



Dear Parents

I was very disappointed to have to spend an hour outside school on Tracys Road this week owing to the increased concerns regarding parking. Many parents were turned away from the staff car park claiming that they didn't know that they were unable to park there, several parents were parking on double yellow lines and even mounting the pavement. Most claimed that they did not know about Nicholls Field Car Park. Some of our parents also parked in Passmores but as you know, this is something that we have been asked not to do.

This is such a danger for our children.

Please adhere to the instructions regarding parking around our school. Nicholls field is only a 5 minute walk away and is so much safer. I do not want to be writing the newsletter and informing you of an accident - I am sure that you all agree.

E-Safety Reminder

On Thursday 4th October The Two Johns will be visiting our school to speak to our KS2 children about E-Safety, including apps and games they play. Children will be taught about how to stay safe in an age appropriate format.

Following this we have an eye opening E-Safety evening running from 6pm to 8 pm. All parents (including Reception and KS1) are invited to attend this evening.

This vital evening will inform you of the risks your children face and give you tools to protect them. Even if you think you know everything about the dangers faced by our children we strongly recommend you attend.

Please note that due to the content of the evening children cannot be present.

CAFOD Fast Day and Envelopes

Friday 5th October is Fast Day. Families are asked to give up something for the day and put the money saved in the envelope sent home with your child earlier this week. This money is used by CAFOD to help the poorest communities, around the world, overcome their many challenges.

Harvest Festival

From Monday we will be collecting non-perishable items of food and drink in aid of the charity Streets2Homes. In particular they need tea, coffee and long life milk, although any contributions will be greatly appreciated.



RELIGIOUS LIFE AT HOLY CROSS

"If anyone gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ, then in truth I tell you, he will most certainly not lose his reward."

I imagine that it must have been very difficult for the disciples, as they journeyed to new places to preach and share the good news, to leave all their possessions behind and to rely on food and drink from those they encountered.

There may have been times when they worried about how they would be fed and clothed as they went about their mission. Jesus, though, has great hope in the generosity of those the disciples were to meet on their journey.

I am inspired by the hope and trust Jesus had in local people to provide for his and the disciples' basic human needs. We, too, have an opportunity to extend that hope to those who thirst, an opportunity to quench the thirst of the world's poorest communities.

This Harvest Family Fast Day, parish volunteers across England and Wales will be speaking at Mass to share a story about Longora, a Ugandan mother, who struggled to access clean water for her family. Thanks to CAFOD supporters, her community has a safe water supply.

Dear Lord, in your loving grace give hope to the millions, like Longora, who thirst. Through your divine spirit, may we act as your hands offering a cup of water to those in need. Amen.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Congratulations to 2C, who are the winners of the KS1 Attendance Trophy this week with a fantastic **100%**. The winners of the KS2 Attendance Trophy is 6CA, achieving 98%

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 | 95% |
| RL | 99% |
| 1D | 92% |
| 1S | 97% |
| 2C | 100% |
| 2HD | 96% |
| 3MT | 95% |
| 3N | 96% |
| 4C | 97% |
| 4E | 96% |
| 5P | 97% |
| 5S | 96% |
| 6CA | 98% |
| 6ND | 97% |



Forest School

This week the children have been busy bug hunting, collecting and observing the colourful leaves. They built new dens using wood and tarpaulins and have already begun using tools to whittle sticks. Although having enjoyed the warm weather, we talked about how we can help as well as encourage birds during this changing season. We hung bird houses and feeders. The children demonstrated great listening skills and teamwork this week.





As you may know Holy Cross have some resident chickens. 9 in fact - Daisy, Dottie, Daphne, Delilah, Doris, Delia, Dolly, Dorothy and Dinah. Each class will now be assigned a week to help Mrs Laporte to take care of them. Not only will they be outside making sure the chickens are safe and happy, collecting their eggs (and washing and dating them) they will also take part in literacy and numeracy lessons based around them and lots more fun activities.



This week 3MT were lucky enough to be the first class on chicken duty. The children have had an amazing time and have been very eager to see how many eggs they would find each day. They update the chicken board each day so everyone can keep up to date on the chickens. I am sure they have been coming home telling you lots about facts they have found out. Next week it will be 3N's turn to help. Please ensure children have wellington boots or old shoes as it can get very muddy.

Thanks to Mrs Marti, who has helped year 3 harvest their vegetables from their allotment. They had a bumper crop, with which they made bruschetta and chard omelettes, with eggs 3MT had collected from our chickens, .



Happy Birthday to... Joshua Steveson, Lily-Mae Stevenson, Kassidy Anderson, Lochrin McGinty, Oliver Smith, Eva Gavutis, Damien Andersen-Hamm, Isaac Lieu, Michael Ogunleye, Opemipo Ogutuga.



Merit Certificates:

- 1D: Jake Sinyakin, for his fantastic work on number bonds.
 1S: Harry Hollingworth, for having a fantastic attitude to learning this week..
 2C: Amanda Girciute, for writing an imaginative diary entry as Samuel Peys.
 2HD: Iasabella Cundins for being so interested in the Great Fire of London topic.
 3MT: Keira Fennelly for being an excellent role model.
 3N: Amelia Cowell, for demonstrating an excellent attitude to learning this week.
 4C: Charlie Usedon-Duff, for a wonderful attitude in all lessons.
 4E: Lily Tieu, for fantastic problem solving in Numeracy.
 5P: Sienna Smith, for an excellent sketch of a sculpture on our trip to the Gibberd Garden.
 5S: Taylor-Grace Maycock for her fabulous acrostic poem about unity in R. E.
 6CA: Joshua Steveson, for staying focused and working hard.
 Ami Boboe, for consistently working hard and trying her best.
 6N: Luize Mafueni, for settling in well to Year 6.

Learning Mentor: The new School Council and new Eco Council

Walking Bus: Layla Santos-Ebejer, Araibella Morgan and Benjamin Thorp.

Diary Dates

Harvest Festival Week

Monday 1st 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
 6CA Class Mass 2pm

Tuesday 2nd October

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

Wednesday 3rd October

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

Thursday 4th 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
 E-Safety workshop for KS2
 E-Safety evening for parents 6pm

Friday 5th October

Year 1 & 2 Football Festival, Mark Hall 9.30-12 pm
 Karate 3.15-4.15
 Multisports 3.15-4.15
 Parent Forum 1.30pm
 Year 3 & 4 Girl's Football Tournament at Mark Hall 9.30-11.45

House Points

**Congratulations to the
winning house St Andrews**

Seew Kelliher

Mr S Kelliher

Deputy Headteacher

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