



I am a Disciple for you Jesus



Holy Souls Catholic Primary School

Mallard Close, Acocks Green, Birmingham B27 6BN

Head Teacher: Mrs R A Girling

Autumn Term 2024 Friday 6th September 2024 Newsletter 1

Dear Friends of Holy Souls,

As we return to a new school year we are delighted to see you all and have missed you! We hope you had a good break and enjoyed time with each other.

The children arrived with excitement and enthusiasm on Tuesday morning. They looked immaculate and thank you for following our uniform policy.

On Monday staff enjoyed a training day with 17 local schools at the Motor Cycle Museum. This day was based on Special Educational Needs and tips and techniques for teaching and learning. We also completed our annual Keeping Children Safe in Education Training. Our thanks to Mrs Hume our new St Teresa of Calcutta MAC Inclusion Leader who joined us.

On Thursday we celebrated the Feast of St Teresa of Calcutta. our MAC Patron. We enjoyed attending Mass with the parish and had a great day celebrating the life of St Teresa.

Prayer by Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Heavenly Father,
May we love one another as You love each one of us,
more and more each day,
and forgive each other's faults as you forgive our sins.
Help us, O Loving Father,
to take whatever you give
and give whatever you take with a big smile.
Amen.



On Sunday 8th September we celebrate Education Sunday. We look forward to seeing as many families as possible at one of the many Masses available here in our parish. Children you may want to wear your uniform with pride to Mass this weekend.

God bless, Mrs Girling

ALL OF THE STAFF AND CHILDREN FOR A GREAT START BACK!

MRS O' KANE AND THE CLEANING TEAM FOR MAKING OUR SCHOOL SO CLEAN, TIDY AND FUN TO BE IN!



To bring good news, to shine for you.



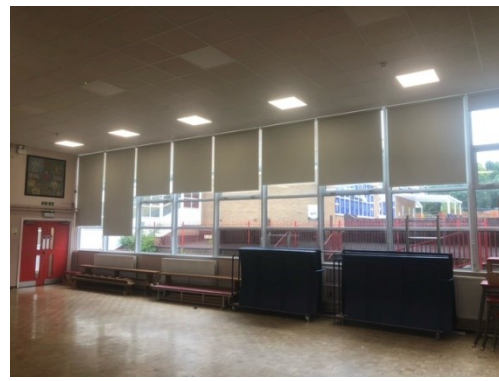
Sacred Heart and Holy Souls Church – PLEASE CHECK THE BULLETIN ON THE WEBSITE

Thank you to our Multi Academy

During the summer Mr O' Kane was kept very busy as he assisted with the following projects

Hall

We are delighted with our new hall tiles and lights. It looks so much brighter and the new blinds are the finishing touch!



Draining

The area outside our Reception and Year 1 classrooms has now had extensive draining added.

These projects are expensive and the funding secured by our CFO (Chief Financial Officer) in our MAC has enabled them to be carried out. Thank you to the MAC Central Team.

Reception – a flood but not from the rain!

Despite the wonderful drainage we are sorry to share that last week our Reception classroom flooded/ There was from a leak from the pipes in the Year 5 toilets above the Reception classroom. My Thanks to Mr O'Kane who worked non-stop last week and throughout the weekend to ensure the damage was minimised.

As a result of the flood our new Reception children will have the old Year 1 classroom as their classroom. We hope this will be a short term need and further details will be shared with the Reception parents.

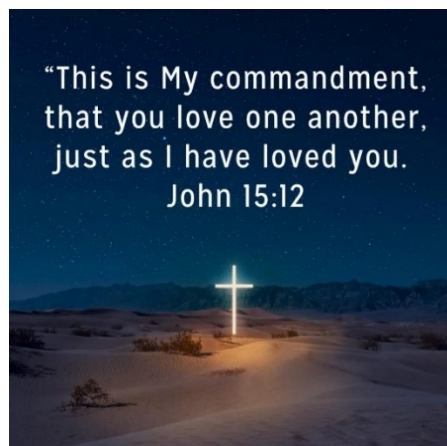
The door is always open and the kettle is always on

We are a family and we care and support one another. At times we all struggle – it may be with a specific situation, it may be financially, it could be anything. Please know that you are not alone. We are here for you and your family.

Please know anything you share will be treated in the utmost confidence and will hopefully be able to sign post you to what you need.

We always try our very best and are happy to meet with you to discuss any concerns or queries you have. We aim to provide a safe and flourishing environment and the best spiritual and academic experiences for your child.

We are only human and will make mistakes. Rest assured that this is never intentional. At times matters may need addressing and we ask that this is done professionally following the expected process.



WELCOME

It was great to meet our new Reception parents and carers this week
We look forward to getting to know you and your family. We are looking forward to you joining us and your child for lunch next week.



SPOTLIGHT ON SAFEGUARDING

**Please remember Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and we all have a duty of care to report any concerns to:
CASS (Children's Advice and Support Service) on 0121 303 1888
or the police if the child is in immediate danger.**

In school we held an assembly which reminded the children of the importance of keeping each other safe in school.

To help us we use:

SEE IT, HEAR IT, SAY IT, STOP IT as a reminder, and also



We also reminded the children of our Behaviour Policy and school expectations to ensure everyone feels happy and safe in school.

We will continue to share ideas on how to keep safe or sign posting to organisations that may be of help.

For our new families in Reception and across school we thought it would be useful to share a few Safeguarding explanations (and a reminder for everyone!)

Who's Who at Holy Souls?

Mrs Kielstra: Lead DSL & SPOC

Mrs Girling: Deputy DSL

Miss Trodden: Deputy DSL

Mr Henvey: Deputy DSL (SEND)

Mrs Brown: Deputy DSL (Pastoral / Early Help)

Miss McTiernan: Deputy DSL (Pastoral)

Useful Acronyms & Vocabulary about Safeguarding

- DSL: Designated DSL Safeguarding Lead
- SPOC: Single Point of Contact (PREVENT) - responsible for preventing children being impacted by extremism
- PREVENT: Part of the Governments Counter Terrorism Strategy to stop people being drawn into extremism
- LADO: Local Authority Designated Officer—who deals with position of trust safeguarding issues
- CEOP: Child Exploitation and On-line Protection Centre
- BSCB: Birmingham Safeguarding Children Board
- KCSIE: Keeping Children Safe in Education (available on the school web pages)
- CAMHS: Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
- MARAC: Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences
- PPO: Police Protection Order
- CPS: Crime Prosecution Service
- EHA: Early Help Assessment
- SEND: Special Educational Needs & Disabilities

SCHOOL WEBSITE

A reminder to all parents that our website contains lots of useful information including all of our Policies and those within the St Teresa of Calcutta MAC> As we begin a new year please do read the Behaviour Policy. We have been sharing this with the children during class and assemblies this week.

ATTENDANCE

In on time at 8:30am each and every day.

Before the summer break we sent out the new guidelines from the Department for Education. There have been substantial changes and please be aware of them.

On THURSDAY you received a YELLOW A4 letter from Birmingham City Council outlining the requirement for your child's attendance in school. This is an important document. Please take time to read it.

HOLIDAY REQUESTS

These CANNOT BE ISSUED during term time.
Please see the new guidelines.

MR MILLS MEETINGS

This week Mr Mills held individual appointments with the parent / carer of any Year 6 pupil who had 92% or below attendance from last academic year.

Thank you to those who attended their meeting. Those who were unable to attend will be invited for another meeting. These meetings will then filter down to all pupils who had 92% or below attendance last academic year.

Our new Saint Teresa of Calcutta Attendance Policy will be sent via email next week. Thank you for reading it.

CATHOLIC LIFE

This half term our Values and Virtues are trying to be Curious and Active. Our theme for our Catholic Social Teaching for this half term is Stewardship of God's Creation. The children will be thinking about how they can be good stewards of God's creation and what that might look like in their everyday life.

Our virtues and CST for this half term are...

The graphic features three blue rectangular boxes on the left and two yellow boxes on the right. The top blue box shows hands holding a globe. The middle blue box contains the text 'Stewardship of God's Creation'. The bottom blue box contains the text 'Who turned the wonderworld of the seas into underwater cemeteries bereft of colour and life?'. The top yellow box says 'Curious about everything.' The bottom yellow box says 'Active in our engagement with the world, changing what we can for the better.' In the center is an illustration of Saint Francis holding a white dove, with the text 'SAINT FRANCIS' around him. Below the illustration is the text 'Why is Saint Francis a good steward of God's Creation?'.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING IN ACTION



Well done to the Year 6 children that represented our school at the Acocks Green Library Library Consultation this week. They spoke eloquently to Liz Parkes, The Senior Service Manager for Community Libraries, about why Acocks Green Library should be saved. The children completed a consultation form about why our school is so passionate about keeping the library open. They looked at the consultation options and decided that they would like option 4 which is saving Acocks Green Library and other libraries so that they children of Birmingham do not lose their local libraries either. Children we are so proud of you!

Thank you to Father Marco for leading us in such a beautiful Mass to celebrate Saint Mother Teresa's Feast Day. It was a wonderful way to start our new term. This week the children have been learning about Mother Teresa. Also they have been learning about their new



We are delighted to celebrate the successes of our pupils in many different ways including academic, sporting, living our faith and showing their skills socially and emotionally.

Look out from next week on this newsletter for those who have been recognised!

SAVE THE DATE

School Photos will be on Thursday 26th September

PERSONAL DETAILS

Moved house? Changed your phone number?
Please update the Office. We do require
**TWO EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER
CONTACTS. Thank you.**

ALL SPORTS CLUBS START AGAIN NEXT WEEK (9.9.24)

Invitations went out on Wednesday.

Please see the Office if you have any queries.