



Dear Parents,

Thank you for your generosity over the last fortnight. You will read this week how through our combined efforts, as a school and parish community, a difference was made. Streets 2 Homes will benefit from donations of food and Macmillan will receive money so that they can help others in need. I now ask you to consider the Friends of Holy Cross, our community, where through a little contribution of time, you can make a big difference for our children.

Friends of Holy Cross

The Friends of Holy Cross held their A.G.M. on Tuesday. This group raises valuable funds which is used directly to enhance both children's learning and enjoyment in school. The most recent example is the purchase of the outdoor learning classes which can be seen on the playground and school field. As a parent you are automatically a member of this group.

At the A.G.M. it was decided by those parents who attended that each class would run a whole school fundraising event. In order to help this to run smoothly, each class should have a parent representative who will liaise with Mr. Asare Owusu-Boateng (The Friends of Holy Cross Events Manager) and the school. Please let Mrs. Slater know who the parent representative is for your class and she will pass the details on.

The 'Friends of' stressed that in running these events that it is not one or two parents who undertake the organisation of an event for their class. It is envisaged as a whole group effort, by parents in each class, where many contribute a little of their time. Help is also at hand from Mr. Owusu-Boateng and other members of the Friends of Holy Cross who have experience in running similar events over the last few years. The classes, events and dates are:

- ◆ Year 3: Movie Night (Key Stage 1 & Key Stage 2) 8th November
- ◆ Year 6: Carols around the Crib (Providing refreshments) 6th December
- ◆ Year 1: Valentine Disco (Key Stages 1 & Key Stage 2) 12th February
- ◆ Early Years: Easter Egg Decoration Competitions 5th April
- ◆ Year 5: Sponsored walk 24th May
- ◆ Year 4: End of Year Disco (Key Stages 1 & Key Stage 2) 12th July
- ◆ Year 2: Blue Bag Clothing Collection (Date to be confirmed by parents of Year 2)

E-Safety Talk

Today we hosted a meeting of Deputy Headteachers from all the Harlow primary schools. The focus of the meeting was to share the dangers posed to children in our care from the seemingly innocent popular apps and games which many children routinely access. We urge you, yet again, to be vigilant in what it is your child is doing online; may this be live streaming or communicating with unknown individuals. Please see our school website for more information. (Parent Zone-Safeguarding-Internet Safety)

Fundraising for Macmillan

On Wednesday we held a number of events in school to raise funds for this worthy cause.

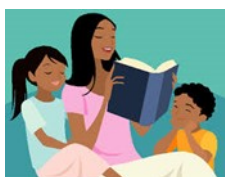
Macmillan's first ever 'Coffee Morning' took place in 1990. Since then the funds raised through 'Coffee Mornings' have helped and supported many people. Through a combination of a non-uniform day, a coffee & cake afternoon and a staff raffle; a total of £675.76 was raised. A big thank you to all who made this such a success.

This includes parents and grandparents who helped with and attended the coffee and cakes event in the parish hall, the choir who sang for us, staff who baked cakes and supported the raffle and Mrs. Gallagher for organising the events.



Harvest Collection Fortnight

Thank you for all your contributions over the last fortnight for our Harvest Festival collection. The appeal will remain open until Monday for any last donations. We will arrange for members of the Holy Cross School Council to deliver these non-perishable goods to Streets 2 Homes in the next couple of weeks. This will allow the children to see, first-hand, the importance of helping others in need and how it is that we can live out our faith. From past experience of helping with the delivery, I know that your generosity is very much appreciated and will be gratefully received.



Read with your child week

It was lovely to welcome so many parents to read with their children this week. From what I have heard from the children, it enthused them and made them proud when they read to their parents. If you are available to help at school by hearing children read, please let your class teacher know.

Social Media

You have heard us mention many times about the inappropriate use of sites such as Facebook. When used correctly it can be such a useful and valuable form of communication. When used inappropriately, e.g. making comments about individual members of staff or our school it can cause upset & unnecessary distress. It is so easy to type a comment and abdicate responsibility for the upset it causes. Please use this facility with respect and for the purpose for which it was intended.



Parent Consultation Evenings



These will take place in the school hall next Tuesday from 2-30 to 5-30pm and on Thursday from 4-30 to 7-10pm. The later parent consultation evening for Year 6ND is on Monday from 4 to 7 pm. Please remember that 10 minutes has been allowed for each child. If you wish to discuss something at greater length with your child's class teacher please make a separate appointment. Running over time impacts on other parents who may have arranged childcare or may need to get to work.

Year 2 Visit to Bush Fair

Within our Autumn Geography and Science topic Year 2 have been learning about their local area. They were given the opportunity to explore their local area by walking to Bush Fair shops to carry out some Geography fieldwork.



This involved answering a short questionnaire about the different types of shops on offer to the local community and recording their observations. The children also considered how some of the shops provide jobs and services for the local residents. The children really enjoyed this trip and gained a valuable insight into the workings of our local community.

Parking Permits for the Car Park

We are introducing Parking Permits for the car park. If you are a blue badge holder, please come to the office, with proof of entitlement, to be given a permit. Cars without a permit will not be allowed to park in the car park.

RELIGIOUS LIFE AT HOLY CROSS



Based on the gospel for Sunday 14 October 2018 - Mark 10:17-30

"It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

In his sermon of 14 October 1979, Archbishop Oscar Romero spoke with passion against the social system in El Salvador where wealth and influence were worshipped so much that the poor were denied their basic needs and dignity.

He cried out against a culture where poor people without power were deprived of a decent life and discarded as worthless.

Just as Jesus chided the rich man by urging him to sell all his possessions and give them to the poor as the only way to enter the kingdom of heaven, so Archbishop Romero called on the wealthy to turn away from oppressing the people and denying them their humanity. He made a radical option in favour of the poorest, the peasant farmers and labourers whom he loved and protected.

This option so angered the rich and powerful that, like Jesus, he was martyred for his faithfulness to God, for speaking the truth and defending the poor.

Lord, may we be inspired by Saint Oscar Romero and his commitment to justice, to open our hearts for the poor in our world today: migrants and refugees, homeless people, the victims of natural disaster and conflict, so all may enjoy God's creation, destined for all to share.

Year 5P Class Mass

Fr. Bernard celebrated mass on Monday afternoon with Year 5P. The theme, based on the parable of the Good Samaritan, was 'Love your neighbour as you love yourself.'

During the homily, Father Bernard related this to Black History month which is held each October. This linked to the Gospel which we discussed at assembly on Monday morning where we heard how special and important children were to Jesus. In this, people were bringing their children to Jesus for his blessing but the disciples tried to stop them.

Jesus told the disciples to let the children come to him and that the kingdom of God belongs to children like these. He said that children have a special way of looking at the world and understanding things, which adults can learn from. This is so true where children see people for themselves and prejudice does not exist. We will be celebrating this next week at Holy Cross through Global Achievers' Week.



Forest School



This week, some of the year 5's managed to light fires by practising safely with the flint and steels. Some of the boys enjoyed making runways and competing with each other when flying paper aeroplanes.

We continued looking at the amazing autumn leaves and learnt about why the colours change. Year one children spent time collecting, observing and presenting them in an artistic way. Once again the children worked well in teams and co-operated together to achieve some fantastic results.





This week 2C have been on Chicken Duty and have had great fun going out each morning to clean the coops out, make sure the chickens have fresh food and water and to see how many eggs they have laid. Some days they have only found 1 or 2 eggs and Thursday they found none at all. Mrs Laporte has been finding them at the end of the day when she tucks the chickens up for bed, this is because when the weather is a bit colder in the mornings they tend to lay their eggs a bit later in the day.

Next week it is 2HD's turn, so please ensure they have boots/old shoes in as it can get very muddy.



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Congratulations to Butterflies, who are the winners of the KS1 Attendance Trophy this week with a fantastic **100%**. The winners of the KS2 Attendance Trophy are 4E and 3MT, both achieving **100%**

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

Please ensure 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	100%
RL	99%
1D	96%
1S	99%
2C	98%
2HD	96%
3MT	100%
3N	99%
4C	99%
4E	100%
5P	99%
5S	98%
6CA	99%
6ND	99%

Happy Birthday to... Kayden Kureya, Jake Sinyakin, Aria McGinty, Dion Arthur, Gilda Bosopem, Kiera Hodgkinson, Reece Atkinson, Victor Budnyak, Niamh Edwards.



Merit Certificates:

1D: Emilia Mardyla, for her lovely sentence writing
 1S: Jermaine Ondiege, for outstanding written work using adjectives
 2C: Lottie Askew, for trying very hard with her attitude to learning
 2HD: Maja Owczarz for working hard in numeracy
 3MT: Jan Bubetty, for excellent presentation and handwriting
 3N: Liam Dunn, for a great attitude to learning, especially during grammar lessons
 4C: Draven Crowe, for brilliant work in R.E.
 4E: Zofia Adamczak, for fantastic descriptive writing in literacy
 5P: Ellis Kanio, for working really hard in numeracy lessons
 5S: Jenna Bennett, for her positive attitude to learning and being a good role model
 6CA: Finn Thomas, for his excellent attitude and hard work in literacy
 6N: Samuel Reed-Langley, for working so hard in literacy lessons to produce excellent descriptive writing
 Learning Mentor: Una Botchway-Adjei, for producing a wonderful Streets 2 Home poster
 Walking Bus: Tinashe Agyare, Pierre Hombre & Evie Baker

Diary Dates

Monday 15th October

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
 Year 4 Egyptian Day
 5S Class Mass
 6N Parents Evening 4-7pm

Tuesday 16th October

Dodgeball 3.15- 4.15
 KS2 Homework 3.15- 4.15
 Choir 3.15-4.20
 Football Team 3.15-4.30
 Parents Evening 2.30-5.30

Wednesday 17th October

Netball 3.15-4.15
 Chess Club 12.30-1.30
 Karate 3.15-4.15

Thursday 18th October

Newspaper 3.15-4.15
 Cooking 3.15-4.30
 Lego 3.15-4.15
 Choir 3.15-4.20
 KS2 Football 3.15-4.15
 Parents Evening 4.00-7.10

Friday 19th October

Year 1 & 2 Football Festival, Mark Hall 9.30-12 pm
 Karate 3.15-4.15
 Multisports 3.15-4.15
 Year 3/4 Football Tournament 9.30-11.45
 Fire Safety Assembly 9.30
 No Afternoon Assembly

House Points

**Congratulations to the
winning house St Davids**

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
Deputy Headteacher



FOREST SCHOOL FUN

AT HOLY CROSS

TUESDAY 23RD OCTOBER

9.45-12.45 PM AND 1-4PM

£15 (DRINKS & SNACKS INCLUDED, PLEASE BRING A PACKED LUNCH)

COME AND EXPERIENCE

'A FUN FILLED DAY OF FOREST SCHOOL'

'POND- DIPPING CAMP FIRES

TREE CLIMBING CLAY SCULPTURES

LIMITED SPACES SO BOOK ASAP.

BUG HUNTING FOREST ART

MARSH MALLOW TOASTING

TREE CLIMBING CLAY SCULPTURES

LIMITED SPACES SO BOOK ASAP.