

Message from Mrs Dowdeswell

Well, the first term has almost been and gone...how did that happen?!

The children have continued to settle well into the routine of school life, and it is wonderful to witness how the children in our reception classes are becoming more confident and independent with each day that passes. I think the old adage 'they grow up so quickly' is never more fitting than when they first begin school and you see them blossom and grow!

We say goodbye to some members of staff this term. The first is Miss Cooper, an amazing Learning Support Partner in Year 3, who is leaving us to become a full-time mummy to her wonderful little boy, Denver. The second is Mrs Gomes who leaves us to spend more time with her daughters who live in Goa and Australia – enjoy those holidays and the sun Maria! And thirdly, Ms Michienzi begins her maternity leave. We wish Ms Michienzi a safe delivery and cannot wait to meet the new arrival!

My thanks go to each of these staff members for all the support they have given to the children of Holy Cross Catholic Primary School and I wish them all the very best for the future.

The children have been busy in their learning and I am pleased to advise that all classes have produced Topic Webs to share details of subject coverage with you. These will be produced during Parents' Evenings (if not before) and will enable you to share in your child's learning experience and also help you to support your child's learning at home. We hope you find these useful ☺

Parents' Evenings

Myself and the staff are looking forward to meeting each of you at our Parents' Evenings and the sessions are now available to book through SchoolPing.

There will be the opportunity for children to play in the hall whilst you are attending the meeting with the class teacher and an adult will be supervising this facility.

With rising living costs, I know that times are tricky for many of us at the moment; therefore, during both evenings, there will be an opportunity to see if you may be eligible to receive free school meals and funding for the school through the pupil premium. A member of the office staff will also be available to answer any questions regarding this and also any queries you might have regarding ParentPay, PFA etc.

Thank you for your ongoing support. God bless.

Mrs Dowdeswell

"Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase the store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness." 2 Corinthians 9:10



Learn, Grow, Love, Live

Harvest



We are so happy to be able to hold our Harvest Mass at Holy Rood Church on Sunday 16th October at 5:30pm. All children are to attend in full school uniform. Year 5 children will be leading this Mass and we ask the children from Aspen and Alder to arrive no later than 5:10pm. Other than Year 5 pupils who will be sat at the front of the church with teaching staff, children will sit with their families. There will be a second collection during the evening for the Clifton Diocese Schools Project. This project reaches out to thousands of young people and their families in South-Western Uganda and aims to provide independent water resources for schools in the area. We look forward to seeing you at church.

All Saints Mass

Friday 4th November the children will be celebrating All Saints Mass as a whole school. We welcome Canon John who shall be leading this celebration.



Year 5 trip to Richard Jefferies Museum

The pupils in Aspen and Alder enjoyed a visit to the Richard Jefferies Museum to celebrate the end of a month-long event called Small Change. The event encouraged people to make small changes in their lives to help the environment and this supported the children's RE learning on stewardship. The children learnt that Nature Can Provide - including the materials to make houses, tools and food. The children walked there and back - 2 miles each way - and many surprised themselves that they could walk so far: well done Year 5!

National Poetry Day

The children have all learnt or written a poem to celebrate National Poetry Day and many of these have been shared during our celebration assembly. The Year 4 children performed a fantastic poem called 'Please Mrs Butler' which the audience found very funny 😊 Videos will be uploaded to our website.



Jewellery

We are still seeing many children wearing jewellery to school, including earrings that are sealed. In line with the school uniform policy and for health and safety reasons, jewellery is not allowed to be worn in school. In the case of sealed earrings, these will need to have the seal broken and be removed from the ears please.

Parents and Friends Association (PFA)

Sadly, we had very few people register their interest in joining the PFA. If you have any questions about this please speak to one of the members of staff during Parents' Evening: it would be wonderful for our children if we could get this up and running as it is a great way of raising funds for the school.

Learn, Grow, Love, Live

Dates for your diary

October	Black History Month
Sunday 16 th October 5:30pm	Harvest Mass at Holy Rood Church
November	
Friday 4 th November	All Saints-Mass in school
Tuesday 8 th November	Parents' Evening
Thursday 10 th November	Parent's Evening
Monday 14 th November	Anti-bullying Week
Tuesday 15 th November	Coffee afternoon for parents of children with SEN.
Friday 18 th November	Odd Socks Day
Friday 25 th November	Advent Mass in school
Monday 28 th November	TD Day – school closed to pupils
December	
Wednesday 14 th December	Panto day!
Thursday 15 th December	Christmas lunch
Friday 16 th December	Christmas Mass in school



COFFEE AFTERNOON

Are you a parent or carer of a child with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities?

Please come along to meet the Swindon SEND Families Voice team to find out what we do!

Location: Holy Cross Primary School
Date: Tuesday 15th November 2022
Time: 14:00-15:00

Swindon SEND Families Voice

Open Mornings

There is an opportunity for prospective new parents to meet the fantastic staff and pupils at Holy Cross Catholic Primary School, and to have a tour of the wonderful facilities we have on offer to our students.

I am pleased to advise that the school will be holding open day sessions at the following times:

Wednesday 16th November 9:15am – 10:00am

Wednesday 23rd November 9:15am – 10:00am

Monday 5th December 1:45pm – 2:30pm

Monday 12th December 1:45 – 2:30pm

Visits must be by appointment and arranged via our admin team: admin@holycross.swindon.sch.uk



Parent Governor Vacancy

Would you like to see Holy Cross Catholic Primary School grow and develop in the best interests of our children?

Would you like to play your part in this?

Then please think about becoming a Parent Governor – there's more information on the School's website.

Closing date for nominations: Wednesday 19th October 2022.



Have a wonderful half term break and we will see you on Monday 31st October for the start of Term 2 ☺

Thank you as always for your ongoing support and for working together with myself and the staff to provide the very best education for your children.

The Holy Cross Mission

At Holy Cross Catholic Primary School,

We learn about ourselves and about the world.

We grow in faith,

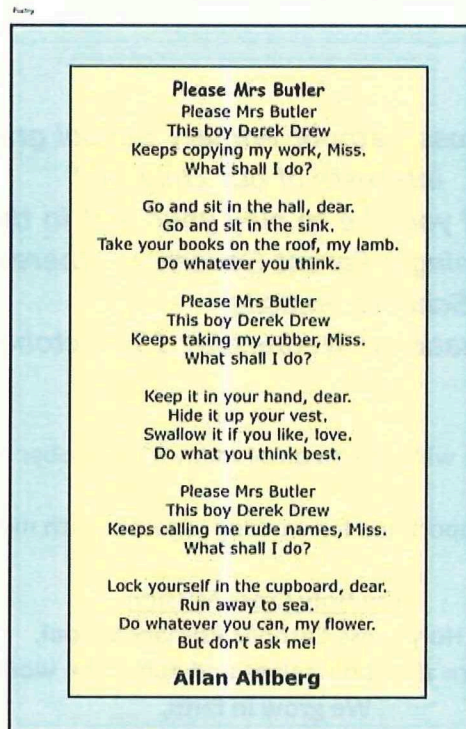
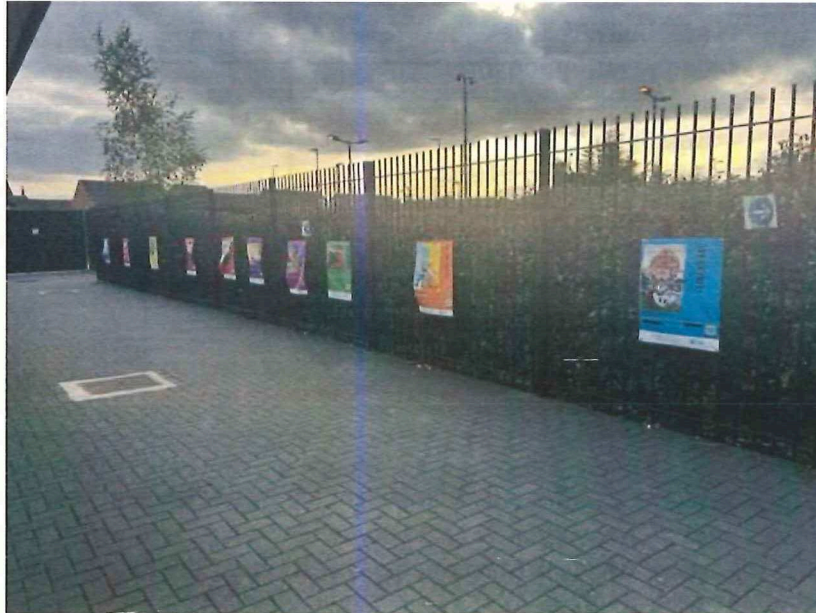
We act with kindness, generosity and love to ourselves and others.

We live life to the full and have a future full of hope.

Learn, Grow, Love, Live

Art Gallery

We have been very lucky to have been offered the opportunity to display some wonderful art from Swindon Museum and Art Gallery. The gallery has provided us with large banners displaying work from the Swindon Collection of Modern Art. The children have had the opportunity to go and visit the gallery during their art lessons and it has been lovely to hear them discussing what they've liked about the different pieces.



Learn, Grow, Love, Live