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Holy Cross Primary School Newsletter

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September 2017 – Play Edition

Dear Parents and Carers,

Play supports the development of social skills and collaboration. It stimulates physical activity and the development of important physical competencies. It encourages creativity, imagination and problem solving. When children have access to natural spaces for play, it fosters a sense of close connection with and respect for, nature. At Holy Cross Primary, we recognise the importance of play in children’s learning and development.

**Holy Cross Day of Play**

**Friday 15th September** will be **Holy Cross Day of Play**. Events across the school will be dedicated to play based learning. You are invited to attend any of the **outdoor play events** on the day. Please find attached a timetable for your child’s class. We also ask that the children be sponsored to participate in the events, with all money raised dedicated to resources and experiences to enhance children’s play based learning.

Thank you for your on-going support.

Claire Gray

Head Teacher

**316 Calder Street**

**Govanhill**

**Glasgow**

**G42 7NH**

**Tel: 0141 423 2538**

**School website:**

www.holycross-pri.glasgow.sch.uk

**Twitter:**

@HolyCrossPri

**Class blogs**

[**https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/**](https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/)

**gc/holycrosspr/**

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Fuel Zone

Lunch from the school’s Fuel Zone is available at £1.90. Menus are available online and on our school website.

If your child was eligible for free school meals last year this arrangement will continue until October. This will be automatically renewed unless your circumstances have changed.

Please remember that children in P1 – 3 receive free school meals, however children in P4 – P7 would have to apply.

Forms are available in the school office or online at

www.glasgow.gov.uk

**Absence Procedures**

Please phone the Hub on 0141 287 0039 before 9.00am to inform us of your child’s absence. If we have not heard from you we will be required to text you.

Unless children are having a home lunch they are not allowed to leave school. We would appreciate being informed of any dental/doctor appointments in advance of your child being collected from school. In this way we can ensure your child is ready for you when you arrive.

Please avoid taking holidays during term time. Any term time absences must be discussed with the Headteacher in advance.

School Holiday

School will close at 3.05pm on Thursday 21st September and re-open at 8.50am on Tuesday 26th September.

**Attendance and Late coming**

Please ensure your child attends school every day. Along with good attendance, punctuality plays a vital role in helping your child achieve success in his/her learning. Please ensure your child is at school on time. The school doors open at 8.50am to ensure all children are ready for their lessons at 9am. As well as ensuring your child arrives on time it is equally important that children are collected on time at the end of the school day. **P1 and P2 finish school at 3pm** and **P3 – P7 finish at 3.05pm**.





School Uniform

I am delighted at the number of children coming to school in full school uniform and I thank you for your support in this vision. Shirts and ties should be worn every day, with children changing in to yellow polo shirts for PE. Ties are available to purchase in the school office.

**Please label all items of school uniform with your child’s name…591 ties all look the same!**

**School Improvement Plan**

As part of the cycle for improving our school, we identify several areas for improvement through self-evaluation. Parent feedback, questionnaires, pupil voice and staff moderation informs our areas for school improvement. In session 2017- 2018 we will be taking forward the following areas for improvement.

* Glasgow’s Improvement Challenge - Reading into Writing
* Pastoral Care
* Play and Family Learning
* Digital Learning
* Responsive Planning

Feast of the Holy Cross

**Primary 2 – 7 will be attending Mass on Thursday 14th September 2017 at 9.30am to celebrate our school Feast Day. If your child is in P1 and you wish your child to attend Mass, please contact me at the school. All parents and carers are welcome to attend and your help in escorting the children to and from Mass would be greatly appreciated. If you would prefer your child not to attend Mass, please bring your child to school at 10.30am.**

**God’s Loving Plan**

At our recent Meet the Teacher event there was an opportunity for parents to find out about our relationship education programme. **God’s Loving Plan** provides guidance to Primary Schools on how children can be helped to develop healthy and respectful attitudes to their bodies and to relationships with families and friends.  This important resource connects children’s learning about who they are and how they relate to others, to their learning about God and their relationship in faith.   It helps children to understand how love can be at the heart of their lives. Leaflets providing more information were issued at our recent Meet the Teacher event, and are available in the school office should you require further information.

Promoting Positive Behaviour

Respect Me

Over the week of 18 – 21 September we will be re-launching our Respect Me Policy and enhancing our Promoting Positive Behaviour programme. In addition to our Class of the Month Awards, the children will be encouraged to achieve personal awards, head teacher awards and class based awards which we hope they will share with you at home. All awards and recognition will be based around our school motto **Curamus – We Care** and our overarching rule of Respect. In June 2017 we celebrated our first winners of the Curamus Cup. Over the coming week, the children will be treated to a play by Hopscotch Theatre Company on The Rights of the Child, they will be aiming to achieve a Golden Curamus Ticket for individual effort and I look forward to meeting our newly appointed pupil voice committees. An exciting week ahead!