



## Holy Cross School Newsletter Friday 10 September 2021



Dear Parents and Carers,

Our first full week this academic year has flown by! It has been incredibly busy but the children have settled back into routine extremely quickly. Many comments from the staff are that the school is calm but with lots of excitement. The children have coped very well with the heat this week, it felt like we should be starting our summer holidays not beginning the start of term!

### Interviews

I had the pleasure this week of spending time with the Year 6 children. They were invited into my office and we had a mini interview! They were fabulous! Some of their responses to my questions demonstrated real maturity and thoughtfulness. We are extremely fortunate to have such a wonderful group of children in Year 6. The first question was 'What do you like most about yourself?' and one response was: 'I like that I get to be me!' When I asked: 'What is the most important rule?' a fantastic piece of advice was: 'Be yourself, because everyone else is taken!' At the end of the interview my final question was 'Do you have a question for me?' a child asked me: 'Is it difficult taking over from Miss Collins?' and my honest answer was 'Yes! But I have been very lucky that everyone, including Miss Collins, have made it much easier!' Thank you Year 6 for giving me the time to get to know you more.

### Head Boy and Head Girl

This morning during our assembly, the Head Boy and Head Girl for this term were announced by our Assistant Head, Mr Foster. Congratulations to Keoni and Abigail!

I spoke to all of Year 6 afterwards and said that it had been very close between all of the children. I am proud to say that every child congratulated Keoni and Abigail in true Holy Cross style. Well done to you all!

### Walking to School

If your child walks to school by themselves please can you make sure they are confident when they cross any roads and understand to STOP - WAIT, LOOK, LISTEN and then GO. We want to make sure that all of our lovely children take care and are safe at all times.

### Sleep

It is really important that now children are back into the school routine that they are all getting plenty of sleep so they are ready for the very busy day ahead of them. Guidance shows that children should be having between 10 - 12 hours sleep every night. Sleep is so important for all of us, so please encourage your children to get to bed nice and early!

### Uniform

The children have come back into School looking very smart, thank you for supporting your children to look their very best. However, there have been a growing number of children who have been wearing earrings into school. Children are not to wear any earrings to school nor are they to be covered with plasters or tape. I hope that all parents will work with me on this and ensure that all earrings are removed by Monday.

### Music curriculum: Artist of the Week

This week in class the children have been introduced to the work of Ludwig van Beethoven. As part of our music curriculum Mrs Ley has put a phenomenal amount of time and effort into creating some fabulous PowerPoints on a range of different musicians. Each week the children will be introduced to a new artist so over the course of the year they will, hopefully, be able to recognise the music of a wide range of different musicians! The PowerPoints will be put onto the website each week and I ask that you look at this wonderful learning resource with your child. My thanks to Mrs Ley who has spent many hours producing these and was also supported by Mr Foster.

### Secondary Transfer

Year 6 parents will have received an invitation to meet with me to discuss options on Secondary School places. I will be sending home a letter on Monday giving more details about the process. Please speak to myself or Mrs Wilson in the office if you have any other questions.

### New Reception Children

This week all of our lovely new Reception Class children have started their school career at Holy Cross. It is always emotional as a parent to see your gorgeous babies begin their school journey, but the wonderful Reception team are extremely experienced and are delighted with how well all of the children have settled in. We are looking forward to getting to know our new children and families even more over the coming months.



### Year 6 Performance

The performance from the lovely Year 6 class who left in July is now on our website. Please take time to watch 'We'll Meet Again', all of the children are a joy to watch. We miss the class very much but hope they have settled into their new schools and enjoying the challenge of secondary school.

### First Holy Communion

I had the opportunity this week to meet with Father Antony, he has asked that if your child is in Year 3 or above and is interested in making their First Holy Communion to please get in touch at [catfordfhc@caos.org.uk](mailto:catfordfhc@caos.org.uk) or 02086983672.

### Bank Holiday

At part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations we have all been given an extra bank holiday this year. At Holy Cross we will be taking this bank holiday on Monday 6 June 2022, immediately after the May half term break. Children will return to School on Tuesday 7 June.

### Head of School Awards

I am delighted to have been able to hand out my very first Head of School award this week.

Ashton in Year 6 for making a wonderful link between the book they are studying in class, *The Promise*, with the current situation in Afghanistan. He was so articulate and thoughtful when he explained the link that he had made. Well done Ashton!

### Achievements Outside of School

We had a lovely surprise this week when a lady came into the school to congratulate, and give an award to two children from Holy Cross. The two girls had participated in a drama holiday scheme over the summer and the lady said that she was so impressed with how fabulous they were that she just had to come in and tell us! Well done to Joyce in Year 4 and Grace in Year 6, we are so proud of you both!

### Unicef - Rights Respecting School

The focus for this week is Articles 12 and 13 - Pupil Voice. Every child has the right to express their thoughts, views and feelings and to have these considered and taken seriously. Please take some time to talk to your child about issues they think are important and to listen to their ideas.

[https://www.unicef.org/uk/rights-respecting-schools/resources/teaching-resources/guidance-assemblies-lessons/article-of-the-week/?utm\\_source=Unicef UK&utm\\_medium=Email&utm\\_campaign=email\\_rrs\\_a\\_campaign%20name](https://www.unicef.org/uk/rights-respecting-schools/resources/teaching-resources/guidance-assemblies-lessons/article-of-the-week/?utm_source=Unicef%20UK&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=email_rrs_a_campaign%20name)



### Clubs

Following Covid19 restrictions I am very pleased that our clubs and instrument lessons are able to restart week beginning 20 September. These will go live on Parentpay, over the weekend on a first come first served basis. Reception and KS1 children may sign up for one club and KS2

children may sign up for one club and one musical instrument lesson. Musical instrument lessons are limited due to the number of children continuing from last year. A club and music tuition timetable is attached in this week's newsletter mailout. If there are any spare spaces these will be detailed in next week's newsletter.

### Chocolate Friday for Going Above and Beyond!

Each week I will be giving out a lovely sweet treat reward to children who have gone above and beyond. This week the children who have really excelled are:

Reception	-	Stirling
Year 1	-	Matteo
Year 2	-	Nicole
Year 3	-	Chidera
Year 4	-	Chioma
Year 5	-	Kamsi
Year 6	-	Betsy

Many congratulations to them all.

### Dates for the Diary

Meet the Teacher for Reception to Year 6, on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September.

This will be via Teams.

Parents Evenings for the Autumn Term, Tuesday 19 4:30pm-7pm and

Thursday 21 October 3:30pm-6pm.

More details to follow on both of these events.

Have a fabulous weekend,

Catherine Mahony  
Head of School

### A message from Miss Collins

The children and staff are continuing an excellent start to the school year here at Holy Cross. It is a joy to be in School and see the exciting lessons, enthusiastic learning and feel the positivity of everyone. We feel that with continued effort and less disruption from Covid19 related issues, this will be a very successful year for us.

Mrs Mahony and I met with Fr Antony this week and have many exciting plans for the year ahead. From now, each week, you will receive the Parish

newsletter as well as our School newsletter. Parishioners will also receive the School newsletter. This is a simple but effective way of ensuring our Holy Cross community is aware of all that is going on.

As you will know, Covid19 is still a matter of concern across London boroughs and we want you as parents and carers to be clear that we are following all DfE and Lewisham guidance to keep our children safe and our School running as effectively as possible. In the event of positive cases of Covid19 in our School, NHS Test and Trace are in charge of ensuring those who are affected are informed. This is different from previously when the School was expected to lead on track and trace and is a change nationally, not just at our School. At Holy Cross we continue to promote hand hygiene and ventilate all areas of the School. As adults we can protect ourselves further by being vaccinated. Have you had your jab yet?

Thank you for your continued support, we are blessed to have such wonderful parents and carers at our lovely School. Have a lovely weekend.



*"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."*

*Eleanor Roosevelt*