



15th July 2022



Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,
We're delighted to have celebrated our annual International Week again over this past week where each class studied the culture of another country.

The children were greeted by 'Holy Cross Airlines' on the playground on Wednesday morning. After checking in, they received their passports and travelled to different classes to experience a range of nations throughout the day.

Today there was an abundance of colour as children came into school in their national dress. They also enjoyed a dance workshop and created an international mosaic which, when complete, will be displayed in our school foyer.

The week culminated in our International Food Festival, a highlight of the week for many, where one could experience cuisine from across the globe. Thank you to all the parents and relatives who, through bringing in their sumptuous home-cooked dishes, made the Food Festival the success it was. Although we promote an international dimension throughout the year, having a week dedicated solely to this helps the children to appreciate further the full richness of cultural diversity. A big thank you to all who have worked to prepare for all of the events this week especially Mrs. Slater, Mrs. Mills and all of our hard-working catering staff.

Year 6 Production

We were treated to the Year 6 end of year play on Tuesday and Wednesday evening. The children did incredibly well and created a rollercoaster of emotion for all. There was laughter, reminiscence and tears before a triumphant and joyous finale. They spoke about old memories and created new ones for us all. Thank you also to the production team: Miss Clarke, Mrs. Noonan, Mrs. Ennifer, Mrs. Mills, Miss Clark and the Year 6 Team. We are now looking forward to the end of year Mass which will take place in our church on Monday morning at 9.30am.



Commonwealth Choir at The Guildhall, London

On Thursday, Holy Cross children as members of the Commonwealth Youth Choir performed with the Commonwealth Scholars' Choir and the Band of the Coldstream Guards for dignitaries at the Guildhall. As ever, they made us all extremely proud through both their singing and exemplary conduct. These children have had a number of incredible experiences through their membership of the Commonwealth Youth Choir. Thank you once again to Mrs. Slater and Mrs. Cater who provided tremendous support this year and to Mrs. Johns who also accompanied the children on Thursday.

Reception Graduation

Congratulations to all our children in Reception who have passed their first year with flying colours. They celebrated this with a family picnic before they were presented with their graduation certificates on Thursday. We look forward to seeing them continue to blossom in Year One.



Year 5 Enterprise day at St Mark's

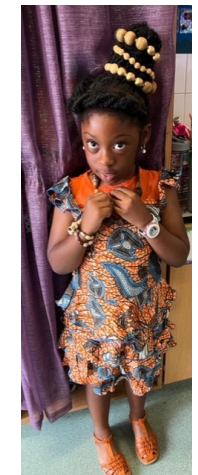
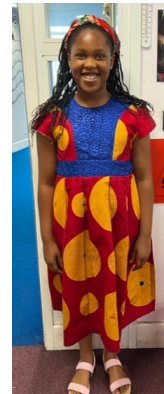
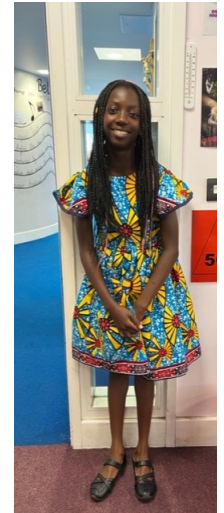
On Thursday 15th July 2022, the Year 5 children at Holy Cross had the opportunity to visit St Marks School and also to take part in the Enterprise Soap Challenge. The children participated in an interactive product development workshop in which they had to work in teams to create a brand new, hand-crafted, natural soap company.

The day began with each team allocating jobs and responsibilities, deciding on corporate names and choosing a target audience for their product to be sold to. With the targeted audience in mind, the pupils then moved on selecting the essential oils and other ingredients for their unique hand-crafted natural soap. The day ended with an assembly rewarding each winning team with a certificate for their innovative ideas.

We would like to thank St Marks School for their hospitality and also all the Year 5 team at Holy Cross for their support during this visit.



International Week



International Food Festival

Thank you to everyone that contributed delicious food for the International Food Festival. It was a great success and a wonderful celebration of our school's diversity.



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

For the third consecutive week the winners of the KS1 Attendance Award are 1S achieving 99% attendance. Well done! The winners of the KS2 Attendance Award are 5G attaining 96% 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**.

Familiarise yourself with the symptoms of COVID 19. If your child displays any COVID 19 symptoms they must have a negative test before they may attend school. There is no need to keep your child off with a common cold, if they are well enough to come in.

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.

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

R B	96%
R L	96%
1A	94%
1S	99%
2HD	94%
2PT	89%
3N	94%
3R	89%
4C	94%
4E	95%
5G	96%
5S	88%
6CN	89%
6E	90%

12 Ways to Champion EQUALITY ONLINE

In terms of the esteem it's held in, women's football has made impressive progress in a short space of time. That's a bit like the online world: it's come a long way, but that doesn't mean we should stop trying to make it even better. The Women's European Football Championships are underway, and that's a timely reminder of how important it is to give everyone the respect they deserve online – regardless of gender, race, sexual orientation, religion or anything else. In partnership with the Global Equality Commission, we've produced a special guide to help young fans kick online discrimination into touch!

1 KNOW IT WHEN YOU SEE IT

Expressing views based on prejudice about a part of someone's identity – their race, gender or a disability, say – counts as online hate.

2 WHEN "BANTER" ISN'T FUNNY

Discrimination is sometimes disguised as humour: some memes, clips or gifs that certain people try to pass off as "funny" might actually be offensive.

3 BE YOUR OWN PERSON

Set a good example through your own online communication. Think whether you'd say a thing in real life before posting or sharing it online for the world to see.

4 SEEING SHOULDN'T EQUAL BELIEVING

Sneakier, less obvious types of online abuse can stay on the internet for longer, so don't assume that something's OK just because it's not been taken down yet.

5 SEXISM CAN BE ILLEGAL

As well as being extremely hurtful to a person or a group, online sexism and prejudice against women (known as misogyny) can be recorded as a hate crime in some cases.

6 ONLINE HATE, USED AS BAIT

Sadly, it's not just that being exposed to prejudice online is upsetting – some extreme organisations even try to recruit young people to their cause.

7 GET SOME DISTANCE

If you see messages online that upset you, it's probably time to give yourself some space from that site or app. Talk to a trusted adult about how you're feeling.

8 TURN OFF THE HATERS

If someone you follow on social media is posting sexist content, you could always mute them or block them – or unfollow them altogether.

9 PLAY IT BY THE BOOK

If you see someone discriminating online, you don't have to challenge them yourself. Screenshot their post and report them to the app or site you saw it on.

10 EXPLOITING 'PACK MENTALITY'

Sexist messages aren't always sent to a target directly; sometimes, they're posts designed to provoke misogyny among other people.

11 POSITIVITY ALWAYS WINS

Go the extra mile and spread some positive vibes! Instead of just reacting to a post and scrolling past, you could add a message of support and encouragement, too.

12 CREATE THE WORLD YOU WANT

Remember, you're the boss of your online world. Engage with posts or accounts that celebrate equality and understanding; block or unfollow the ones that don't.

GLOBAL
EQUALITY
COLLECTIVE



National
Online
Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

FURTHER SUPPORT

If you've been affected by any of the issues mentioned in this guide, there are some excellent resources that can offer further help and support.

NOS Mental Health Guides: nationalonlinesafety.com/guides
Minds: www.youngminds.org.uk
Stop Hate UK: stophateuk.org
Ditch the Label: www.ditchthelabel.org
Childline: www.childline.org.uk



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety

Holy Cross Catholic Primary Academy



TICKETS TO
SEALIFE
CENTRE
SOUTHEND-ON-SEA

£8 per ticket (per person)

Pre order your Tickets* from School or
scan the QR code
and save £4.50 per ticket
*valid until Dec/22



Scan the QR code to buy tickets

Please note, if you scan the QR code to purchase tickets you will need to notify the school office of your purchase.

Holy Cross Catholic Primary School

DAY BAND* TO

*Valid until Dec/22

ADVENTURE ISLAND

Southend-on-Sea

£15 per day (per person)

Unlimited rides

**PRE ORDER YOUR TICKETS
AT SCHOOL OR SCAN THE QR CODE
AND SAVE £10 PER TICKET**

Scan the QR code
to buy your tickets



Please note, if you scan the QR code to purchase tickets you will need to notify the school office of your purchase.



Times Tables Rockstars

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

1S: Luka Yamgoue

3N: Amy Dawodu & Roxanne Hand

4C: Naomi Oregbhemhe

5A: Julia Magryta

2PT: Erin Florido

3R: Ella Thorpe

4E: Rafe Norris

5G: Athena Harrison

Gospel Values Awards

The Gospel Value this week is...

Compassion

- kindness, service of neighbour

"When the Lord saw her, he had compassion for her." (7:13), Good Samaritan (10:36)

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



Butterflies: Filip Wroblewski

1A: Krzysztof Czarny

2HD: Liliana Smaglo

3N: Praise Owolabi

4C: Araibella Morgan

5A: Farrah Kent

6CN: Michael Tanu

Ladybirds:

1S: Clara Stewart

2PT: Luna Milciute Blynovas

3R: Annaliesa Osei-Flint

4E: Emilia Mardyla

5G: Marissa Fraser

6E: Olivia Mardyla



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



Preparing for the Mass of Sunday 10th July 2022 - The Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 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 10th July 2022 (Luke 10:25-37): The Good Samaritan

There was a lawyer who, to disconcert Jesus, stood up and said to him, "Master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He replied, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself." "You have answered right," said Jesus. "Do this and life is yours." But the man was anxious to justify himself and said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbour?" Jesus replied, "A man was once on his way down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of brigands; they took all he had, beat him and then made off, leaving him half dead. Now a priest happened to be travelling down the same road, but when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. In the same way a Levite who came to the place saw him, and passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan traveller who came upon him was moved with compassion when he saw him. He went up and bandaged his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them. He then lifted him on to his mount, carried him to the inn and looked after him. Next day, he took out two denarii and handed them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and on my way back I will make good any extra expense you have.' Which of these three, do you think, proved himself a neighbour to the man who fell into the brigands' hands?" "The one, who took pity on him," he replied. Jesus said to him, "Go, and do the same yourself."



3 Reflect

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

To many a Jew at the time of Jesus the hatred of the Samaritans was such that a Good Samaritan was a contradiction in terms. It is striking that Luke changes the dialogue about the two commandments. In Mark's and Matthew's accounts Jesus answers the question about the commandments, while in Luke Jesus challenges the questioner, who then himself gives the right answer. It is also striking that, in his reply at the very end, the lawyer, despite Jesus' praise of him, cannot bring himself to pronounce the hated name, 'Samaritan', and says 'the one who...'. The conscientious dilemma of the priest and the Levite reveals a dry humour within this story: if the huddled traveller turns out to be dead, they will incur corpse-defilement and be unable to perform their sacred duties! This legal difficulty makes the Samaritan's attentive generosity all the more poignant, for a Samaritan is free of any such hang-ups. Love shown to the unfortunate and the down-trodden is a major theme in Luke's Gospel. But note also the Samaritan's careful administration of his funds: he gives not a blank cheque but two days' wages, which he supplement on his return if necessary!

What is the main point of Jesus' story? Is it to be generous or not to be judgmental?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

4 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 †

Fr Henry's reflections on the first and second readings of Sunday 10th July 2022



First Reading: *Moses' Final Counsel*

Deuteronomy 30:10-14

Moses said to the people: "Obey the voice of the Lord your God, keeping those commandments and laws of his that are written in the Book of this Law, and you shall return to the Lord your God with all your heart and soul. For this Law that I enjoin on you today is not beyond your strength or beyond your reach. It is not in heaven, so that you need to wonder, 'Who will go up to heaven for us and bring it down to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?' Nor is it beyond the seas, so that you need to wonder, 'Who will cross the seas for us and bring it back to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?' No, the Word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for your observance."

The Book of Deuteronomy consists of four great discourses on the Law. This lovely passage concludes the last discourse, after which the death of Moses is recounted. It encourages the people to observe the Law. The Law, it teaches, is not obscure, or difficult, or far away; the people do not need to travel far or search deeply. The author is saying that the Law is Israel's natural inheritance, and so it is natural for them to observe it; it is almost – as we would say – second nature. The Law was God's most precious gift to Israel, a revelation of the divine nature and the divine ways to the world, and so a source of light and life. It revealed how Israel had to behave in order to be God's faithful people. Therefore, observance of the Law was not to be thought of as a tiresome obligation but a response in love to this gift made in love. For Christians the Law is brought to perfection in the incarnate Word of God, who is the perfect revelation of the Father, and is the Way, the Truth and the Life. Israel saw the revelation of God's will, and so of his nature, in the Law; Christians similarly see the full revelation of the glory of God in Christ Jesus.

How can I come to know God's ways? Why not (as a starting point) read John's Gospel (where we discover Jesus as the Way, the Truth and the Life)?

Second Reading: *Christ the First-born*

Colossians 1:15-20

Christ Jesus is the image of the unseen God and the firstborn of all creation, for in him were created all things in heaven and on earth: everything visible and everything invisible, Thrones, Dominations, Sovereignities, Powers - all things were created through him and for him. Before anything was created, he existed, and he holds all things in unity. Now the Church is his body, he is its head. As he is the Beginning, he was first to be born from the dead, so that he should be first in every way; because God wanted all perfection to be found in him and all things to be reconciled through him and for him, everything in heaven and everything on earth, when he made peace by his death on the cross.

This is the first of the readings we will hear from Colossians over the coming week; it is a hymn to the pre-eminence of Christ. It falls into two stanzas: the first proclaims Christ's pre-eminence as firstborn in creation, the second his pre-eminence as first-born from the dead. As first-born in creation he is the image of the invisible God, in whom all is created, just as, in the Book of Wisdom, Wisdom is called the image of God, the reflection of the eternal light and the mirror of God's active power. In Wisdom, in Christ, God can be seen. In the second stanza, as first-born from the dead, Christ brings all things to perfection and completion. The hymn is a sort of parabola, starting with God in creation, descending to Christ as Lord of the Church, and returning with Christ to completion in God.

What does this passage teach us about Jesus Christ?

“Christ brings all things to perfection and completion.”

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

w: www.wednesdayword.org

e: info@wednesdayword.org



Based on the gospel for Sunday 17 July, Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Luke 10:38-42

"You worry and fret about so many things, and yet few are needed, indeed only one."

Martha welcomes Jesus into her home and busies herself trying to be the perfect hostess. However, rather than making her feel good, this only brings her resentment that Mary is not helping. To receive the gift of peace that Jesus can bring into our lives, it is not enough just to invite him in, we need to attend carefully to what he has to say, to stop, listen in prayer and to the scriptures and reflect at "the Lord's feet".

This slowing down is counter cultural. In our world today "being busy" is often considered to be right and proper and yet there still isn't time to do everything. How many times do we hear people say "I'd like to do that, but I haven't got the time." For many, this may be a lifestyle choice and they want to keep busy, but for others in our world, it may be a necessity so that they can feed, clothe, educate and house themselves and their families.

Whatever the reason for all our busyness, it is not good for us. A balanced life needs time for relaxation and reflection, and we should ensure that the economy and legislation protect and enable this for all people throughout the world.

Jesus, bringer of peace,
calm our troubled minds.
Help us to be attentive to your word
so that we may order our lives according to your will.
Amen.



The Words of Pope Francis

Every time we open our hearts to Jesus God's blessing enters our lives.

Happy Birthday this week to... Sophie Stoppolecamp, Declan Bennett, Mara Ciotoi, Skyla Hand, Luisa Marsham, Layla Santos-Ebejer, Jonny Shiel & Aurora Boyce Grace.

Happy Brithday next week to... Albert Edwards, Karmella Marriott, Jeremiah Marriott, Margaret Oregbehemhe, Talulah Gray, Isla Marsh-Gray, Amanda Manea, Olivia O'Sullivan, Sofia Dubencu, Athena Harrison, Amara Nwoye, Otto Colussi & Evan Lentz



Happy Birthday in August to... Alexander Magryta, Oliver Ruffell, Zara Brooks, Sid Cundins, Ruby La Ronde, Lilly Dundridge, Ella Thorpe, Alexander Embley, Crystal Onyechere, Beau Walsh, Finley Fitzgerald, Tawana Agyare, Ivy Bennet, Autumn Bennet, Emilia Mardyla, Layla Smith, Tinashe Agyare, Barry Tanu, Teodora, Giusepe Portaro, Sean O'Connor, Zara Snipes, Teddy White, Gracie Freeman, Arlo McGhee, Keira Fennelly, Lottie Peters, Lottie Askew, Sophie Philpot, Poppy McIntyre, Amelia Randle, Ilinca Branisteanu, Ronel Sofuwa & Axel Brooks

Merit Certificates:

Butterflies:	Georgie White, for great participation and attitude towards all activities Stephanie Naydenova, for fantastic drawing skills, drawing African animals
Ladybirds:	Curvis Agyemang, for remembering some great facts about South Africa
1A:	James Hanmore, for trying very hard in all his learning
1S:	Auumn Bennett, for having positive and happy attitude towards all learning
2HD:	Archie Vetori, for having an excellent general knowledge on Brazil during International Week
2PT:	Hendrix Morgan, for his excellent contribution to class discussions
3N:	Emilie Patasuite, for her incredible progress and amazing year and finishing it as a real star
3R:	Leah Hyde, for fantastic effort all year and being a great friend to everyone
4C:	Sophia-Jai Henry, for her super attitude on Passport Day
4E:	Josie Ogbonze, for fabulous origami frogs and fantastic research about Japan
5A:	Naomi Ayobamidele, for trying exceptionally hard, learning Spanish numbers and colours
5G:	The whole of 5G, for excellent effort in learning Spanish during International Week.
6CN:	The Whole Class, for their great effort and enthusiasm in the Year 6 play
6E:	The Whole Class, for their great effort and enthusiasm in the Year 6 play

Diary Dates

Monday 18th July

Leavers Mass 9:30 - parents of leavers welcome

Year 6 party for Y6 - children only

No Clubs

Tuesday 19th July

No Clubs

Wednesday 20th July

Finish at 1:30

Non- uniform day

No Clubs or Afterschool Club

Monday 5th September

Return to school

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