



## Holy Cross School Newsletter

### Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely to finally see the sun this week, if only for a brief time! On Monday I thought the rain would never stop! We have had a busy week here with lots of learning and activities going on, we are gearing up to the final two weeks of term and our final Lenten activities will be taking place.

### Year 2 Class Assembly



Today we had the pleasure of watching the Year 2 class assembly. They performed brilliantly and retold the story of Superworm which links to their science topic about animals' plants and their habitats. It was a really joyful and uplifting assembly and certainly put a big smile on my face. The music really brought the whole assembly to life, I still have the buzz, buzz song buzzing around my mind! My thanks to Mrs Davey and Mrs Ley for all your hard work and efforts behind the scenes.



### Poetry Reading with the Diamond Club

Year 5 joined with the Diamond Club on Monday to belatedly celebrate International Women's Day. They shared poetry from inspirational female figures, such as Maya Angelou, Emily Dickenson, and Elisabeth Eybers. The children also had the pleasure of enjoying a performance of "Warning" by Jenny Joseph, delivered by a member of The Diamond Club. This event not only highlighted the significance of International Women's Day but also showcased the strong connections between our School and the local community, fostering bonds and mutual appreciation across generations. Thank you to Lesley and all of the lovely Diamonds!



### Reception Class Trip

Today our lovely Reception Class went for a visit to Moon Lane Book Store. They all enjoyed getting the bus, looking around the bookshop and having a story telling sessions. My thanks to all the parents and carers who went on this trip enabling our lovely children to have this wonderful opportunity.

### Easter Bonnet Parade

On Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March we will be holding our annual Easter Bonnet Parade in the KS1 playground at 2.45pm. All children are invited to bring in and wear an Easter bonnet made at home. I have attached some ideas below to get you started when you are making yours over the next few weeks but we do welcome new and creative ideas - in fact all entries are welcomed! We will also be singing our brilliant Easter bonnet song, we hope you are able to join us with a full voice!



### Swimming Gala

Last Friday ten of our Year 5 and 6 children took part in a swimming gala. They all did brilliantly and we even had some winners in the races, which were highly competitive. Well done to the entire team who demonstrated fabulous team spirit and to Mrs Manning and Mrs Downton who were the most enthusiastic cheerleaders!

## Composer of the Week: Ethel Smyth



This week, we celebrate Ethel Smyth as our Composer of the Week. Smyth was a pioneering composer, suffragette, and champion of women's rights. Her works, including the opera "The Wreckers" and the choral work "The March of the Women," reflect her passion for social justice and equality. Smyth's music broke barriers and paved the way for future generations of female composers.

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

## Lenten Breakfast

We only have two more Lenten breakfasts left before the end of term. Yesterday was extremely busy which was wonderful to see. We are very fortunate that we are supported by the Year 6 parents, staff and governors to make this possible, although I am not sure that Mrs Santhokhy or myself will be getting a permanent job cooking toast any time soon! All monies raised will go to Cancer Research, a charity chosen by Year 6. If you haven't been able to join us yet, it would be lovely to see you next week.

## The Big Walk and Wheel

Thank you to everyone who is taking part in our Big Walk and Wheel Challenge. We are doing amazingly well so far and have already



qualified for a Gold Badge! Let's see if we can be even better next week and make that extra special effort to either walk, scoot or cycle. If you have to drive, then maybe park a few roads away and walk the rest. Let's all try to improve the quality of the air around us and make our local area safer for all.

### Book Bingo

Year 1	-	Ronan
Year 2	-	Kyrie
Year 3	-	Kymani
Year 4	-	Noah
Year 5	-	Jayden
Year 6	-	Faith

### UNICEF Rights Respecting School



This week, we commemorated International Women's Day, celebrating the achievements and contributions of women worldwide. As part of our UNICEF focus, we reflected on Article 2 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, emphasizing the importance of non-discrimination and equal rights for all children. During our UNICEF assembly we learned more about some of the female figures that changed our world, in particular the suffragette Emelyn Pankhurst.

In honour of this day, our UNICEF homework is to create a poster highlighting an influential female figure in their lives. Let's recognize and honour the remarkable women who inspire us and advocate for gender equality every day.

### Head of School Awards

Ryszard in Year 4 for fabulous research about the Cutty Sark.

Chloe and Alyssa in Year 6 for exceptional work in RE, the quality of writing is amazing!

How fabulous! Well done to you all!!

### Chocolate Award for Going Above and Beyond

Reception	-	Oliver
Year 1	-	Eireann
Year 2	-	Kyrie
Year 3	-	Moya
Year 4	-	Sebastian
Year 5	-	Gabby
Year 6	-	Eilish

What superstars, well done to you all.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Catherine Mahony

Head of School

### Message from Miss Collins:

I can see that it has been a very busy week at Holy Cross, unfortunately I have only been here for one day! I was visiting two other schools as part of our Challenge Partners work, one School in Gravesend and one in Kings Cross. It is always fascinating to see other schools and learn from the experience of other leaders as well as sharing the great practice at Holy Cross.

I also met this week with the Headteachers from Catholic schools in Lewisham. We are a very collaborative group and it was interesting to discuss the successes each of us enjoy as well as the challenges we all face. Finance is the biggest issue we face currently, a reduction in budgets has made our schools very hard to run. We work so hard for the good of our children but could do so much more to help with improved finance.

I hope that you all enjoy a wonderful weekend - I'm hoping for sunshine as I am fed up with the rain!

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