

## Holy Cross School Newsletter

### Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had another busy but very productive week here at Holy Cross. We are a part of an organisation called Challenge Partners and for the first three days of this week we welcomed three visitors, from different schools across the country, into our lovely school. The review was a very positive experience, with different aspects of the School, that we are working so hard on, highlighted as strengths. The reviewers were full of praise for how articulate and confident the children are and how engaged they all were with their learning. It is always so encouraging to have other professionals comment so positively on the care, love and support that we show each other as a community, from pupils, staff and families. My thanks to the whole staff team who demonstrated, once again, that they really are the dream team!

### Mini Vinnie Commissioning Mass



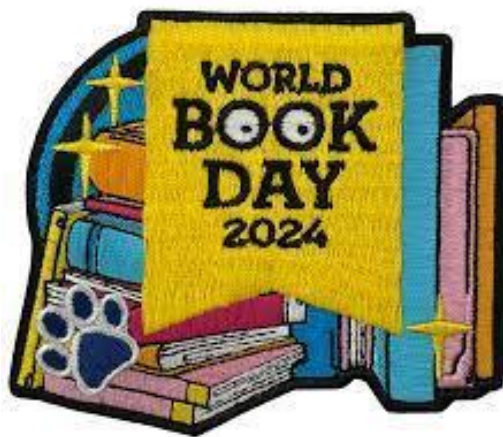
On Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March, the children from Year 5 will be joining with the Year 5 class from St Augustine's for the Mini Vinnie's Commissioning

Mass at Holy Cross Church at 11am. This will be a wonderful occasion and parents and carers are welcome to celebrate with us.

### Lenten Breakfast

It was lovely to see so many of you yesterday at Lenten breakfast. It really does bring the whole community together in a very special way. Thank you to Year 6 and all the parent helpers who ensured the event ran so smoothly. Can I ask that for future weeks you bring in coins or small change to buy your breakfasts, it really makes a big difference! Remember that children are only able to attend if they are accompanied by an adult. I look forward to seeing you next week for the special World Book Day breakfast!

### World Book Day



Next Thursday we will be celebrating World Book Day. Pupils are invited to dress up as their favourite book character for the day. The Children will take part in a parade around the KS1 playground from 9.15am, just after Lenten Breakfast. Parents and carers are welcome to join us for this wonderful event, my fingers are crossed for a dry morning!

Next Wednesday, we have an author visiting us as part of our World Book Day celebrations. An email with more information about this was sent out earlier this week.

### The Big Half



The Big Half is an annual half marathon event with a route beginning at Tower Bridge and finishing at the Cutty Sark in Greenwich. This year it will take place on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September. Places are usually £56 but we have been offered some places for just £15 each. If you would like a place please speak to Mrs Stoneham.

### Composer of the Week: The Beatles



This week, we have celebrated the iconic band, The Beatles, as our Composers of the Week. Hailing from Liverpool, The Beatles revolutionised the music industry with their innovative sound and timeless songs. From "Hey Jude" to "Let It Be," their melodies have left an indelible mark on generations of music lovers. With their unparalleled

creativity and cultural impact, The Beatles continue to inspire musicians around the world. Through listening to their music and learning about their journey, we have gained insight into the power of collaboration, creativity, and perseverance in achieving success.

Remember, to learn more about the composers that we are exploring in school visit the Music section of the school website.

### Basketball Tickets

There are still a few tickets available for the British Basketball League 2024 Playoff Finals which will be held on Sunday 19th May 2024 at The O2 in London. The tickets are usually £32 per adult or £25 per child but we have been offered them for £10 each.

This double bill finale sees the two top teams from the Men's and Women's British Basketball League end their season with a battle for the title along with other entertainment including dancers, MC's and music. Doors open at 12.30, the Women's Final is at 1:15 and the Men's Final is at 4:15.

If you would like to buy tickets they are available to purchase on ParentPay.

### The Big Walk and Wheel



The Big Walk and Wheel will take place from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March - Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March. This year, Sustrans, the organisers, are celebrating

being 15 years old! Walk, scoot, or cycle to school to promote a healthy life style as well as saving the planet and cutting down on local pollution and congestion. Your child will be bringing home a poster to design and return to school in the next few weeks. This could be your route to school. What do you notice on your route? How many trees, houses, parks or even unusual features? Make your posters as colourful as you like and there will be some prizes for the best ones.

### Book Bingo

I had the pleasure of spending time with these amazing children this week:

Reception:	-	Ethan
Year 1:	-	Amber
Year 2:	-	Nicole
Year 3:	-	Jason
Year 4:	-	Emily
Year 5:	-	Caoimhe
Year 6:	-	Francis

Well done to you all, your books are fabulous!

### Daffodil Competition

Remember to bring in your daffodils next Tuesday. They can either be brought into the classes or into the hall and placed on the tables. The Diamond Club, will be judging this competition. Prizes will be awarded to best in show and all entries will get a certificate.

## UNICEF Rights Respecting School



This week, our focus has been on Article 31, the importance of play, and how advocates like Cain Monroe are championing this fundamental right. Under the leadership of our Sports Captains, classes have collaborated to develop guidelines for maximising the use of our OPAL play equipment. Through this process, children are learning about the value of play and the role it plays in promoting well-being and social development.

As part of their homework, students are tasked with creating a new game that can be enjoyed during lunchtime and breaktime, utilising the available space and equipment. Please submit your game ideas to the class UNICEF Ambassadors so that we can share your fantastic ideas with the school during our next UNICEF assembly. Let's work together to foster a culture of play and inclusivity at our school!

## Head of School Awards

Ben in Year 5 for a wonderful collage using recycled materials.

Jude in Year 4 for fabulous presentation in his Maths book.

Oleks in Year 4 for an amazing collage of a bird, it is simply stunning!

Maison, David and Timaeus in Year 3 for brilliant homework posters  
- well done!

Nancy in Year 1 for sharing some brilliant ideas and thoughts during  
RE lessons.

Mila in Nursery for fantastic independent writing.

What superstars! Well done to you all!

### Chocolate Award for Going Above and Beyond

Reception	-	Jason
Year 1	-	Remo
Year 2	-	Paari
Year 3	-	Maison
Year 4	-	Asbon
Year 5	-	Caoimhe
Year 6	-	Oriah

Well done for going above and beyond this week.

Have a lovely weekend, let's hope it stops raining!

Catherine Mahony

Head of School

### Message from Miss Collins:

It has been a fabulously celebratory week here at Holy Cross! As Mrs Mahony explained, Challenge Partners have been in to review our lovely School and they were, quite rightly, extremely impressed. Reviewers saw

the behaviour and manners of our children being a huge strength of the School. They also loved the learning environments and thought that we promoted reading very well with displays and books looking interesting and inviting. The teaching that was observed was described as superb showing an enjoyment and a breadth of learning building up during a child's years at Holy Cross. Overall, we were delighted, it is great when the hard work and talent of our team is recognised and the brilliance of our children is noted.

As we finished our review on Wednesday lunch time I rushed up to St. Augustine's who started their review on Wednesday afternoon! Needless to say, I am ready for the weekend!

Happy Friday everyone!

5.3.24	Mini Vinnies Commissioning Mass at 11am in Holy Cross Church Daffodil Competition
7.3.24	World Book Day
8.3.24	International Women's Day
15.3.24	Year 2 Class Assembly at 9.15am
27.3.24	Easter Bonnet Parade at 2.45pm Passion Play at 6.30pm
28.3.24	School finishes at 2pm for Easter
15.4.24	School starts at 8.45am
24.4.24	Class Photo Day
26.4.24	Year 1 Class Assembly at 9.15am
3.5.24	Year 5 Class Mass at 10am
17.5.24	Year 2 Class Trip to the Ragged Museum
24.5.24	Crowning of Mary at 2pm led by Year 3
27.5.24	Start of Half Term
3.6.24	Inset Day
4.6.24	Schools starts at 8.45am
19.6.24	Reception Class. Assembly at 9.15am



28.6.24	Year 3 Class Mass Big Summer Sing
4.7.24	Year 1 and 2 Beach Trip
16.7.24	Year 6 Performance at 6.30am
22.7.24	Leavers Mass at 1.45pm
23.7.24	School finishes at 2pm