



Leen Mills Lane, Hucknall  
Nottinghamshire, NG15 8BZ  
Headteacher: Mrs Tammie McNamara

# Holy Cross Primary Catholic Voluntary Academy

Loved, Valued, Challenged



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2 September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,



## Arrival at school in the morning:

- Both school gates continue to be open from 8:35am – **8:45am**. Your child may arrive at school anytime during this time slot. Please ensure you arrive on time, as the gates will be locked promptly at 8:45am so that learning time is not wasted. Any pupils arriving late will need to enter via the school office. **Any pupils arriving after 8:45am will receive a late mark**, unless attending a medical appointment.
- Parents will be asked to remain on the outside of the school gates and say 'goodbye' to their child at the gate, as we have previously been doing these past two years. This is something we introduced during COVID regulations and have become familiar with, so it is a routine we have decided to continue with permanently.
- A video has been shared on Class Dojo to give general information about where the Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children need to be dropped off and collected. Miss Duong has also provided specific information for Class 2 on their Class Dojo page.

## Parking on Leen Mills Lane

The staff car park has moved to an open gate on Leen Mills Lane. The builders reported that a couple of parents drove in to the car park this morning. Please be aware that the car park is not for parent use, and is for staff and the builders use only. So please do not park or drive in to this space. Thank you.

## Collection at home time

If your child is in Class 3, 4, 5 or 6, you will collect your child from the playground. Each class has a designated area where parents from that class are required to wait from. Miss Duong has already informed Class 3 parents where to collect from. Class 4 and 5 use half of the basketball court each. Class 6 wait in the centre of the playground area.

If your child is in Nursery, Reception or Year 1, your child will be dismissed from the main Reception area doors. To avoid a bottle neck, we will request if Year 1 parents wait the side of the notice board and if Nursery and Reception parents can wait the side next to the cross. I will be outside just before home time to help organise dismissal.

If you are collecting from Class 2, if you could wait outside the temporary fencing.

Collection time for all classes is 3:30pm.

## Staffing updates

The first staffing update is that we are pleased to announce that Mrs Tipton is expecting her second child! We wish her many congratulations! Mrs Tipton is our Deputy Headteacher and school Special Educational Needs co-ordinator. Mrs Tipton plans to start her maternity leave after the October half term holidays around mid-November.

### **Forest Schools**

Mrs Hudson will be continuing to lead our children's Forest Schools sessions fortnightly. Mrs Hudson has shared some information linked to Forest Schools on the class pages of Dojo. Please note the request for your child to bring a pair of plimsolls to change in to after removing their wellies/muddy footwear.

### **Mrs Williams**

Please could I ask that you keep one of our teaching assistants, Mrs Williams, in your thoughts and prayers at this time. Mrs Williams had a period of long term sickness absence from school last term and she continues to be absent from work.

### **PE Lessons**

We will continue to have Mr Woolley teaching our Year 5 and 6 children PE lessons. Mr Woolley will then continue with the after schools sports club and specific year groups will receive an information letter regarding this.

Mr Priestley has completed his qualifications for teaching PE, so he will be teaching PE across all year groups in school. Mr Priestley will also be running after school sports clubs and further information will follow soon.

### **Jewellery**

Please could you note that we request no jewellery is to be worn for PE lessons. If your child is unable to independently take their earrings out, please can parents take their child's earrings out the morning of PE. If you are planning on having your child's ears pierced, could you aim for this to be done at the start of the summer holidays if possible please.

Please ensure your child does not come to school wearing any other jewellery including bracelets, necklaces, etc. We would prefer small studs for school and will accept small hooped earrings.

### **Nail polish and tattoos**

Towards the end of last term, we noticed an increase in children coming to school with tattoos and nail polish. We understand that children attend parties during the weekends, but please could parents ensure any tattoos and nail polish have been removed for Monday.

### **Hair accessories**

Please ensure that any hair accessories your child is wearing are school colours – blue, black or white.

### **School shoes / Trainers**

Please ensure your child is wearing black school shoes and trainers for PE days. We expect children to wear either black, navy or white trainers. Please do not send children to school in expensive branded or brightly coloured trainers.

### **Catholic Life**

Father Richard will be in school on **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September** to celebrate Mass for the Feast of the Holy Cross. Parents and family members are welcome to join us and attend Mass on this date. It will be a 9:30am start, but you are welcome to stay in the hall after morning drop-off.

### **Summer Reading Challenge**

If your child managed to complete the summer reading challenge, please ask them to bring in their certificate for their class teacher to see. We always like to promote and encourage our children to take part in the reading challenge to ensure they continue to read regularly throughout the school holidays.

### **Class Page of School Website**

The teachers will be adding information for parents and resources for children over the next few days on the Class Page of the school website.

### **School Photographer**

The school photographer will be taking children's individual photographs on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October.

### **Diary dates**

The school office will add the diary dates for the year on the electronic school calendar on the school website. Class teachers will also share key dates with parents on class newsletters.

### **Parents and Friends meeting**

We would like to have our first Parents and Friends meeting soon. Further details will follow soon regarding a date for a meeting.

### **Used uniform**

I am very grateful to our school governors who have offered to collect in uniform for parents that no longer fits your child, but is still in good enough condition that it could be distributed to another family. Mrs Mason and Mr Wilson are currently collecting in and used uniform. So if you have anything left from the end of last term that is still in good condition that could be re-used, please bring it to the school office.

### **PE uniform**

Please ensure your child is only wearing PE items, such as school hoodies, when it is their PE day.

### **Harvest Liturgy**

Our Harvest Liturgy will be led by Class 5 this year on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October at 2:50pm. Parents of children in Class 5 are invited to join us on this day.

Our Diocesan theme this first term is **Encounter**. Bishop Patrick encourages schools across the Diocese to support the vulnerable and the homeless. Therefore, our food collections for the Harvest Liturgy will be taken to Under One Roof to support the Foodbank. Please could parents send any food donations for the Foodbank into school from Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October.

With the growing anxieties families are facing regarding the cost of living, we are more passionate than ever about supporting those in our school community and the wider Hucknall community who may need additional support from the Foodbank and *Under one Roof* at this time.

### **Termly Learning Meetings (Parents' evenings)**

Our termly learning meetings will be offered using a hybrid approach as either face to face or online using Microsoft Teams for meetings this term. Parents will be able to book appointment times in the next couple of weeks. Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October will be for face to face appointments and Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October will be for Teams online appointments.

### **Children's reading books**

We are always happy to accept used, good quality children's reading books to update our class libraries with, as our well-used books can become rather tatty fairly quickly. If you are ever sorting out reading books at home that your child may no longer read, please consider a book donation to the school, which would be gratefully received. Thank you.

### **Macmillan Coffee afternoon**

We will be hosting the Macmillan coffee and cake afternoon on **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September** at 2:30pm and parents will be invited to attend. Cake donations will be requested closer to the time for this fundraising event.

*We are looking forward to all the important learning this term will bring and we look forward to continuing to work in partnership with all of our families.*

*God bless,  
Mrs McNamara*