slander. May we learn to cherish and nurture love within our families, among friends, in the workplace, on social media, in political debates, and in Christian communities, so that hatred may give way to hope and peace.



Times Tables Rockstars

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

Hedgehogs:	Kaleb	Squirrels:	Zuriel
Badgers:	Keziah	Foxes:	Malachi
Hares:	Raysa	Rabbits:	Ava
Kingfishers:	Adrian	Robins:	Hayley
Eagles:	Kenna-Kah	Owls:	

HAPPY
FATHER'S
Day

GIFT SALE!

GIFTS ARE

£3

EACH



YEARS 2, 3 AND 4 – MONDAY 15TH JUNE



YEARS 5 AND 6 – TUESDAY 16TH JUNE



RECEPTION AND YEAR 1 – WEDNESDAY 17TH JUNE



Cash, card or payment link





SPORTS DAY

AND

FAMILY PICNIC



17TH JUNE



RECEPTION AND KS1 FROM 9AM



KS2 FROM 10.30



PICNIC 12PM TO 1.30PM



COLOUR RUN



18TH JUNE



£1 PER CHILD



SPONSORED

BOUNCE



19TH JUNE





INTERNATIONAL FOOD



FESTIVAL
LET'S MAKE IT
BIGGER THAN LAST YEAR!

AFTER SCHOOL
FRIDAY
10TH JULY

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO
HAVE A STALL
THEN LET
MRS SLATER OR MRS MILLS KNOW.



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Congratulations to this week's winners of the KS1 Attendance Award, Butterflies achieving 99% attendance. The joint winners of this week's KS2 Attendance Award are Badgers and Foxes, 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 **8.55am**.

It is essential you notify us of your child's absence by 9am either by telephone or using the Arbor 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.

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

Butterflies	99%
Ladybirds	91%
Dragonflies	93%
Grasshoppers	98%
Hedgehogs	89%
Squirrels	97%
Badgers	99%
Foxes	99%
Hares	98%
Rabbits	96%
Kingfishers	98%
Robins	93%
Eagles	96%
Owls	94%

Gospel Value Awards

Humility

trust and faith in our Lord God our Father

"Lord, make me know your ways. Lord, teach me your paths. Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour" Psalm 24:4



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

Butterflies:	Alina	Ladybirds:	Omemma
Dragonflies:	Million	Grasshoppers:	Michael
Hedgehogs:	Zachary	Squirrels:	Sofia
Badgers:	Reginald	Foxes:	Tilly
Hares:	Dennis	Rabbits:	Andreas
Kingfishers:	Summer	Robins:	Freddie
Eagles:	Erin	Owls:	Naya



Preparing for the Mass of Sunday 14th June 2026
 The 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Matthew 9:36-10:8

Relax

Make the Sign of the Cross † and remain still for a minute of settling silence. Then read the Gospel — preferably aloud and slowly — paying attention to any words that stand out to you.



Read This Sunday's Gospel : THE NEW ISREAL



When Jesus saw the crowds he felt sorry for them because they were harassed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest.' He summoned his twelve disciples, and gave them authority over unclean spirits with power to cast them out and to cure all kinds of diseases and sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew; James the, son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, the one who was to betray him. These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them as follows: 'Do not turn your steps to pagan territory, and do not enter any Samaritan town; go rather to the lost sheep of the House of Israel. And as you go, proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is close at hand. Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out devils. You received without charge, give without charge.'

Did any words or phrases stand out to you in the Gospel? If so, take a few moments to meditate on them.

Reflect

Now read the Gospel again and consider what the Lord might be saying to you, or asking of you, through it. Then continue by reading Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection...



Jesus was concerned about his people. He wanted to bring to them the Kingdom of his Father, so he set out to heal them, and sent others out to do the same. His aim was to bring them the peace of God, to help them by ridding them of their worries, their sickness, their embarrassment at being lost sheep without a shepherd (God was always the shepherd in Israel). When he set up the twelve apostles he was making a New Israel, a new set of twelve tribes, as a permanent healing body, to make sure that the Kingdom of the Father and its peace and generosity would always be available. He was not setting up a clergy, a set of leaders, but appointing his own helpers in spreading God's Kingdom. That is what every Christian must do. Do I make it my business to spread the Kingdom or the Kingship of God? Am I a labourer in the harvest, trying to bring God's peace and healing to all the sick sheep? After all, I was made in the image of God, and God gave me the task of following on his creative work. And then Jesus called me, too, to work with him.

Am I supposed to cure the sick and cast out devils?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

Rest

Now call to mind the Lord's love for you, remembering that through this scripture the Lord is truly present. Then silently and prayerfully listen for God's voice and rest in God's love.



Respond & Request

Thank God for any insight you may have received, and respond by asking the Holy Spirit to bless you with a spiritual gift or help you to grow in a particular fruit of the Spirit.
You might pray for wisdom, courage, faithfulness, self-control, patience, generosity, joy, kindness, love, peace, faith, chastity - or another grace - to help you live out your faith this week.



Remember

This Wednesday's words for our families are **GOD'S KINGDOM**
 (To see the Family Version, please visit: wednesdayword.org)



As you pray for your loved ones, please remember to pray for the Church and for the families connected to our schools.

St Joseph, Patron Saint of Families and Protector of the Church, pray for us. Mary, Star of Evangelisation, pray for us. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.



First Reading: *God chooses Israel to be his own possession*



Exodus 19:2-6

From Rephidim the Israelites set out again: and when they reached the wilderness of Sinai, there in the wilderness they pitched their camp: there facing the mountain Israel pitched camp. Moses then went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, 'Say this to the House of Jacob, declare this to the sons of Israel, "You yourselves have seen what I did with the Egyptians, how I carried you on eagle's wings and brought you to myself. From this you know that now, if you obey my voice and hold fast to my covenant, you of all the nations shall be my very own, for all the earth is mine. I will count you a kingdom of priests a consecrated nation."

This reading records the special moment when God chose Israel to be his own possession, a kingdom of priests, a holy nation, formed of twelve tribes, just as in the gospel reading Jesus will chose Twelve to be the nucleus of his holy Kingdom.

God had led them out of slavery in Egypt with a purpose: they were to be gradually formed and enlightened to bring God's Good News to the whole of creation. First they were given the Law (the Ten Commandments come just after this passage) which would teach them how the people of God must live out their vocation. 'Be holy as I am holy', acting in the image of God, completing God's work of creation. It was not going to be a smooth path. They rebelled already in the desert, hankering after the 'leeks and onions' of Egypt, and the history of Israel was to be a constant series of rebellion, recall and forgiveness – just like our relationship with God, full of failure and return. Formation always involves a fair amount of buffeting and correction, spiritual growing-pains as well as physical. Like ours, their learning process was slow and full of mistakes, but in the end they brought salvation into the world in the person of Jesus.

What can it mean that we are a kingdom of priests?



Second Reading: *Reconciled to God*



St Paul to the Romans 5:6-11

We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners. Having died to make us righteous, is it likely that he would now fail to save us from God's anger? When we were reconciled to God by the death of his son, we were still enemies; now that we have been reconciled surely we may count on being saved by the life of his Son? Not merely because we have been reconciled but because we are filled with joyful trust in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have already gained our reconciliation.

The clue to the importance of this reading comes right at the end: we have been reconciled, but we shall be saved. Through the loving obedience of Christ on the Cross the yawning chasm between God and humanity represented by the disobedience of Adam has been closed, the hostility (hostility on the side of Adam not of any angry god) annulled. The boundless love of God can be given to us in the Spirit, so that we too may live by that love, and play out our lives under its influence. The join of these two readings gives a wonderful assurance: the Shepherd's love is such that it dwells in us in the Spirit and thereby empowers us to act with that love towards those around us. This is what is meant by living the life of Christ.

If I have already been put right with God, can I just float along and leave it all to God?

“ This is what is meant by ”
living the life of Christ.

The Wednesday Word: Connecting Home, School and Parish through the Word of God



Dear Parents and Carers,

This Sunday's Gospel reminds us that Jesus came to establish a kingdom – God's kingdom.

Jesus was concerned about his people. He wanted to bring to them the Kingdom of his Father, so he set out to heal them and to bring them the peace of God, and he sent out his disciples to do the same. Today, the Church continues Jesus' work and invites everyone to enter into God's kingdom – to make present God's blessing of peace and healing.

Wednesday 10th June 2026

Everywhere I go I can spread either gossip or peace, either hurt or God's healing – the healing which Jesus brought as he went round the countryside.

I may not be able to heal physically, but I can spread the healing of peace in my community. Enjoy your week and help reveal **GOD'S KINGDOM**.

Dom Henry Wansbrough



A Word from the Saints

"Where Christ is, there is the kingdom of God." St Ambrose

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 14th June 2026



When Jesus saw the crowds he felt sorry for them because they were harassed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd. He said to his twelve disciples, "The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest."

He then gave them authority over unclean spirits with power to cast them out and to cure all kinds of diseases and sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew; James the, son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, the one who was to betray him. These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them as follows: "Go to the lost sheep of the House of Israel. And as you go, proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is close at hand. Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out devils. You received without charge, give without charge."

Adapted from Matthew 9:36-10:8

The 11th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A

Getting to know Jesus makes life joyful.
Learn more about this Sunday's Gospel in your local Parish Church: all are very warmly invited.

Family Time Prayer & Share Overleaf ▶

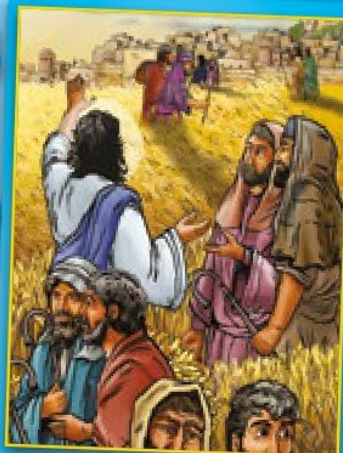
Good News for Everyone

God's kingdom is right here – right now! When we welcome Jesus into our lives and try to live as he taught us, God's kingdom grows within our hearts. Within our families, and everywhere we go, we can help to reveal God's kingdom, sharing God's healing love and peace – making life better for all.



Good News for Families

TOGETHER TIME



1 READ & REFLECT! Listen & Learn with Jesus, the Word!

Jesus felt sorry for the crowds because they were worried and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. So, he gave his disciples the power to cure all kinds of diseases and sickness and said: "Now go to the people and tell them that the kingdom of heaven will soon be here. Cure the sick, raise the dead to life and heal the lepers. You received without paying, now give without being paid."

What did Jesus tell the disciples to say to the people?

Which word or words stood out for you in this Sunday's Gospel, and why? Spend a few relaxing moments pondering the picture together. Share any thoughts before moving on.

Sunday Gospel Gallery

Look at this Sunday's Gospel picture. What can you see? How do you feel? What does it make you think about?

2 SHARE & CARE! Growing in Goodness & Love: This Wednesday's Word...

"The kingdom is hidden within you; it is found in your own soul." *St Isaac of Nineveh*

GOD'S KINGDOM



God loves all people equally and invites everyone to share in his kingdom - today! Ask your child what the words 'God's kingdom' mean to them. We can see God's kingdom in the person of Jesus and demonstrated through the loving actions of others. Ask your child who brings peace, joy, happiness, love, kindness or understanding into their lives (you might like to give your child an example of your own). Where and when does your child personally experience these special gifts?

We can help God's kingdom of peace and healing to grow within and around us through the little things that we do and say. Each of you choose one way in which you can help the kingdom of God to grow. Perhaps you can: be more helpful around the house; share more; support a child, family or project at school where help is needed. Why not get involved with a charity that helps the poorest in the world (e.g. visit Cafod.org.uk or Missio.org.uk)?

3 Dear Lord Jesus, please help us to build your kingdom in our hearts and in the world - to do your work on earth with love and care for all. Amen.

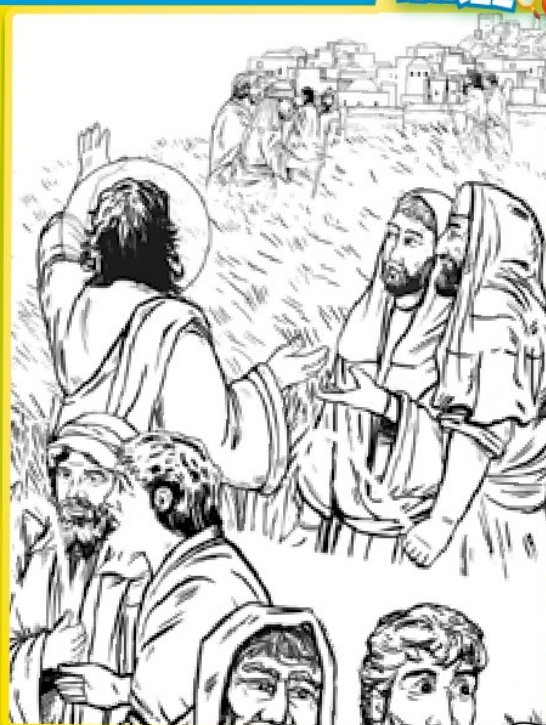
FINDING THREE

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

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

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DISCIPLES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	SENT	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	HEALING PEACE	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	KINGDOM GOD	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	VERY NEAR	<input type="checkbox"/>

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



Find and draw 3 differences, then colour the picture

Cross out the letters **u b c** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

upebcople kibngudocm nuecarb cheabul

Jesus said, " _____ the _____ who are sick and say, 'The _____ of God is very _____ to you.'"

Just like Jesus' first followers, we too should work to bring peace and healing to other people by the things we say and the way we behave.

This week I will try my best to...



Write a promise & draw a big smile on Smiley

Happy Birthday this week to...

Thabo, Caiden, Maurice,
Ava, Bekah, Leo, Florence,
Alfie, Amelia & James



Golden Awards

- Butterflies: Cezar, for writing fantastic sentences about his holiday.
Ladybirds: Reggie, for knowing his number bonds and doubles to 5.
Dragonflies: Paul, for really trying in his maths learning.
Grasshoppers: Eliana, for always trying her hardest in all areas of learning.
Hedgehogs: Charles, for writing a fantastic nonsense poem on the seaside.
Squirrels: Liam, for writing a fantastic piece on the Good Samaritan.
Badgers: Kezia, for always being a good friend.
Foxes: Alice, for always being a kind and caring friend to others.
Hares: Hermione, for a great diary entry as Howard Carter when discovering Tutankhamun's tomb.
Rabbits: Kaci, for working hard to improve his handwriting.
Kingfishers: Lucas, for his fantastic writing in R.E. this week - well done!
Robins: Kodie, for her brilliant leaflet about the Ancient Greeks.
Eagles: Kojo, for always having an excellent attitude to his learning - well done.
Owls: Priscilla, for learning the Year 6 production songs off by heart already.

House Points

Congratulations to the winning
house this week, St Andrew's

Menu week 1

Diary Dates

Sports Week - PE kit all week

* External club, fees apply

Monday 15th June

Year 1 booster
Mini Musicals club
Years 1 & 2
Forest school
Years 1, 2, 3 & 4
* Cheerleading club
Football team training
Year 5 booster

Tuesday 16th June

Year 6 swimming (invited
pupils only)

Wednesday 17th June

Sports morning
KS1 - 9:00
KS2 - 10:30
Family picnic - 12:00 - 1:30
* Football club
* Karate - Years 2 & 3

Thursday 18th June

COLOUR RUN
Cafod club
* Football club
* Karate - Years 4, 5 & 6

Friday 19th June

Sponsored bounce
* Musical Theatre club

Wishing everyone a lovely weekend.

Mrs A Kerrell

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mrs A Kerrell'.

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