

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2023, and I wish you all a happy and healthy 2023.

I know not everybody had an easy Christmas and for those who have suffered illness, loss or the break-up of a relationship over the festive period, please know that I hold you in my thoughts and prayers. Whilst I know it can be upsetting to come in and speak about such issues, it does mean that we can support your children at a difficult time whilst they are trying to understand changes that are happening within the family home. Please be assured that I am always here for you to speak to and that I am not here to judge – I will simply do all I can to support both yourself and your child(ren).



The staff and pupils are very excited to begin our new phonics scheme this term. As a school, we made the decision to move to Little Wandle some time ago and have been busily attending staff training and preparing resources so that we were fully ready to support the children from the beginning of this term. There is definitely a Little Wandle buzz around the building and we are all keen to start our Little Wandle journey. Thank you to all those who attended the phonics workshops – the resources provided for parents through Little Wandle are excellent and make it a lot easier for parents and staff to work together to support children to become fantastic readers. If you would like to learn more about Little Wandle or need any help in supporting your child to read at home then please do have a look at the parents page on their website <https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

I have some very exciting news to share with you about our website! After spending a lot of time looking for a company to completely redesign our school website, I am pleased to say that work will be starting on this very shortly. Whilst we are in the process of moving things from the old to the new, there might be some pages that might not be available. If you are unable to find something you are looking for, please do contact the office and they will be happy to assist you. I cannot wait to be able to share the new website with you as soon as it is ready! Exciting times! 😊

Thank you as always for your ongoing support.

Mrs Dowdeswell

Mini Police

Mini Police is a fantastic opportunity provided by our local police force for children to learn more about the excellent job the police do within our communities. Some of the students of Holy Cross Catholic Primary School recently enjoyed a mini police session with PCSOs Phillips, Ignao and Coleman and special guests PC Dougherty and PC Nash. The students learnt about police equipment, vehicles, the phonetic alphabet and practised radio use. The next visit will include the police dogs so that children can see what an amazing support the animals are to their humans!



Learn, Grow, Love, Live



Special Lunch Day

The children are very excited about our special lunch day. 😊 We encourage you to allow your child to have a hot lunch on 19th January so that they can enjoy the hotdogs or burgers with their friends. If you have not yet booked, please call the office as soon as possible if you wish to arrange this lunch for your child.



American Theme Menu

Hot Dog & fries served with ketchup
OR
Veggie Burger & fries served with ketchup

19th January 2023



Celebration Assembly



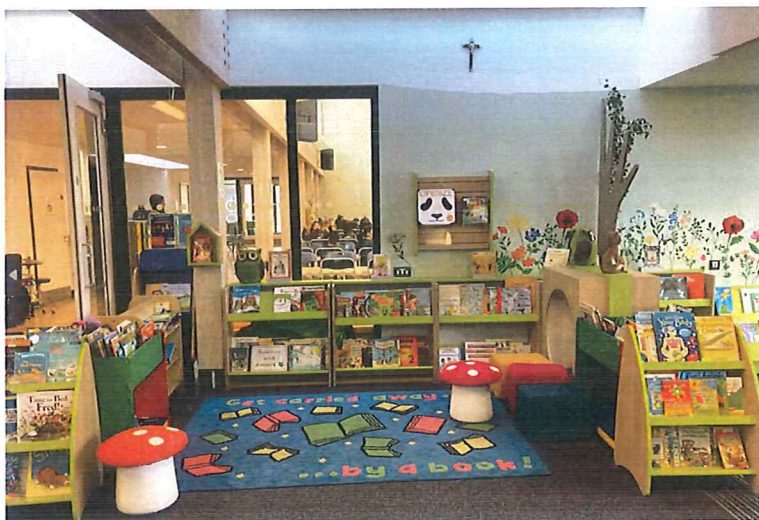
Every Friday the school holds a special assembly where we come together as a whole school to celebrate the children's achievements. One of the awards given is the Certificate of Excellence, and from next term we would like to invite the parents of children receiving this award to come in and attend the assembly so that they can share their child's special moment. Presently, the children never know who has been awarded the certificate until their name is called out during the assembly itself. To keep this a surprise, we would be grateful if you would not tell your child if you get an invite as it would be lovely for your son/daughter to see you when they walk into the hall without having any idea that they have won the award for that week. We will call parents on a Wednesday to invite them to attend on the Friday at 2:30pm – but please **DO NOT TELL YOUR CHILDREN YOU WILL BE THERE.** 😊

Learn, Grow, Love, Live



PFA

We are looking at arranging a school disco for the children and would welcome volunteers to help us organise this. Please do speak to your class teacher if you would be willing to help out at such an event as it will be great fun for the children and will also raise much-needed funds for the school. The Christmas Fayre was such a success and this was mostly down to the excellent army of volunteers we had on the day. Please, please do put your name forward if you are able to help.

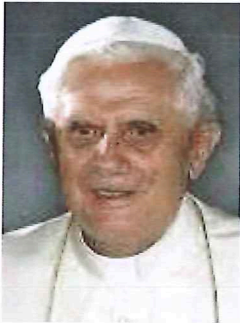


Reading

During these cold and wet winter months, what better way to spend time than snuggled up with your child sharing a book. We have two lovely libraries within the school and all children bring home a library book to share with their families. Those of you with older children will know that time soon passes and before you know it, the opportunity to share such special moments have passed.

Why not spend some time this weekend sharing a book with your child? ☺

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We were sad to hear of the passing of Pope Benedict XVI who was the leader of the Catholic church from 2005 until his resignation in 2013. Pope Francis called him a gift to the church, describing him as a noble and kind man. RIP Pope Benedict XVI.

Children in Y3 – Y6 continue to walk to Holy Rood Church on a Thursday morning to celebrate Mass at 9:15am. Parents and families are more than welcome to join us at the church.

January dates for your diary

- Tues 17/1 TalentEd maths tutoring sessions begin and will continue every Tuesday
- Thurs 26/1 Mini Police activity with police dog
- Mon 30/1 Internet safety children's workshop KS2
- Tues 31/1 Internet safety children's workshop KS2
- Thurs 9/2 Wiltshire air ambulance awareness training Yr5 and Yr6

A New Year's Prayer

Lord, You make all things new
You bring hope alive in our hearts
And cause our Spirits to be born again.

Thank you for this new year
For all the potential it holds.
Come and kindle in us
A mighty flame
So that in our time, many will see the wonders of God
And live forever to praise Your glorious name.

Amen

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