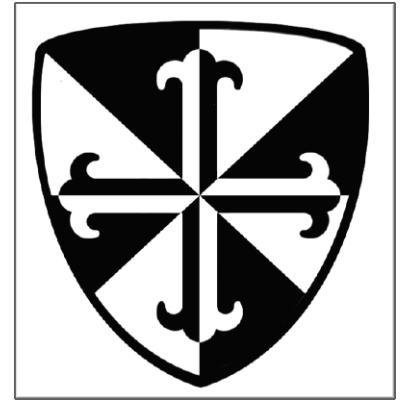


Holy Cross Catholic Primary School

Stonesby Avenue, Leicester, LE2 6TY

www.holycross.leicester.sch.uk T: 0116 283 3135



Upcoming Events

Wednesday 6th March –
9:30am Ash Wednesday
Liturgy

11th -15th March – National
Science Week

18th – 22nd March – British
Values Week: Rule of Law

**Monday 25th to Wednesday
27th March** – Y5 PGL
residential trip

Thursday 28th March -
9:15am Nursery & Reception
Mothers' Day Liturgy - N/R
parents' welcome

Friday 29th March –
Reception/Y2 random
dental checks

Wednesday 3rd April – N/R
farm trip

Tuesday 9th April – whole
school **art & craft** afternoon
- **all parents welcome**

15th - 26th April – **EASTER
HOLIDAY**

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely to welcome some new families to our school in recent weeks. I know that you will join us in making them feel included in our school community. We are truly blessed to have a very rich and diverse community with people coming together from all sorts of backgrounds and places. At Holy Cross Catholic School, everyone is welcome!

Our programme of Family Learning continues to be a success. We always get very good feedback from those who attend. On Wednesday this week, we started a five week course: Cooking on a Budget – it's not too late to join in so, if you would like to, please come along.

Attached to this letter is the information with regard to the parent governor elections. Governors play an important role in working with school staff and the St Thomas Aquinas Catholic multi-Academy Trust in ensuring that the school is run smoothly for the benefit of the children. Please take time to consider standing for this role. Thank you.

Ms Gail Neill, Head Teacher

E-safety

Recently, there have been a number of news reports raising concerns about children's safety in the online world. In December, the children had a show at school called 'Internet Legends' which reminded them of how to stay safe online and what to do if they came across something that made them uncomfortable. The children receive regular reminds in school about e-safety in their ICT and other lessons.



Internet Safety - Advice for Parents

Advice for parents can be found online on all sorts of topics around supporting children to use the internet safely, responsibly and positively. For example, www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers or www.getsafeonline.org/safeguarding-children which gives useful advice for parents about what is appropriate for children aged 6-9 years old and also children aged 10-14 years.



The main thing is to ensure that parental controls are in place and that parents are around when children are using devices. Parents are advised to be sure they check the age limits for social media and other sites. *Did you know the age limit for WhatsApp is now 16 years old, and for Facebook and Instagram it's 13 years.*

Free School Meals – thank you for registering!

Thank you to those parents who are eligible to apply for FREE SCHOOL MEALS for doing so. If you have not done so yet, please could I encourage you to do so. This includes parents of children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 register with the local authority even though the children already receive free meals automatically.



This is because the school receives quite a substantial amount of additional money for these **Pupil Premium** children who are eligible for free school meals, but we can only access it if the child is officially registered with the City Council. We use this money to fund additional staff and to subsidise trips, special activity days, school uniform, and so on. To register you should apply online at <https://freeschoolmeals.leicester.gov.uk> or call **0116 454 1009**. Make sure you have your **national insurance number** when you call/apply.

Parent Event – Art and Craft Afternoon, 9th April



As you know from my last newsletter, Holy Cross School is part of a group of local schools working on developing resilience in learning and in life through building 'character muscles' such as good **teamwork, friendship, perseverance, determination, inclusiveness**, and so on. In learning more explicitly about what these things look and feel like the children will be empowered to build and maintain more positive attitude to learning and life. As part of this, we are hosting an **art and craft open afternoon event for parents**, so that you can come along and find out more. Parents are invited to come into school to take part in some art and craft activities with your children in their classes. Hot Cross Buns and Tea/Coffee will also be provided.



Applications for Nursery – September 2019

We are currently taking applications for our Nursery starting September. If you have a child who will be three years old by 31st August 2019, then please do pick up an application from the school office. If you know anyone who would like a place, please encourage them to apply. The Nursery is open five mornings a week from 8:55am to 12 noon.

Concerns and complaints

Our aim is to resolve any problems that may arise from time to time as quickly as possible. Please speak to Ms Neill if you have a worry or complaint. The school complaints procedure is available on the school website.