



Dear Parents

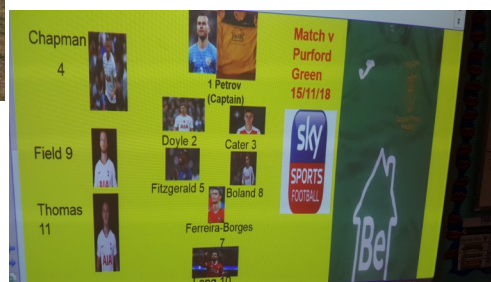
We have all enjoyed another busy and productive week at school. Even though it has been chilly, it has been lovely to see our children making the most of the outdoors in their warm school coats. Please make sure that these are clearly marked with their names and do encourage your children to look after them at play and lunchtime. Thank you.



Holy Cross Score Four!

A squad of 10 from our boys' football team were involved in an action packed match at Purford Green on Thursday afternoon, last week.

After going a goal down early on, we had our captain Artiom to thank after he made some great saves. Oisin was unlucky to see his penalty hit the post, before Josh Chapman levelled with a fantastic long range effort. Oisin then put us ahead with a super curling finish just before half time, before Max slotted home calmly to make it 3-1. We were pegged back by a goal, before Oisin made it 4-2 just before the final whistle. Brilliant defending from Jack, Jake, Finn and Hayden, together with super attacking play from Jonathan and Vincent, plus the great work from the boys mentioned earlier earned us a super first win. Congratulations to all involved!



Basketball Tournament

This afternoon children from Year 6 participated in an inter-school basketball tournament at Mark Hall. Kamsi, Patricia, Evie, Carter, Takunda and Oseiwe played with great vigour and demonstrated excellent team play throughout. After four games they came runners up through only a small margin of points difference. They were happy, as were we all, knowing that they gave it their all.



Words of Pope Francis.

In the eyes of God human life is precious, sacred and inviolable. No one can despise the lives of others or one's own life.





Forest School



This week we wrapped up and enjoyed lots of fun activities in the forest. The children built fantastic dens and shelters which kept them dry from the rain! As always they kept busy in the mud kitchen, pond dipping, bug hunting and using tools.

Year 3 children were sawing sticks for making Christmas decorations. Year 1 enjoyed collecting holly ready for making wreaths. Year 6 have continued to investigate bacteria growing as part of their work in science. Some of the year 5 children worked really hard by digging and clearing an area where a new fence has been put in.

Please remember as the days get chillier, to wear warm hats and gloves and a spare pair of socks if needed. We will follow the Forest School guidance of 'there's no such thing as bad weather...only bad clothing!'



Holy Cross Dojo

Last training Session Year 2 & 3 Wednesday 12th December 2018

Last training Session Year 4,5 & 6 Friday 14th December 2018

Restarts Year 2 & 3 Wednesday 9th January 2019

Restarts Year 4,5 & 6 Friday 11th January 2019

RELIGIOUS LIFE AT HOLY CROSS

This Sunday is the last Sunday of the Church's liturgical year. On this Sunday we celebrate the Solemnity of **Christ the King**. In John's Gospel, Pilate is shown in a more favorable light than in the other Gospels. In this reading, we hear one of two dialogues between Jesus and Pilate that are reported in John's Gospel. Pilate questions Jesus about the charges brought against him. Caiaphas and the high priests have charged Jesus with a political crime, one that would require a punishment of death. Pilate distances himself from the Jewish leaders who accuse Jesus; he is not a Jew, and he seems to want little to do with this Jewish affair.

In his responses to Pilate's questions, Jesus distinguishes his kingdom from the political powers of this world. King and kingdom may be appropriate terms for Jesus' mission and promise, but only by analogy. Jesus is king, but not the kind of king we imagine or expect. He was certainly not the kind of king Pilate feared he might be.

Jesus refers to a kingdom that does not belong to this world

Dear Lord we recognise that your son Jesus Christ is a heavenly king who shows us how to live as your people and how to be truly happy. Help us to honour Jesus as our king by loving him and obeying his command to love one another.

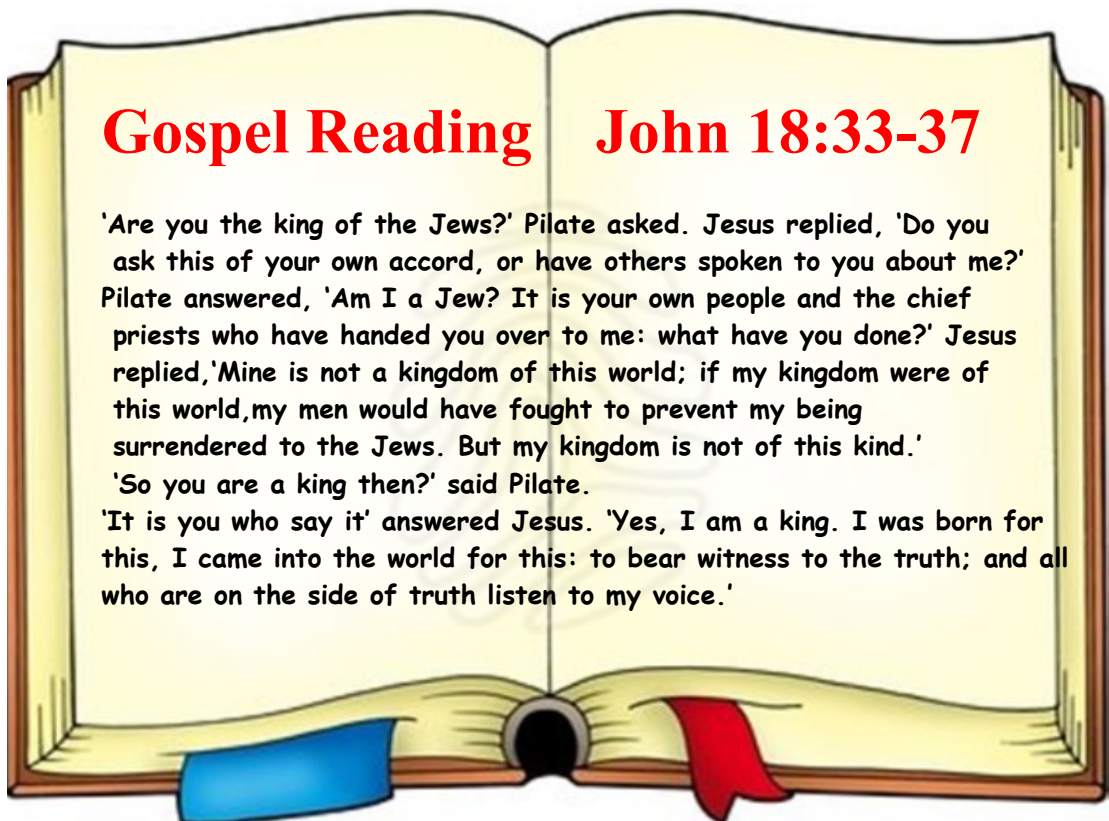
Jesus you are our king. We will obey you and follow you. Amen

Gospel Reading John 18:33-37

'Are you the king of the Jews?' Pilate asked. Jesus replied, 'Do you ask this of your own accord, or have others spoken to you about me?' Pilate answered, 'Am I a Jew? It is your own people and the chief priests who have handed you over to me: what have you done?' Jesus replied, 'Mine is not a kingdom of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, my men would have fought to prevent my being surrendered to the Jews. But my kingdom is not of this kind.'

'So you are a king then?' said Pilate.

'It is you who say it' answered Jesus. 'Yes, I am a king. I was born for this, I came into the world for this: to bear witness to the truth; and all who are on the side of truth listen to my voice.'





5S has been in charge of taking care of the chickens this week. The children have had a great time collecting eggs and making sure the chickens are happy. One of the chickens even tried to trick them in to believing she was laying an egg up under one of the bushes - she wasn't, she was just being very noisy - maybe she wanted them to take a dirt bath with her?

It is extremely muddy round where the chickens live and with Winter in full swing now it will only get worse, so we have decided Chicken School will stop until after February half term. In the meantime Mrs Laporte will be taking care of them as usual. 5P will be the first class on duty - a reminder will be put in the newsletter the week beforehand.



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Congratulations to 1D and 1S, who are the joint winners of the KS1 Attendance Trophy this week with 96%. The winners of the KS2 Attendance Trophy is 3MT, achieving 98%

Attending school is so important and makes a huge difference to your child's learning.

It is essential you notify us of your child's absence by 9am either by telephone or using the Parentmail report absence option. We need full details of why your child is unable to attend school.

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

RB	91%
RL	94%
1D	96%
1S	96%
2C	91%
2HD	94%
3MT	98%
3N	97%
4C	97%
4E	96%
5P	94%
5S	97%
6CA	96%
6ND	95%

Happy Birthday to... Ka'reem Mafueni, Samuel Enwere,
Lilly Bergamini, Xavier White, Lola McGhee, Franciszk Grodecki



Merit Certificates:

1D: Benny Oyedel, for his fantastic sentence writing
 1S: Araibella Morgan, for setting a great example to reception children during nativity practice
 2C: Arlo McGhee, for fantastic reading in guided group reading
 2HD: Rhea Baker for creating a lovely watercolour Christmas card
 3MT: Emilia Marsham, for amazing work in R.E.
 3N: Ethan Owusu Boateng, for his great enthusiasm for learning
 4C: Medhaj Bachoo, for excellent multiplication work
 4E: Kobe Edochiem-Nnanyelugo, for being a fantastic role model.
 5P : Kerem Ahmetoglu, for producing some wonderful work on the Highwayman
 5S: Isabel Annobil, for working hard in numeracy
 6CA: Kamsi Uzuegbuna, for her amazing attitude towards learning, both in school and at home
 6N: Liarna Kent, for always being an excellent role model and having a brilliant attitude to learning
 Walking Bus: Lemaya Adjaye-Kwofie & Layla Santos-Ebejer

Diary Dates

Menu Week 2

Monday 26th November

Fairy & Elf Garden 3.15-4.30
 KS1 Football 3.15-4.15
 Dance 3.15-4.15
 Year 2 Homework 3.15-4.15
 6CA Swimming
 Phonics Workshop 6pm

Wednesday 28th November

Netball 3.15-4.15
 Chess Club 12.30-1.30
 Karate 3.15-4.15
 Flu Immunisations
 5S Mass 9.10
No After School Club

Friday 30th November

Karate 3.15-4.15
 Multisports 3.15-4.15
 4E/5S Library Visit
 3N Class Assembly 2.40
 Y5/6 Basketball Tournament
 32 & 3MT Class Mass
 6N Class Assembly

Tuesday 27th November

Dodgeball 3.15- 4.15
 KS2 Homework 3.15- 4.15
 Choir 3.15-4.20
 Football Team 3.15-4.30
 4C Library Visit

Thursday 29th November

Newspaper 3.15-4.15
 Choir 3.15-4.20
 KS2 Football 3.15-4.15
 Lego Club 3.15-4.15
 Y2 Cooking Club 3.15-4.15
 Phonics Workshop 8:45

House Points

**Congratulations to the
winning house St Patrick's**

S. McGuigan

Miss S McGuigan

Headteacher

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

Mr S Kelliher

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Deputy Headteacher