



I am a Disciple for you Jesus



Holy Souls Catholic Primary School

Mallard Close, Acocks Green, Birmingham B27 6BN

Head Teachers: Mrs R A Gurling

Autumn Term 2024

Friday 18th October 2024

Newsletter 7

Dear Friends of Holy Souls,

After a week of hard work and learning we are looking forward to the weekend! The dry weather has seen the children play delightfully and enjoy the glory of God's creation in this season autumn. Long may the sun shine!

Thank you to Mr Clinton for his presentation to our Year 6 parents, carers and pupils. This was an opportunity to find out about our local feeder school, part of our academy. Can I remind all parents that the closing date is Thursday 31st October 2024. If you do not complete your on line application you may miss out on your preferred choice. Please call in at the office if you require any assistance.

The meeting was also an opportunity to find out about the forthcoming residential. Thanks to all who joined us and to Team Year 6 for their preparation.

Well done to Class 3M and Miss McConnell. A joyful assembly in this the month of the Holy Rosary. Great to hear the children read, sing and act so eloquently. We hope the grown-ups who joined us enjoyed it!

Sister Angela (our Parish Presentation Sister) joined us for our assembly and stayed afterwards to share her life journey and who it is God called her to be with Year 5. The children were fascinated and if you wish to find out more please click on <https://www.pbvmengland.co.uk/locations>

As we pray our Rosary at home this week let us keep those called to religious life and for those considering it in our thoughts and prayers.

God bless and enjoy your weekend
Mrs Gurling

Staff member: Miss McConnell
Year 2: Roary & Winter
Year 3: Maja & Philomena
Year 1: Amiyah
Reception: Filip

Year 4: Elias & Alexandru

Year 5: Johns & Mayou

Year 6: Liam & Ethan



To bring good news, to shine for you.



This week in school.....

- Father Marco joined us for hymn practice
- 3M led a beautiful assembly
- Year 5 enjoyed time with Sister Angela
- Year 2 visited Acocks Green library
- Miss Trodden and Mrs Keane enjoyed a training day at Don Bosco House and found out all about the Religious Education Curriculum
- Miss Wood attended training as our History leader
- Year 1 went to parish Mass
- Mrs Girling joined Mr Henvey for our very first St Teresa of Calcutta Special Educational Needs Conference
- Year 4 held the first half of their Progress meetings
- We enjoyed our extra-curricular clubs
- Mr Clinton visited school
- Mrs Hume our Inclusion Lead met with Mr Henvey and Mrs Girling to look at provision for additional needs support.
- We enjoyed a day observing our HLTAs - Higher Level Teaching Assistance as we looked at their roles and all they do in school.
- We had a deep dive into Maths as we held a teaching and learning walk, looked at pupils books.

SVP and Holy Souls School Food Shop

Our food shop (no charge for any goods) is available daily to all of our community. Please call in at the office after school or by phone (we can prepare some bags for you) if you need anything.

We have a wide range of food and with half term approaching please come and help yourselves.

Thank you to the SVP and Parish for their kind donations.

Educational Visits

We are currently reviewing the educational visits that our children have access to throughout the year. We will be looking at the most effective ways to have opportunities to support the children's learning throughout the year.



LEADERS FOR LEARNING

RT	Lena	4MK	Rosie
ICK	Jessica	4WM	Oskar
2KW	Illinca	5J	Phoebe
2W	Sabina	5WG	Maya
3M	Carter	6SC	Riley
3T	Maison	6PM	Tammie
HAPPY GOLDEN TIME EVERYONE!			
Leaders for Learning don't forget to collect your pencil from Mrs. Girling!			

A Leader for Learning is a role model to us all. They are working hard, trying their best and really engaged with their learning.

Sports Stars of the Week



Reception - Jack

KS1 - Frankie (Year 1)

KS2 - Amelia (Year 4)

Well done Sports Stars -

Coach Dylan, Coach Henry and Coach Dom were very impressed with your skills!



RT	Jessica	4WK	Reggie
ICK	Elena	4WM	Skodri
2KW	Dexter	5J	Izabella
2W	Krystian	5WG	Sophia
3M	Joshua	6SC	Rohan
3T	Marnie	6PM	Luke

What book are you reading this week?

Thank you for hearing your child read and completing your child's Reading Record every evening.



Times Tables Rock Stars and Numbots

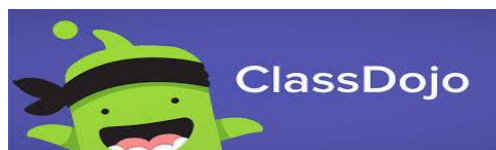


Most coins collected this week

2KW	Maya	4WM	Oskar
2W	Elisa	5J	Sajid
3M	Ara	5WG	Harley
3T	Crisbel	6SC	Georgina
4MK	Ruby-Sue	6PM	Anjola

Well done trophy winners!

17 Children in KS2 received certificates this week for moving to the next rock status



Reception	291	Class 4MK	179
Class 1 CK	253	Class 4WM	177
Class 2Wa	140	Class 5J	160
Class 2W	120	Class 5WG	152
Class 3M	319	Class 6PM	190
Class 3T	251	Class 6SC	410

This week's winners are 6SC Class.

Very well done to all the pupils in Class 6SC

Catholic Life and Mission

This week's Sunday Gospel....

Liturgical Year B

Mark 10:35-45

The Son of Man came to give his life as a ransom for many.

Sunday Gospel Reflection

Mark 10:42-45 'Not to be served, but to serve.'

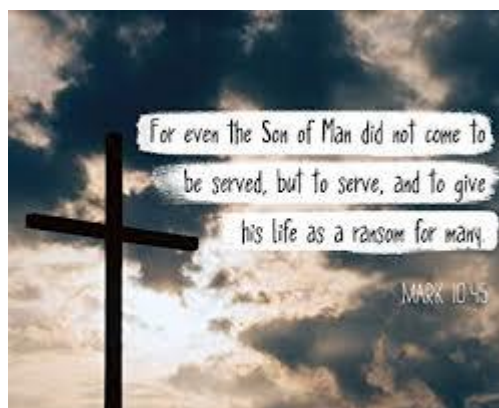
In this week's Gospel, Jesus tells His friends that He came 'not to be served, but to serve.' Jesus wants His followers to be 'servants of all' and many have responded in turn:

St Teresa of Calcutta devoted her life to caring for the poor; St John Bosco worked all his life in the service of disadvantaged young people; St Oscar Romero ultimately lost his life because of his commitment to social justice and combating poverty.

As St Teresa of Calcutta said "Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love."

We are all being called by Jesus to be a servant of all.

How this week are each of us being called to serve?



Celebrating the Word of God

Well done to 5J for a superb assembly about the Rosary! You taught us all so much. We are very proud of you. We thought you sang beautifully. Thank you to the families that joined us #CelebratingTheWordofGod



Vocations

Year 6 Holy Helpers

Some Y6 pupils enjoyed a trip to Victoria Lodge Care Home where they talked with some residents about their experiences of living through WW2. They even baked them some biscuits from an authentic WW2 recipe. It was a wonderful experience for all involved, and friendships have been made that Year 6 are excited to develop over the year #FamiliesandCommunities #CuriousandActive #Dignity



HALF TERM FAMILY FUN FOR FREE!!!!

Free Family-Friendly Events During Half-Term at the Midlands Arts Centre

The ESRC Festival of Social Science is an annual UK-wide celebration of the social sciences. This year, the University of Birmingham is hosting a programme of free events from 21 October to 11 November 2024.

Events of Interest to Families:

- ['Eco-Explorers AI Empowered Green Adventures: Recycling, Upcycling and Consumption](#)
- [Responsible Digital Sharing: Creating Digital Artefacts](#)

These events will take place during half-term at the Midlands Arts Centre, located in the family-friendly Cannon Hill Park, on the afternoon of Monday, 28 October.

For more information about the events and their schedules, please visit: [ESRC Festival of Social Science - University of Birmingham](#)

HOLY SOULS SCHOOL OPEN EVENTS FOR PARENTS WITH CHILDREN DUE TO START SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2025

On Tuesday 5th November 2024 we look forward to hosting our OPEN EVENTS for any parents or carers who have a child starting school in September 2025.

Our morning session is at 9:15am and our afternoon session is at 4pm. Please ring school on 0121 272 1776 to register for your visit. Children are very welcome!

We look forward to meeting you.



SPOTLIGHT ON SAFEGUARDING



Advice to help monitor your child's screen time



What's the problem?

Spending time online and on devices can be a positive thing. But, high levels of screen time can put your child more at risk of:

- Being bullied online
- Abuse and grooming (when someone builds a relationship with a child to exploit or abuse them)
- Seeing inappropriate content
- Not getting enough sleep and exercise

4 steps you can take to protect your child

1. Set parental controls on devices

Use parental controls to restrict access to in-app purchases and explicit or age-rated content, and, on some devices, how long they can spend on the device.

You'll likely need to set a password. Make sure it's different from the password used to access the device, and that your child doesn't know it.

Parental controls are usually located under 'Settings'. See below for more detailed instructions for different devices.

2. Agree rules on screen time

There are mixed views on 'safe' screen time, but you could agree some limits to stop screen time interfering with your child's sleep or family activities:

- Make a plan together, and stick to it. You could set media-free times and zones, like during meals or in bedrooms
- Try to avoid screens an hour before bedtime
- Model the behaviour you want to see - which may mean no screen time for you at the times agreed with your child. Children are more likely to learn from example
- Try to minimise snacking during screen time
- Turn not using screens into a game, using apps like [Forest](#), where not using devices is rewarded

3. Talk to your child about staying safe online

Tell them:

- To be aware that anyone can pretend to be a child online
- If they talk to people they don't know, not to give away personal information - like what street they live on or where they go to school, or to share their location with them. To say

no to any requests they get for images or videos, and stop talking to the other person if they are asked for these things

- To set their profiles to private, to limit what others can see
- To be 'share aware' - think carefully about what they share and with whom. Once it's out there, they've got no control over what the other person does with it. Remember, it's illegal to take, share or view sexual images of under-18s, full stop
- If they see something that upsets them, or someone bullies them, to tell an adult they trust

Don't feel confident starting a conversation with your child about what they're up to online?

Read this advice from the NSPCC: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/>

4. Encourage off-screen activities

Help your child get active for the recommended 60 minutes a day:

- See [nhs.uk/change4life/activities](https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/activities) for free ideas for activities and games
- Try an app that's designed to get children active - see the examples at [internetmatters.org/resources/apps-guide/apps-to-help-kids-get-active/](https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/apps-guide/apps-to-help-kids-get-active/)



As you may be aware, the law treats some persistent lateness in the same way as unauthorised absence and parents may be prosecuted or receive a penalty notice from the local authority if late arrival is not resolved. This has been further strengthened in new regulations which came into force in September 2024.

Minutes late per day during the school year	Equals days worth of teaching lost in a year
5 mins	3.4 days
10 mins	6.9 days
15 mins	10.3 days
20 mins	13.8 days
30 mins	20.7 days

Poor punctuality can lead to your child...

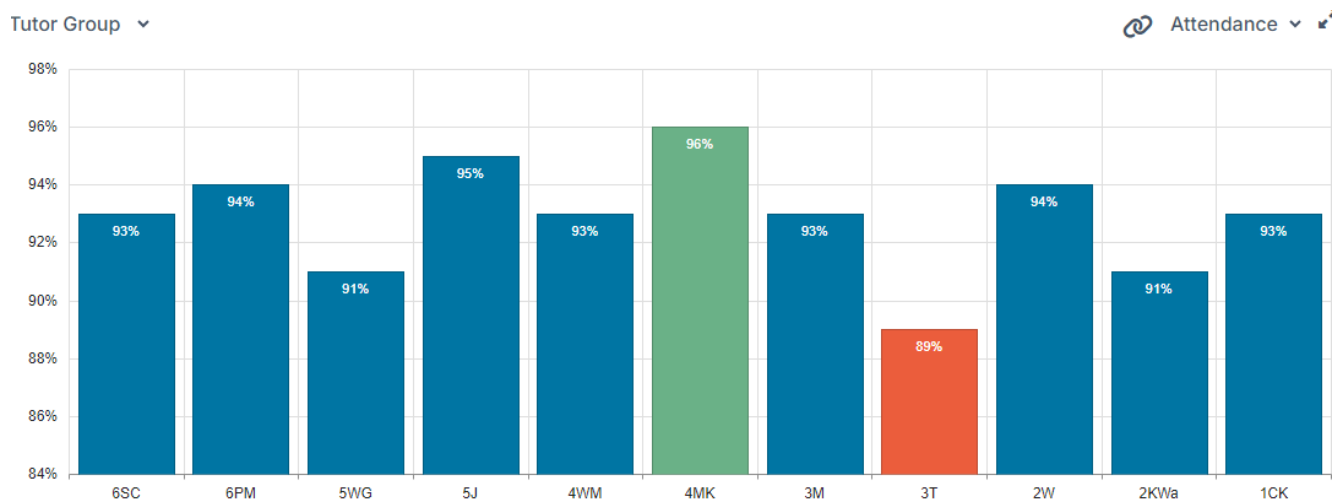
- Feeling embarrassed in front of their friends
 - Missing the beginning of vital lessons
- Missing important instructions for the rest of the school day

- Learning bad habits which could affect their employability in the future

If your child is having any difficulties that you wish to discuss, please contact the school immediately. If you have other concerns about your child or other difficulties you would like support with, please contact the school who may be able to assist in the form of an early help assessment. You can also find help and support here:

[From Birmingham with Love](#)

We understand that there may be rare occasions you are unavoidably late due to unforeseen circumstances. On these occasions, please make sure that you contact the school office to inform us when you will arrive. On arrival, please escort your child to the Office and sign them in.



This week's attendance winners are 4MK

~ Congratulations!

Overall Attendance 93%

SEND CORNER



Parent Consultation - SEND Reviews

Mr Henvey will be in attendance at both the upcoming parent consultations (Wednesday 23rd and Thursday 24th October until 6pm).

On the evening, Mr Henvey will be meeting parents to schedule SEND review dates for after half-term.

If your child has SEND or you have any concerns, please do have a chat with Mr Henvey.

Do not worry if you are unable to meet with Mr Henvey as he will contact you to arrange a SEND review for your child.

Alternatively, you can make an appointment at the office to meet. Mr Henvey has availability most Wednesdays to meet with parents.

FREE Webinar: Fussy Eaters - 21/10/2024 6-7pm

This session will be delivered by Maximus, Birmingham's Family Weight Management provider.

It will cover what fussy eating is, the causes of fussy eating, the types of fussy eaters and a range of practical solutions to manage and improve fussy eating.

School staff, parents and carers are all invited to attend this webinar.

The webinar will last 45 minutes, followed by 15 minutes for a Q&A session if you need to ask any specific questions that you may have.

Please register using the link below:

<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/6bc1f8e1-a70e-41d1-a39d-20566b90e49b@699ace67-d2e4-4bcd-b303-d2bbe2b9bbf1>

New Head of SENAR Appointed

The Special Educational Needs Assessment and Review Service (SENAR) have appointed a new head of service. Natalie Williams, who most recently led SEND in Stoke-On-Trent as Strategic Manager for SEND, started her new post as head of SENAR on 2nd September.

We wish Natalie and her team the best of luck and our prayers as she begins difficult task in ensuring our children with SEND receive the support they need.

SEND Coffee Morning

Please come and join us on Wednesday 20th November at 9am as school host a SEND coffee morning.

The SEND coffee morning will be attended by the external professionals that support school.

This includes:

- school's educational psychologist (EP)
- school's communication and autism team (CAT) teacher
- school's pupil school support (PSS) teacher
- school's occupational therapist (OT)
- school's speech and language therapist (SaLT)

These professionals will be giving talks about their roles, how they support school and the various processes and approaches that school undertake, such as referrals and the EHCP process.

Unfortunately, availability is limited so please email the office to book your place on enquiry@holysoulbham.sch.uk

Family First - Beacon 360

After half-term, Mr Henvey and Mrs Brown will be delivering Family First sessions on a weekly basis.

Family First is for parents of children from 3 to 11 whose children have difficulties managing their emotions or engage in negative behaviour.

It's a series of short, sharp videos and quizzes that Mr Henvey and Mrs Brown will be showing and discussing together with parents.

Unfortunately, availability is limited so please email the office to book your place on enquiry@holysoulbham.sch.uk