



## Holy Cross School Newsletter Friday 15 January 2021



Dear Parents and Carers,

We do miss you all! School is a very different place without all our wonderful children throughout the day and our lovely parents and carers at drop off and collection time. I miss the busyness, the laughter and the excitement of normal School life. We will all be so grateful when we can be back together again.

### **Baby Byrne**

Some fabulous news this week, Mrs Byrne has had her baby! Mr and Mrs Byrne welcomed into the world baby Ottilia Valentina Eleanor Byrne on Monday of this week. We send the family good wishes and prayers from all at Holy Cross.

### **Online learning**

Our online learning continues to be an enormous success. I cannot thank the teachers enough for all their efforts and brilliance in ensuring our children receive the education they deserve. I would also like to thank you, the parents and carers for your support. We have achieved a very impressive 90% attendance average across all lessons from Reception to Year 6. We know you share our determination to continue our children's learning despite the current situation the world faces. What a sensational community Holy Cross really is, thank you!

### **Music**

Mrs Ley and Miss Baptiste have been busy during lockdown producing some short films of hymns well known to the children – with words and actions. These will be published on our website next week so you can all listen, enjoy and sing along at home. My enormous thanks to both members of staff, we are familiar with Mrs Ley's talents but Miss Baptiste has previously hidden her musical skills...not any more!

### **Academic Review Day**

On Friday 12 February we will have our annual Academic Review Day. This year we will be arranging this via the Teams app we use for our online learning. It is always a great opportunity for you and your child to speak with their class teacher/s to find out what they are excelling at and which areas of the curriculum they need to focus more on. We will be sending a letter out early next week with further information and details of how you sign up to your preferred time slot.

### **Reading**

Whilst the children are at home it is the perfect chance to encourage them to read more than usual. Please help to develop their imaginations and vocabulary but most importantly their love of reading. A very good way to encourage children to read is to read with them, sharing conversation about the stories and using it as a chance to sit together – and have a cuddle! Another way to promote reading for children is for them to see you read, so feet up and grab a book, a newspaper or a magazine! Research shows that children who read regularly are more successful in a wide range of areas both in and outside of School. Let us get our children into reading during lockdown and use the time positively and productively.

Please continue to stay home and stay safe,

Miss Collins

*“Every action in our lives touches on a chord that will vibrate in eternity.”* – Edwin Hubbel Chapin

## A taster of Miss Baptiste and Mrs Ley in action

