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Holy Cross Primary Catholic Voluntary Academy

Loved, Valued, Challenged



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5th June 2023

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers



Catholic Life

The Christian holiday of **Pentecost** is celebrated on the 50th day from Easter Sunday. It commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ while they were in Jerusalem celebrating the Feast of Weeks, as described in the Acts of the Apostles. Last weekend, the Church celebrated the Feast of Pentecost.

The name of the day itself is derived from the Greek word "*pentecoste*," meaning 50th.

Pentecost is considered the birthday of the Church - Peter, the first Pope, preaches for the first time and converts thousands of new believers. The apostles and believers, for the first time, were united by a common language, and a common zeal and purpose to go and preach the Gospel.

A copy of **Bishop Patrick's pastoral letter for Pentecost** can be read here:

<https://www.holycrosshucknall.org.uk/files/Bishop%20Patrick's%20Pastoral%20Letter%20-%20Pentecost%202023.pdf>

First Holy Communion

The children who are preparing for their First Holy Communion have been working hard each week preparing for this next stage in their sacramental journey. The children will make their First Holy Communion on **Saturday 17th 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.

Parish update

You can read the latest Holy Cross Church Parish newsletter by clicking the link below:

<https://www.holycrosshucknall.org.uk/files/Newsletter%20June%204th%202023%20The%20Most%20Holy%20Trinity.pdf>

Ofsted school visit

Thank you to families for making the extra effort to bring your children to school on time during our two day Ofsted inspection. The report takes about four weeks to be completed and quality assured, then share the outcomes of the visit with our families. The children were a credit to the school and to their families throughout the inspection. We were all very proud of their contributions throughout the inspection. I will share a copy of the report with families as soon as this is available to read.

Questionnaire responses

Thank you to parents who took the time to complete the parent survey last half term. This survey is now closed. We will gather the pupils' views this half term when they complete their questionnaires in school this week. We will read through both parent and pupil responses and these will be used to inform our future school development planning.

The Briars – Retreat cabins

A reminder that the NDCYS & THE BRIARS have available to rent Saints' Meadow Luxury Retreat Cabins. This supports the work of the diocesan youth service and gives anyone a chance to stay in the beautiful Derbyshire Peak district in custom built, fully serviced, en-suite cabins. With fantastic views and a stunning location in the grounds of The Briars it has to be the most enjoyable way to support NDCYS and the young people they work with. You can find out more and book now at www.saintsmeadow.com

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.

Places available in school

We currently have a few spaces available in our Infant classes at school. Classes with spaces available are:

- Nursery places available
- Reception spaces available for **September 2023**

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.

Assessment arrangements

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

- **Year 1 Phonics Screening Check – Monday 12th June – Friday 16th June**
- **Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check – Monday 5th June – Friday 16th June**

End of year school reports

Your child's school report will be shared on **Friday 7th July**. During the week beginning 10th 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**.

Attendance and Punctuality

Learning time for children starts when the gates are locked from 8:45am. The children have morning tasks to complete during register time, which may be their corrections from the previous day's work or activities that allow retrieval practice from previous learning.

Most of the children at Holy Cross have excellent attendance and punctuality. We understand that for some of our children with additional needs, we do support families where there are medical reasons that impact attendance or can affect a child's punctuality. However, if your child does not have additional medical needs, we do expect all children who are well to be in school and arriving on time. Following the pandemic, we are passionate to ensure our children are in school as often as they can be, to try and reduce any future missed learning in school.

To improve punctuality and attendance for all our children, we would like to request the following things:

- Any routine medical and dental appointments to be made outside of the school day (If possible).
- Where medical or dental appointments are not routine and instead are hospital based or 'treatment focused' please email a photo of the appointment letter or show a copy to the office. This is so that this can be recorded as 'authorised absence'.
- Where punctuality in the morning is a recurrent issue, we will seek to meet with families to see if this can be resolved.
- Children should not be taken out of school for holidays during term time. Parents who take their children out of school during term time may be issued with a penalty notice.

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.

<https://www.holycrossschoolhucknall.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2023/02/Pupil-Attendance-Policy.pdf>

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/>

Our Reception children may wear navy blue, grey or black shorts with their school T-shirt.

As the weather has also been incredibly changeable at the moment, it would be useful for your child to keep a sun hat and sun cream in their bag. Please ensure all uniform items have your child's name on.

Diary Dates

Diary dates June – July 2023

Pentecost 2 Term 2023

Date	Event	Who is involved?
Monday 5 th June – Wednesday 7 th June	Year 6 Residential – Mount Cook	Class 6 children
Monday 5 th June – Friday 9 th June	EYFS – Year 5 – Geography week	All classes
Thursday 8 th June	Reception class – The Butterfly House school trip	Reception class
Friday 9 th June	Class 6 Mass – 9:30am	All welcome
Monday 12 th June	Year 6 – History week	Class 6
Wednesday 14 th June	Class photographs	All classes
Thursday 15 th June	EYFS – Curriculum Assembly – Keeping Safe and Healthy – 2:15pm for refreshments	Nursery and Reception children and parents
Thursday 15 th June	First Holy Communion Mass practice at Church – 5:15pm	Children and families making their FHC.
Friday 16 th June	Class 2 Class Mass – 9:30am	All welcome
	Year 4 school trip – Jorvik Centre, York	Class 4
Saturday 17 th June	First Holy Communion – Holy Cross Church 11am	All welcome
Monday 19 th June	International Food week Refugee week	All classes
Monday 19 th June	Class 5 visit Christ the King secondary school – morning visit	Class 5
Tuesday 20 th June	Class 4 visit Christ the King secondary school – morning visit	Class 4
Thursday 22 nd June	Class 4 Class assembly	Year 4 parents welcome.
Friday 23 rd June	Class 3 Mass – 9:30am	All welcome
Friday 23 rd June	Class 1 school trip – Sherwood Forest	Class 1

Wednesday 28 th June	Sports day	All welcome
Monday 3 rd July	Blessing of new school building – Bishop Patrick to attend 2pm	All classes Parents and family members welcome to attend.
Wednesday 5 th July	Music concert – Guitar – 9:30am	Parents of children who have guitar lessons welcome to attend.
Thursday 6 th July	Year 6 Curriculum Assembly – Social Justice 2:45pm	Class 6 parents welcome to attend.
Friday 7 th July	Summer Fair 2pm	All families welcome to attend.
Monday 10 th July – Wednesday 12 th July	Year 5 Residential - Mount Cook	Class 5 children
Monday 10 th July – Tuesday 11 th July	Year 6 Christ the King secondary school Transition visits	Class 6 children who are going to CTK secondary school.
Monday 10 th July – Wednesday 12 th July	Whole school Transition visits to new classes and meet new teacher	Whole school Class 5 to have a separate date
Thursday 13 th July	KS2 Summer Disco 6:30pm – 8pm	Children from Class 3 - 6
Wednesday 19 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Mass Holy Cross Church – 1:30pm	Class 6 parents welcome to attend at Church.
Friday 21 st July	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly at School - 2:30pm	Class 6 parents welcome to attend.
Friday 21 st July	Break up for summer	All classes

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

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

INSET days remaining for this term:

Monday 24th July 2023

Tuesday 25th July 2023

Pupils will return to school in September on **Wednesday 6th September 2023.**

INSET Days for 2023-2024 academic year:

Monday 4th September 2023

Tuesday 5th September 2023

Thursday 4th January 2024

Friday 5th January 2024

Friday 9th February 2024

God bless,

Mrs McNamara