



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

Holy Cross Primary Catholic Voluntary Academy

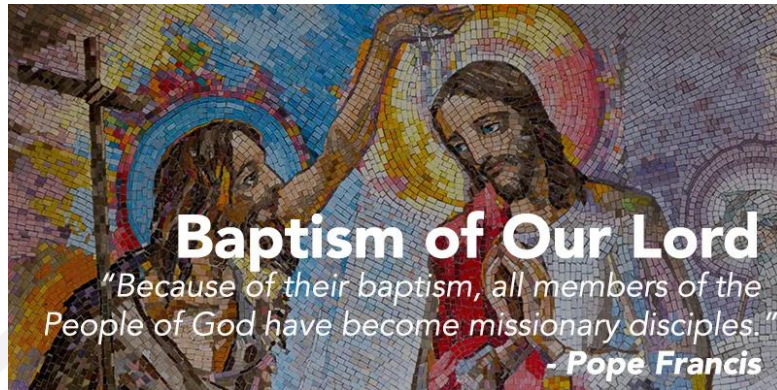
Loved, Valued, Challenged



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08 January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,



Happy New Year!

Welcome back to the new Lent term! I hope you all had a good Christmas and New Year. We are pleased to welcome our children back to school today and are looking forward to their exciting learning challenges this term.

Catholic Life

Today (January 8th), in union with the whole Church, we celebrate the great event that is the Baptism of the Lord. Today is also a great opportunity for us to remember our own or another family member's Baptism.

Gospel of Luke (3:15-16, 21-22)

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptise you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

Now, when all the people were baptised, and when Jesus also had been baptised and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "***You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.***"

Class Mass

Father Richard continues to be in school most Fridays for Class Mass. This allows our children to get to know Father Richard and for them to start building a positive relationship with their Parish Priest. Each class is on a rota for celebrating Mass in their classroom and parents will be informed of when their child's Mass will be, as parents, carers and parishioners are welcome to attend. If you are not available to attend, grandparents or other family members are also welcome to join Class Masses.

School Chaplain

We continue to have our school Chaplain, Charles Archer, come in to school every other Thursday afternoon to support our children with their Prayer and Liturgy.

First Holy Communion

The date of the first meeting for parents is as follows and will be held at Holy Cross Church, Hucknall in the hall which is situated at the back of the Church. The meeting will take place tomorrow, **Tuesday 9th January at 6.00pm** in Holy Cross Church Hall.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the parish office.

Nursery

This term, we welcome another eight new children to our Nursery, totalling twenty children now in the Nursery. We are limited to twenty-six places, so please ask for an application pack if you would like your child to start after Easter. Your child can start in Nursery the term after they are three.

School shoes / Trainers

Please ensure your child is wearing black school shoes and trainers **only 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.

We have a few children who have been coming into school wearing trainers when it is not their PE days. 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

Please let the school office know if you are in need of any school uniform and would like to access the used uniform.

Termly Learning Meetings (Parents' evenings) and SEND reviews

Our termly learning meetings will take place at the beginning of next half term. We are offering our **online meetings on Tuesday 20th February** and **face to face meetings on Wednesday 21st February**. It is really important that parents are kept up to date with their children's academic progress at school and we value the learning partnership between school and home. Information about your child's attendance, behaviour, homework, achievements and next steps are always shared with parents during these meetings.

If your child has Special Educational Needs, Mrs Tipton is organising a separate timetable for parent meetings. If you are attending a SEND review, you **do not** need to also book a Termly Learning meeting. SEND reviews will be held week beginning **26th February**.

Class Newsletters

Your child's class teacher will share their termly newsletter with you by the end of this week. Please take the time to read this class newsletter, as it will outline what your child will be learning about in the different curriculum areas and will include any important dates for you to be aware of.

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 their class before our Friday Achievement Assembly.

School places

We currently have spaces available in our Reception class. 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 class, please contact the school office on office@holycross.notts.sch.uk.

Parents have until the **15th January** to apply for a Reception school place for September 2024. Please follow this link for further information on how to apply for a place:

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/media/stpnzxf/primaryinitialinfo2024factsheet.pdf>

Attendance

Attendance letters will be issued in the next couple of weeks for any pupils whose attendance has fallen below the national average, has fallen below 90% or if their attendance has not improved since last term. Please be aware that it is part of our procedures to monitor pupils' attendance and punctuality and issue attendance letters, but we appreciate some pupils were frequently unwell last term and understand why certain pupil's absence has declined.

Diary dates

The school office will add any new diary dates for the year on the electronic school calendar on the school website. Class teachers continue to share key dates with parents on class newsletters and Class Dojo.

Thank you to our families for your ongoing support.

God bless,

Mrs McNamara

Diary dates January 2024 – March 2024

Date	Event	Who is involved?
04/01/24	School Closed - INSET Day	Whole school
05/01/24	School Closed - INSET Day	Whole school
07/01/24	Feast of the Epiphany	-
08/01/24	Return to school	Whole school
08/01/24	Feast of the Baptism of the Lord / Epiphany Assembly 2:45pm	Whole school
12/01/24	Kingdom of Benin masks making online session led by an artist (Darrell Wakelam)	Class 5 children
12/01/24	Class 4 Class Mass – 9:30am	Class 4 – Family members and parishioners welcome to attend
15/01/24	Class 3 – Bike-ability	Children in Class 3 who have returned their application form
16/01/24	‘Stay and Play’ – in the Early Years classroom	Parents and carers of children in EYFS welcome to ‘Stay and Play’ until 10am
18/01/24	Curriculum Theme - Keeping Safe and Healthy Assembly EYFS - 2:45pm	Whole school Parents and carers of children in EYFS welcome to attend.
19/01/24	Class 3 Class Mass – 9:30am	Class 3 – Family members and parishioners welcome to attend
26/01/24	Class 2 Class Mass – 9:30am	Class 2 – Family members and parishioners welcome to attend
30/01/24	‘Stay and Play’ – in the Early Years classroom	Parents and carers of children in EYFS welcome to ‘Stay and Play’ until 10am
02/02/24	Candlemas – Whole school Mass Led by Class 1 9:30am	Parents of Class 1 welcome to attend
06/02/24	Safer Internet Day	Whole school
07/02/24	Children’s Rights Day	Whole school
08/02/24	Our Lady of Lourdes Feast Day and Pilgrimage activities	Whole school
09/02/24	SCHOOL CLOSED – INSET DAY	Whole school
09/02/24	BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM	Whole school
14/02/24	Ash Wednesday – Start of Lent	-
18/02/24	First Sunday of Lent	-
19/02/24	Return to school	Whole school
20/02/24	Termly Learning Meeting (Parents’ meeting) Online	Parents and Carers meet the teacher
21/02/24	Termly Learning Meeting (Parents’ meeting) Face to face	Parents and Carers meet the teacher
21/02/24	Global Dance Workshop	Whole school
23/02/24	CAFOD Family Fast Day	Whole school
23/02/24	Class 1 Class Mass – 9:30am	Class 1 – Family members and parishioners welcome to attend
26/02/24	Fairtrade Fortnight	Whole school
26/02/24	Governors’ Monitoring Day	Whole school
26/02/24	SEND Review Meetings to be scheduled for this week.	Parents and Carers of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
29/02/24	Curriculum Theme – Farming Assembly	Whole school

	Class 2 – 2:45pm	Parents and carers of children in Class 2 welcome to attend.
01/03/24	Whole School Mass – Forgiveness 9:30am	All parents, Carers and Parishioners welcome to attend
01/03/24	Reconciliation available after Mass for children in Class 4, 5 and 6	Children in Class 4, 5 and 6 who have made their First Holy Communion and Reconciliation.
04/03/24	Magical Maths club starts for children in Key Stage One and Two After school until 4:30pm	Children in school who have registered their child to attend the sessions.
07/03/24	World Book Day	Whole school
08/03/24	International Women’s Day	Whole school
08/03/24	Class 6 – Class Mass (Third week of Lent) 9:30am	Class 6 – Family members and parishioners welcome to attend
10/03.24	Mothering Sunday	-
14/03/24	Curriculum Theme – Community Assembly Class 1 – 2:45pm	Whole school Parents and carers of children in Class 1 welcome to attend.
15/03/24	Class 5 Class Mass (Fourth week of Lent) 9:30am	Class 5 – Family members and parishioners welcome to attend
18/03/24	Key Stage Two – Easter Disco 6:30pm – 8pm	Children in Class 3, 4, 5 and 6 welcome to attend.
20/03/24	Lenten Adoration – 2:30pm	Key Stage Two
22/03/24	Spring Fair – 2pm	All family members welcome to attend.
24/03/24	Palm Sunday	-
26/03/24	Class 3 and 4 lead Stations of the Cross for Class 5 and 6 – 2:45pm	Class 5 and 6
27/03/24	Class 3 and 4 lead Stations of the Cross for Parents and Carers – 2:45pm	Parents and Carers welcome to attend for children in Class 3 and 4.
28/03/24	Maundy Thursday	-
28/03/24	BREAK UP FOR EASTER	WHOLE SCHOOL
29/03/24	Good Friday	-
31/03/24	Easter Sunday	-