



# I am a Disciple for you Jesus



Holy Souls Catholic Primary School

Mallard Close, Acocks Green, Birmingham B27 6BN

Head Teachers: Mrs R A Girling

Autumn Term 2024

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Newsletter 2

Dear Friends of Holy Souls,

I hope you have had a good week? We certainly have here in school! Our routines are all in place and the children are enjoying their teaching and learning. They have excelled in their behaviour and on Thursday Mrs Hume our new St Teresa of Calcutta Inclusion Leader visited school. She enjoyed touring school and meeting the children and staff. Mrs Hume noted that the children behaved superbly and were engaged and interested in their learning. We look forward to working with Mrs Hume.

We enjoyed celebrating the Birthday of Our Lady and on Wednesday Father Marco led us in a lovely New School Year Mass with our Parish family. Many thanks to the Parish SVP for their very generous clothing and food bank donations. Please call the office if you require any items / goods.

Our Extra Curricular Clubs are now up and running! We have Kick Boxing, Multi Sports and three Football Sessions. Thank you to our Coaches. More clubs to follow!

## ATTENDANCE POLICY AND PROCEDURES

This morning you will have received an email which shared the new St Teresa of Calcutta MAC Attendance Policy. Please can we ask that you read the information. It outlines our whole MAC approach and is written in line with the new Department for Education expectations. As previously shared I cannot authorise term time holidays. Holiday requests that have been submitted this term have been denied and will now follow the expected FastTrack process. This may result in a fine. Mr Mills is continuing to meet with all those families where last year's attendance was 92% or below. If you were unable to attend your meeting it will need to be rearranged. Thank you

Great to see our newest pupils in Reception enjoying a school lunch with their grown-ups this week. We hope you enjoyed it!

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

God bless, Mrs Girling (looking forward to Monday night at St. Andrew's!)



## To bring good news, to shine for you.



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

MASS TIMES - Vigil Mass Saturday 5:00pm Sunday Masses 8:30am, 10:00am and 12:00pm.

## SAVE THE DATES

DATE and TIME	EVENT	INFORMATION
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September 2:00pm	Year 3 Parent Briefing and Sacramental Meeting.	Please arrive at 1:55pm to Gate C. The children will be present for the meeting. The meeting will finish at 2:55pm.
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> September 2:00pm	Year 6 Parent Briefing and Sacramental Meeting	Please arrive at 1:55pm to Gate C. The children will be present for the meeting. The meeting will finish at 2:55pm.
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> September (All day)	School Photos	Individual and siblings.
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	INSET DAY NUMBER 2	SCHOOL CLOSED TO ALL PUPILS.
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> October (all day)	CAFOD Family Fast Day	£1.00 Non Uniform Day
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> October 1:45pm	Reception Class Welcome Liturgy	Sacred Heart and Holy Souls Church.
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> October 2024 10:00am	Harvest Mass - whole school invitation!	Sacred Heart and Holy Souls Church.
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> October	Class 5J Assembly for parents	Arrival by Gate C at 9:15am
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Class 3M Assembly for parents	Arrival by Gate C at 9:15am
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 3:30pm - 6pm	Pupil Progress Meeting / Phone Calls	Further details to follow
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> October 3:30pm - 6pm	Pupil Progress Meeting / Phone Calls	Further details to follow

School closes at 3pm on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October.  
We reopen on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November at 8:30am.

# WEEKLY MASS

Wednesday at Weekly Parish Mass.

Our children love joining the Parish for Mass and we would love to see you there.

All Masses start at 10:00am - please check Class Dojo for any changes.

AUTUMN 1	CLASS/YEAR GROUP
11/9/24	WHOLE SCHOOL WELCOME BACK MASS 9:00AM
18/9/24	Year 5
25/9/24	Year 4
2/10/24	Year 3
9/10/24	Year 2
16/10/24	Year 1
23/10/24	Year 6



## SPOTLIGHT ON SAFEGUARDING

### A general safety reminder

Please remember that most social media apps have a minimum age rating of 13. If a social network has set an age limit it means that some of the content may not be suitable for a younger child.



Please also remember that children's behaviour and play can be directly influenced by the programmes that they watch- on television, on YouTube, in films, on APPs- the list is endless.

Please remember to check that the things that your child is watching is age appropriate.



Head Pets! <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>

Please check your child's hair regularly for both eggs and live head lice. We have had several cases reported to us this week. This is an ongoing battle in school and for you as parents. Thank you for your support.

## ATTENDANCE

There is new legislation that comes into force from the 19<sup>th</sup> of August that will impact how Local Authorities and Schools issue Penalty Notices (fines) for unauthorised absences.

Please note that this is one piece of new legislation and there are several other pieces of legislation and statutory guidance that schools and Local Authorities must follow. Central to the statutory guidance for schools is the premise that schools should identify when a pupil's attendance is becoming a concern and then work alongside parents and pupils to remove any barriers to attendance.

This is called a **"support first model"** At Holy souls school we will notify you if you're a child's attendance is a concern and start a conversation with you to understand the reasons why and if we can offer any support.

### *The Education (Penalty Notices) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2024"*

The Education (Penalty Notices) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2024 mean that:

- Schools must consider whether a penalty notice (fine) is appropriate in each individual case where one of their pupils reaches the national threshold of 10 unauthorised absences in a rolling 10 week period.
- Penalty Notices will be issued per parent per child.  
Penalty Notices have increased and there is a new national escalation procedure

**The first penalty notice issued to a parent will be charged at £160 if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days.**

**If the threshold is met a 2nd time in three years and a 2<sup>nd</sup> Penalty notice is issued to the same parent in relation to the same child – this will a flat rate of £160 if paid within 28 days.**

**A third penalty notice cannot be issued to the same parent in respect of the same child within 3 years of the date of issue of the first. In a case where the national threshold is met for a third time (or subsequent times) within those 3 years, alternative action should be taken instead. This will often include considering prosecution**

## PERSONAL DETAILS

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

## CATHOLIC LIFE

Well done to our Reception children who have completed their sessions in school this week. They look so smart in their uniform. Thank you to all the parents that came for lunch too! Thank you to our kitchen staff who prepare all of the wonderful food. We look forward to seeing you all on Monday!



**ADOREMUS FESTIVAL: THIS WEEKEND**, the Church in England and Wales celebrates a festival in honour of the Blessed Sacrament. The National Eucharistic Congress takes place at Oscott College on Saturday / Sunday this weekend. Every parish has been encouraged to mark the Congress in some way. Here at Sacred Heart & Holy Souls, we will have a short period of Exposition after the Sunday Masses and a Eucharistic Procession after the 12noon Mass. This is a wonderful opportunity to manifest our faith in Jesus' Real Presence in the Eucharist - Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity. Father Jonathan has asked for families to stay for a few minutes after Mass this weekend and together let us show Jesus how much we love Him.

Bishop Timothy Menezes has recorded a video message to encourage all to take part in Adoration this weekend.  
<https://youtube/cAxr68Nhgmt>

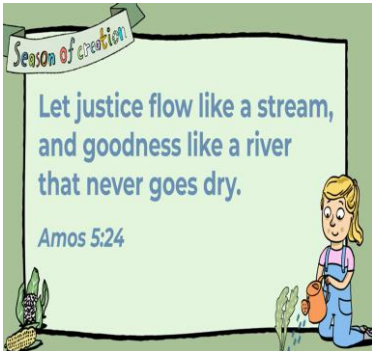


**CAFOD**

Catholic Agency for  
Overseas Development

WELCOME TO OUR  
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Captions included. Remember to switch off



# Season of Creation

The children have been learning how human life is grounded in three fundamental and closely intertwined relationships: with God, with our neighbour and with the earth itself. During the Season of Creation, the children will take time to be still and listen to the voice of God. They will remember our neighbours in our community but also our neighbours globally. The children have been learning that school is a gift and not all children throughout the world are able to receive this gift.

World Gifts are a great way to put love for God, our neighbour and the earth into action. This half term each class is going to vote in their classes for which World Gift they would like to buy. They are going to think of different ways to raise money to buy their World Gift. The children are going to choose where they want their money to be sent and choose how it helps our global family. We are a single family living in one common home.

Take a look at the different World Gifts with your family and decide which one you would like your class to buy. <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk>

## Year 4

God created water for humans and plants to survive. Everyone is important. We need to take care of the world so we don't ruin it for the future. We need to recycle more, we need to keep our community tidy, we need to care for and respect animals



## 6SC

We were struck by how, around the world, children's opportunities to go to school and receive an education can be so different. Sometimes we can grumble about having to go to school, but this video reminded us of what a privilege it is. Not only should we be grateful for that, but also look for ways that we can help to ensure that others receive the same chances. We thought that the idea of saving up to buy a 'World Gift' would be a great way to do something positive.

One member of our class reminded us all,  
'A small gesture from us could make a big difference to others.'  
We were also inspired by Pope Francis' words:

'We are a single family living in our common home.'

6PM

We discussed our responsibility and relationship with the whole of Creation - that is, to God, our neighbour and the whole world.

We felt it was important to share, that we had no right to destroy the earth but in fact we had a responsibility to protect it.

Sometimes we take things for granted, in particular the fact that we have the opportunity to get an education, seeing someone who did not automatically have that right made us stop and think.

Going forward we want to show love to God by directing our prayers towards our global neighbours. To our neighbours by raising money to buy a world gift during the Season of Creation. We will show love for Creation by not being wasteful, picking up litter and caring for Creation.

Year 2

Today we spoke about the world that God created and how thankful we are for his wonderful creations. All children wrote a prayer thanking God for his creations and we thought about how we could show God love.

5J

We talked about how we can try to protect the world and not destroy it. There are things that we can do to help protect God's creation, like not littering and picking up litter in our local community. The children want to recycle, look after animals and donate unwanted items and raise money to help others have a better life. We are interested in learning more about solar power so that we don't need to pollute the world any more. Everyone in 5J wants to protect the planet and keep the world healthy for the future.

## Season of Creation



5WG

This morning, we shared the CAFOD assembly together, looking at some of the work they do around the world. We talked about how we can play our part in protecting God's creation and help make a difference.

We talked about how we can all make small changes that will make a big difference.

As a class, we have made a promise to be greener this year and discuss ways we can do this.

We want to live in a beautiful world, together with our neighbours.

Year 1

We have been thinking about creation when looking at all the beautiful things God has created from the high skies to the tiny creatures on the ground. We know we must look after and care for everything that God has created.

Year 3

We discussed the importance of looking after our world and his creation.

It is our responsibility to keep it healthy by planting flowers and trees, look after our animals and use less electricity. We can switch off lights when we leave the classroom, turn off the TV when we are not watching it. We can give money to charity to help people all over the world.

It is good that CAFOD helps people learn new skills to help them grow their own food and crops. We do not litter and instead can find a bin to keep the world healthy.

We need to show love and respect the world that God created.