



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

## Holy Cross Primary Catholic Voluntary Academy

Loved, Valued, Challenged



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22<sup>nd</sup> May 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,



### Catholic Life

Thank you to our family members who were able to join us for our Crowning of Mary Mass last Friday, led by Class 1. This was a beautiful service and we were very proud of our Class 1 children who did an excellent job leading the Mass.

The May crowning is set up to display Mary's queenship as the mother of Jesus. We are encouraged to pray the Rosary during the month of May, so this is something you might like to do at home with your family at some point throughout May.

### Class Masses

We continue with our Class Masses on a Friday morning, where each class leads their Mass and Father Richard joins us in school. Our parents and other family members are most welcome to join your child in class for the celebration of Mass. This **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May**, our Early Years children will celebrate and lead their class Mass.

### Altar servers

We currently have two children who are now altar servers at school. If your child is still interested in training to be an altar server, they can either speak to Michael at Holy Cross Church on Sunday or can speak with Father Richard when he is in school. Please let Mrs Fitzpatrick, Mrs Bruce or I know if your child is interested.

### First Holy Communion

First Holy Communion classes have continued on **Thursday evenings** at Holy Cross church. The children will make their First Holy Communion on **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June at 11am** at Holy Cross Church. Please keep these children in your thoughts and prayers as they continue on their Sacramental and faith journey.

### Holy Cross Church and Parish Links

The latest Holy Cross Church newsletter can be accessed here:

<https://www.holycrosshucknall.org.uk/files/Newsletter%20May%2021st%202023.pdf>

You can find information about Holy Cross Church here:

<https://www.holycrosshucknall.org.uk/>

### Parent views questionnaire

Thank you to parents who have completed the parent questionnaire and shared their feedback with us so far. If you have not already done so, we would really appreciate you taking some time to complete the questionnaire. This helps us hear from parents about what you feel is going positively well and to also plan our school development priorities for the next academic year.

Please complete the online form below.

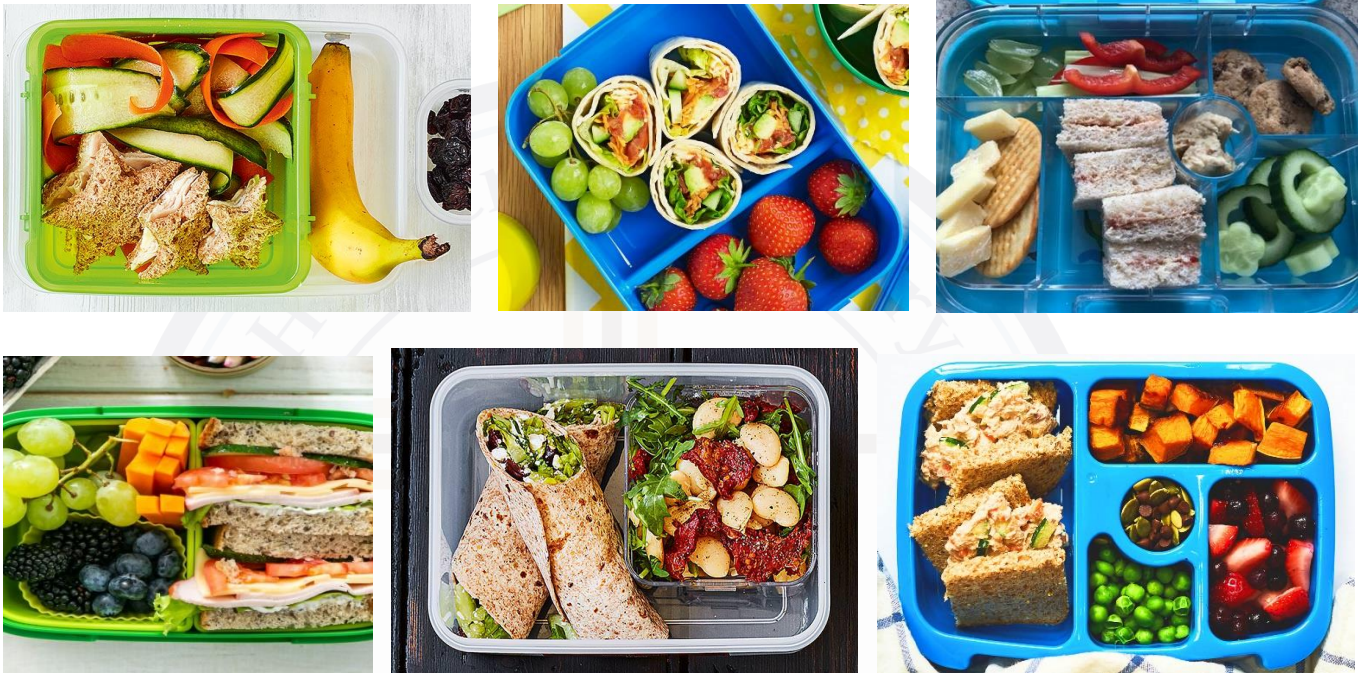
<https://forms.office.com/e/0Ug3A5xAZ9>

### Holy Cross Garden Project

Voting continues to be open in the local **Tesco** store. Please ask for tokens at the checkout, as apparently the token jars at the top of the voting booth are not always full. We are hoping to raise funds to put towards improving our gardens around school to support our children's well-being and mental health. Thank you.

### Healthy eating

Just a reminder for any of our children who bring their own packed lunch box to school. We do try to encourage our children to be healthy eaters and to eat a range of different food types. We have noticed recently that there are larger sized chocolate bars being sent in to school, as well as the child having biscuits **and** cake as well for lunch. Please see below for some ideas of healthy alternatives to chocolate bars, biscuits and cakes for lunchtime:



We have always said no to sweets being brought in for lunchtime and due to allergies in school, we are a nut free school.

Please could you try to limit your child's amount of sugar intake at lunchtime to just one sugary item, such as one cake OR one small chocolate bar OR one packet of biscuits.

We understand that some children have limited food choices, so we will always try to work with our families as best we can to support with healthier choices.

Thank you for your support. Further ideas for healthy lunch boxes can be found here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/>

### Sun safety

As the weather is starting to warm up and we are having more sunny days, please could you start applying sun cream to your child before school and send them to school with a named sun hat. You are also welcome to send a small bottle of sun cream with your child's name on to keep in their bag so that they can re-apply at lunchtime if required. There are all day sun cream protection alternatives available too.

### Road safety and parking

Just an ongoing polite reminder to ask our parents to park considerately on the roads around our school and to please check you are not blocking any resident's driveways.

Can I also ask parents to ensure our children arrive safely into school by ensuring that children are not crossing the road by themselves. There have still been a couple of incidents where parents are stopping their car on the other side of the road and allowing children to get out of the car and cross the road unsupervised. This is not safe and could parents kindly get out of the car to see your child safely across the road and into school. Some parents have expressed their concerns to me when witnessing other parents doing this. Thank you for your co-operation with trying to keep all of our children safe.

### **School Crossing Patrol Officer**

Just a reminder that there is still an open vacancy for a school crossing patrol person that has yet to be filled.

### **Nursery**

Our new Nursery is steadily starting to increase in numbers. Please spread the word to any family and friends who are looking for Nursery places that we now have a Nursery at Holy Cross and there are spaces available. We can offer wrap around care for our Nursery children for any parents who need that additional childcare support before and after school.

If you would like further information about the Nursery, please see the school office or arrange to speak with Mrs Khalil or Mrs Bruce, who would be glad to provide you with further information.

### **School places available**

We currently have school places available in:

Year 1 – 1 place

Year 2 – 1 place

We also have spaces available in our Nursery.

If you know anyone who is looking to transfer to Holy Cross School, please share this information with them. All of our other classes are currently full. If you have any family members or friends who would be interested in joining our Holy Cross school family for either the Nursery or Reception places for September 2023, please contact the school office on [office@holycross.notts.sch.uk](mailto:office@holycross.notts.sch.uk).

### **Staffing update:**

We were pleased to inform you that Miss Duong is expecting her first baby. Miss Duong is planning to start her maternity leave at the end June. We have appointed Miss Parker to cover Miss Duong's maternity leave. Miss Parker has been working at Holy Cross as a supply teacher during these past few months, so she has already had the opportunity to teach some of our classes and get to know the children and the Holy Cross Way expectations.

### **New Reception Parents' meeting**

We are delighted to welcome all families with children starting in Reception with us for September 2023. There will be a welcome meeting for new parents on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May at 2:30pm.

### **Assessment arrangements**

Well done to our Year 6 pupils who have now completed their end of Key Stage Two SATs!

This term, we have several children who are completing their statutory assessments in Year 1, Year 2, Year 4 and Year 6. Below are the dates for parents to be aware of:

- **Year 2 KS1 SATS – Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May (Completed over 2 weeks)**
- **Year 1 Phonics Screening Check – Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June**
- **Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June**

Please ensure you try to avoid making any appointments during the school day during your child's assessment weeks.

### **End of year school reports**

Your child's school report will be shared on **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July**. During the week beginning 10<sup>th</sup> July, there will be an opportunity for you to discuss any concerns from your child's report with the class teacher. This is not a Termly Learning meeting, and **is only if you need to discuss something specific within the report**.

### **Term-time holidays**

Please note that we cannot authorise any absence from school for family holidays during term-time. Further information can be found on our website and in the Attendance Policy. If you are planning to take your children out of school during term-time, please complete the absence of leave request form.

<https://www.holycrossschoolhucknall.com/parents/term-and-school-diary-dates/>

If your child's holiday absence amounts to a certain number of days, we are required to pass this information to the Education Welfare Officer at the Local Authority and you may be issued with a penalty notice.



### **Mobile Phones in school (Parents)**

Before the first COVID lockdown, and as part of our Safeguarding procedures, we had a 'no mobile phones' policy in school when parents came in for events, such as assemblies, workshops, etc. We would like to return to this expectation and politely ask that once any parents come in to school through main Reception, that mobile phones are not out on show.

We used to also request that parents did not collect their child from the playground whilst talking on their mobile phone. Again, this is something we would like to return to (unless it is an emergency call you are receiving). We will arrange for signage around school to remind parents of this.

### **Holiday Club update**

Thank you to those families who used the holiday club at Holy Cross during the Easter break. There will be a holiday club available this May half term from Tuesday – Friday. Separate leaflets are available with booking details included. <https://www.ha4k.co.uk/>

### **School Uniform (Summer)**

We are now in the term where our school uniform for children in Year 1 – 6 changes to the summer uniform. This includes a blue polo shirt, grey shorts and blue gingham dress. The uniform remains the same for our children in the Early Years, other than they can wear navy/black shorts on warm days. We appreciate that on cooler days, children will still need to wear their winter uniform. Please use your own discretion on when to allow your child to wear summer clothing.

<https://www.holycrossschoolhucknall.com/parents/school-uniform/>

### **School Uniform (Forest Schools)**

Just a reminder that we changed the Forest School day T-shirt to either a navy blue or black T-shirt. Your child is no longer expected to wear a white T-shirt for Forest School day.

Price and Buckland have a Forest school T-shirt with the school logo on of you wish to purchase this for Forest school days. Alternatively, a plain black or navy T-shirt will be accepted too. We do not accept T-shirts that are branded or have other writing on as part of school uniform.

Our PE T-shirt will continue to be a white T-shirt. This is available with the school logo on from Price and Buckland or you can send your child in a plain white unbranded T-shirt. Please do not send your child wearing a T-shirt with writing on, as this is not accepted as part of school uniform.

<https://www.pbuniform-online.co.uk/schools/holy-cross-primary-catholic.html>

### **School shoes / Trainers**

Please ensure your child is wearing black school shoes or 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, as these are not part of school uniform.

We have a few children who have been coming in to school wearing trainers. If you are waiting for new school shoes to arrive, please inform the office or your child's class teacher, as your child will be asked why they are wearing trainers if it is not a PE day.

### **Used uniform**

Our school governors collected in used uniform that is available to be distributed to other families. Please let the school office know if you are in need of any school uniform and would like to access the used uniform. Any lost property that remains in school for more than half a term is taken to the charity shop.

### **Home achievements – Friday Achievement Assembly**

We love to celebrate our children's gifts and talents at Holy Cross, in school, as well as their out of school achievements. Your child is always very welcome to bring in any home achievements to school to share with everyone during our Friday Achievement Assembly.

### **Diary dates**

The school office will add any new diary dates for the year on the electronic school calendar on the school website. Please do continue to check the school calendar to ensure you are not missing on any key events in school. Class teachers continue to share key dates with parents on class newsletters, Class page on the website and Class Dojo.

*Thank you to our families for your ongoing support.*

*God bless,*

*Mrs McNamara*

**Diary dates May – July 2023**  
**Pentecost Term 2023**

Date	Event	Who is involved?
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May – Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	EYFS – Year 5 – History week Year 6 – Geography week	All classes
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Y5/6 Girls Cricket	Class 5/6 girls cricket
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	New Reception parents' meeting at 2:30pm	New Reception parents
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	Nursery School outing – Hucknall Library, Holy Cross Church and picnic	Nursery children and parents
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	EYFS class Mass Break up for half term	All welcome All classes
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	HALF TERM	All classes
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June – Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 Residential – Mount Cook	Class 6 children
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June – Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	EYFS – Year 5 – Geography week Year 6 – History week	All classes
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Reception class – The Butterfly House school trip	Reception class
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	Class 6 Mass – 9:30am	All welcome
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Class photographs	All classes
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	EYFS – Curriculum Assembly – Keeping Safe and Healthy – 2:15pm for refreshments	Nursery and Reception children and parents
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	First Holy Communion Mass practice at Church – 5:15pm	Children and families making their FHC.
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Class 2 Class Mass – 9:30am  Year 4 school trip – Jorvik Centre, York	All welcome  Class 4
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	First Holy Communion – Holy Cross Church 11am	All welcome
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	International Food week Refugee week	All classes
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	Class 5 visit Christ the King secondary school – morning visit	Class 5
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	Class 4 visit Christ the King secondary school – morning visit	Class 4
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Class 4 Class assembly	Year 4 parents welcome.
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Class 3 Mass – 9:30am	All welcome
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Class 1 school trip – Sherwood Forest	Class 1
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports day	All welcome
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Blessing of new school building – Bishop Patrick to attend	All classes

	2pm	Parents and family members welcome to attend.
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Music concert – Guitar – 9:30am	Parents of children who have guitar lessons welcome to attend.
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Curriculum Assembly – Social Justice 2:45pm	Class 6 parents welcome to attend.
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Summer Fair 2pm	All families welcome to attend.
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> July – Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 5 Residential - Mount Cook	Class 5 children
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> July – Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Christ the King secondary school Transition visits	Class 6 children who are going to CTK secondary school.
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> July – Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	Whole school Transition visits to new classes and meet new teacher	Whole school Class 5 to have a separate date
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	KS2 Summer Disco 6:30pm – 8pm	Children from Class 3 - 6
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Leavers' Mass Holy Cross Church – 1:30pm	Class 6 parents welcome to attend at Church.
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly at School - 2:30pm	Class 6 parents welcome to attend.

Please check the school calendar regularly to keep up to date with any events.

[Calendar | \(holycrossschoolhucknall.com\)](http://holycrossschoolhucknall.com)