



Dear Parents

We were very pleased to see so many of you attend our Parent Consultation Evenings this week. As always, these were a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's progress and how well they have settled into their new classes. It is very important that we always keep the lines of communication open so contact us throughout the school year, via the school office. Thank you.



### Holy Cross School Council visit Streets2Homes

On Thursday members of the School Council visited the Streets2Homes shelter. They were welcomed by Will who told the children how much the food donated by Holy Cross, through the Harvest Festival Appeal, was appreciated.

As he showed the children around, Will told the children about the work that they do. In the last year, Streets2Homes have provided 1,900 breakfasts and 4,620 lunches. They supported

425 new people, have been successful in housing 72 and provided 182 house support visits.

Will himself was homeless this time last year. Through the support of this charity he is now housed and has secured a role as co-ordinator at Streets2Homes.

As you can see this charity really does great work supporting homeless people in Harlow. Not only do they provide food and shelter during the day but also help those who are homeless apply for work to help them on their way to becoming self-sufficient. We as a community at Holy Cross are very pleased to have been able to help them with their cause.



### Wednesday Word

Have you had a look at our school website recently? There are many new additions, in particular a link to Wednesday Word which give opportunities for adults to reflect on the forthcoming Gospel readings and also a childrens' page which has many activities. This is well worth a look!

### Uniform

Please remember that we ask for children to return to school after half term in their winter uniform which includes a school coat. For further information please refer to our school website.

### Request for plastic bottles

We would like to make a 3D poppy display after half term and so would ask for every child to bring in the bottom of a plastic drinks bottle, with lid, to help with this project. The cut bottles should be approx. 3.5 cm tall



### Burwell

Our Year 5 children will be jetting off to Burwell House after half term. We wish them all the best and look forward to their many stories on their return.

### Year 5 & 6 Football



Last Friday 12th October, we sent two year 5/6 boys teams to the football qualifiers held at Passmores. Both teams performed brilliantly and showed super sportsmanship, scoring plenty of goals in the process. The parent support we had was fantastic too and really made a difference! One of our teams did qualify for the Harlow football finals which are taking place today at Mark Hall and we wish them the best of luck! Well done to Kajus, Pirijina, Opemipo, Takunda, Dawid, Lucas, Miller, Roman, James, Oliver, Gene, Liam, David and Leo. Team pictures and the finals match report to come after half term.

### Year 3 & 4 Football

A super performance from the year 4 boys in a 7 a side tournament at Mark Hall today. We played with great spirit, passed the ball quickly and scored some excellent goals. We beat both teams from The Downs 2-0, Pear Tree Mead 3-0 and drew 0-0 with Purford Green. A brilliant achievement to stay unbeaten and not concede a goal! Well done to Ife, Erasmus, Shane, Joshua, Harrison, Joe and Ashdon!



### A BIG "THANK YOU"

You will all be aware of a familiar figure, one who contributes a lot of her time to our school, helping both children and parents. She can be seen in the morning and after school looking for names on coats, jumpers and shoes from items in the lost property box. If found, she ensures that they are returned to their owners, if not she sets up a stall at the entrance to the school, in the hope that they may be reunited with their owner. If after a long period of time they remain unclaimed, this lady takes items of uniform home and washes them.

She then runs a stall, as she did on two occasions this week, offering uniform for sale at a very affordable price. This week we would like to express our gratitude to her. Thank you Lynn Benson for all that you do, it is much appreciated by all.





## RELIGIOUS LIFE AT HOLY CROSS

**CAFOD**  
Just one world

WEEKLY  
**Reflections**

Based on the gospel for Sunday 21 October - Mark 10:35-45

**"Anyone who wants to become great among you must be your servant."**

In this gospel reading we are reminded of the importance of serving others. It may be in a small act of kindness or a larger act of generosity, but by being kind to our brothers and sisters we can create a fairer and more just world.

As we approach All Souls' day, we remember all those special people we love who have died. By their lives they have taught us how to be kind and humble, making a lasting difference through their acts of service and generosity. We remember them at this time for their love, their kindness and the impact they have had on this world.

May we be inspired by their compassion and learn to serve others, just as they did.

Dear Lord,

Guide us with your wisdom and compassion so that we might become your true servants. Let us become your hands here on earth and touch the lives of all those around us.

May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Amen.

### All Saints Mass

We celebrate the feast of All Saints on Thursday 1st November with Mass at 9.30 in church. You are all warmly invited to attend. Children who are on the Burwell residential will attend Mass in Newmarket that evening.

### New Saints

We were delighted with the news that Pope Francis canonised five saints last weekend including Archbishop Oscar Romero and Pope Paul VI. A friend of mine was present at the Mass in Rome on Sunday and remarked on the joyous celebration which is a celebration for us all.





# Forest School



Children enjoyed being outside in the good weather this week. They've learnt to handle tools safely and began whittling willow ready for using as marshmallow toasting sticks. Lots of the year 1 Children experienced climbing a tree for the first time and felt a great sense of achievement. Many children have continued gathering the many different coloured leaves, as well as identifying various plants and trees. This first half term, children have gained so much insight into their world around them. They have become increasingly familiar with the forest school site, observing the changes and taking responsibility for the care and management of it. The allotments are being attended to regularly which the children are gaining both experience and enjoyment from. We look forward to seeing what grows next!







This week 2HD have had a fantastic time at Chicken School!

The children have learnt a lot this week about looking after animals, the nice bits - stroking, feeding and collecting the eggs and the not so nice clearing the coop of poop!! (don't worry we were all wearing our special gloves and learnt about the importance of washing our hands before and after Chicken School).



We learnt this week about respect for animals and their welfare, and the responsibility of keeping animals. We were so impressed that all our children that took part engaged with every part of looking after the chickens.

Tuesday morning, we spent cooking with our eggs, we cooked boiled eggs, scrambled eggs, fried eggs and oven baked vegetable frittata. The children not only enjoyed eating, but also enjoyed sharing our cooking with the adults in our class and took some frittata to Mrs Laporte! We also made some cupcakes with our remaining eggs which the children took home with them.

On our return it will be 4E's turn with the chickens so please make sure the children have boots or old shoes!



# ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Congratulations to 2HD, who are the winners of the KS1 Attendance Trophy this week with 99%. The winners of the KS2 Attendance Trophy are 5P, 6CA and 6ND, 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	98%
RL	98%
1D	94%
1S	95%
2C	99%
2HD	87%
3MT	96%
3N	99%
4C	95%
4E	96%
5P	99%
5S	95%
6CA	99%
6ND	99%

Happy Birthday to... Max Doyle, Summer Leagas, Roxanna Hand, Tahlia Abu-Rabi, Grace Kelly, Pola Bubetty, Jonathan Fagg, Ella Haley, Daniel Owusu, Dominic Marshall, James Jeffrey, Olivia Mardyla.



### Merit Certificates:

1D: Indie Usedon-Duff, for her fantastic subtraction  
 1S: Grace Kelly, for trying really hard in all subjects  
 2C: Morayo Bolaji, for working hard in all areas of the curriculum  
 2HD: Bree Onwurah, for a fantastic acrostic poem about the Great Fire of London  
 3MT: Emilia Chapska, for outstanding times tables  
 3N: Lily Nisbet, for showing great care and compassion  
 4C: Ife Ihekaigbo, for amazing times tables  
 4E: Lola Andrews-Clark, for fantastic effort in all her work  
 5P: Niamh Edwards, for producing lovely work in all lessons  
 5S: Max Doyle, for fantastic problem solving using negative numbers  
 6CA: Emanuel Owusu-Kumi, for his positive, happy and hardworking attitude all week  
 6N: Jake Field, for excellent work and behaviour all week, well done!  
 Learning Mentor: School Council, for taking the Harvest Collection to Streets 2 Homes and representing our school so well  
 Walking Bus: Rhianne Hombre, Benjamin Thorp, Samuel Enwere.

## Diary Dates

### New Menu Week 1

#### Monday 29th 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  
 5S Burwell House Trip  
 6N Class Mass 2pm  
 6CA Swimming

#### Tuesday 30th October

Dodgeball 3.15- 4.15  
 KS2 Homework 3.15- 4.15  
 Choir 3.15-4.20  
 Football Team 3.15-4.30

#### Wednesday 31st October

Netball 3.15-4.15  
 Chess Club 12.30-1.30  
 Karate 3.15-4.15  
 Reception Gruffalo Trail Trip  
 5P Burwell House Trip

#### Thursday 1st November

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  
 All Saints Mass 9.30

#### Friday 2nd November

Year 1 & 2 Football Festival, Mark Hall 9.30-12 pm  
 Karate 3.15-4.15  
 Multisports 3.15-4.15

### House Points

**Congratulations to the  
winning house St Patricks**

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](http://www.holycross-pri.essex.sch.uk)

Mr S Kelliher  
Deputy Headteacher