



Newsletter - Autumn 1 28.9.26

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Colder, wetter weather is creeping in. Please make sure your children are coming in with a coat on a daily basis. It is important that all coats, hats etc have your child's name inside so that we can return any mislaid items to their owners quickly.

Catholic Life

Class Mass is now being held in church every Thursday morning at 10am unless notified differently (we sometimes have special events that are on the same day). We would love to see you join us. Year 4 will be leading the Mass this Thursday as there will be no swimming.

On Monday 5th October we will be celebrating St. Francis' 800th anniversary. Our Head Pupils will be attending a Trust Mass at English Martyrs (our Trust headquarters) and representing our school by leading the prayers of Intercession.

On Monday 5th, our Year 2 class will also lead a special assembly about St. Francis, here in the school hall. Year 2 parents and carers are welcome to attend. Assembly starts at 2:30pm.

Harvest Festival collection

On 8th October, Year 3 will celebrate the Harvest Festival here in school by holding a special assembly. As a school, we like to collect donations from our school, that we can donate to a local cause. From Monday 5th October, please send in any in-date tinned food, toiletries, pasta (or other dried goods) and we will make sure they go to help others in our local community.

British Values

Well done to our new student council members, who have been voted in to their new roles. Our student council will make important decisions about school, such as which charities we will support, what new playground toys they would like and what they might sell at their fair-trade treats. On the 7th October, our student council will host several other central Blackpool primary school councils when we gather as The Blackpool Symposium, working together to shape Blackpool for the better.

PC Ben is back with us this year to work with Year 5 and 6 on the letter of the law and being good citizens. He will lead afternoon sessions with both year groups.

Enrichment

Year 3 had a superb time being archaeologists at Bring 'Yer Wellies last Friday and Year 5 enjoyed being historians at Blackpool Tower on Monday. Year 6 will enjoy learning how to be an author next Friday at Anchorsholme, when they meet author Jessica Townsend. Books are available to buy on MCAS.

Stanley Park

Recently, we have been fortunate to be involved in a number of special centenary events at the Park. We were very lucky to meet The Duke of Edinburgh and this week we will go to sing at the Park. As part of Stanley Park's 100th birthday celebrations, there's a full weekend of events on 2nd and 3rd October. On Saturday 3rd, Celestial will light up the sky with a proper drone show over the boating lake. Why not walk down and enjoy the free show?

Admissions

Applications for secondary school places for SEPTEMBER 2027 must be made before 31st October 2026. It is very important that you apply before the deadline and express your choice. If you fail to do so, you may be allocated a school that is far from your home.

Primary places for Reception Class SEPTEMBER 2027 must be made before 15th January 2026. Please notify and friends and families with children that are due to start next year. Our open evening is 12.10.26, 3:30-6pm

The on-line application system is available at www.blackpool.gov.uk/schooladmissions

Attendance

Attendance is hugely important in school. Any days off school not only missed mean lost learning but also chance to develop friendships and soft skills such as sharing, teamwork and resilience. Even just 5 days off over the course of the year is equivalent to 25 lessons missed, 5 lunchtimes and playtimes with friends. Please try to book holidays in our breaks – we purposefully offer a two week break in May to ensure parents can access cheaper prices.

Sickness - If your child is feeling a little icky, please let us know, but mild symptoms such as colds or sniffles should not stop your child being in school. If you are not sure whether your child should be in school, check NHS guidance for common illnesses and let us know as soon as possible.

If your child is struggling to come into school, please speak to Miss Deegan, our Learning Mentor, who can suggest small changes that might help.

Staff and Parent communication

We appreciate that sometimes children may tell parents and carers things that are worrying them once they get home. Although messages are sent during the evening on our communication platforms, please be aware that staff will only be able to respond in their working hours and this will likely be the following day.

Further to this, we operate a zero-tolerance policy to abusive language and behaviour towards staff. We strive to deal with all of our families with respect and hope this is how we are treated to also. Steps can be taken if parents/carers demonstrate behaviour and/or language that makes staff feel threatened.

Allergies

Please could all parents avoid sending in biscuits etc in packed lunches that contain nuts. We have children in school with severe nut allergies. Thank you for your support.

Mary's Meals

On Friday 16th October, we will be having a non-uniform day and would like to ask for a donation of £1 to be made on MCAS to go to Mary's Meals. If you would like to donate more, then please do. See their website for more details:

www.marysmeals.org.uk/feed-a-school

Use of trim trails

A polite reminder that children do not have permission to use the school trim trail before or after school. School will not be held responsible for any incidents that occur due to the unauthorised use of the equipment.

Uniform

Trainers should only be worn on PE days.

Earrings should be plain studs only, no hearts, stars, dangly ones or hoops and these need to be removed on PE days.

Boys' hair should be smart - no shaved lines or be less than a no.2 cut. Girls should tie long hair back.

1.10.26	Year 4 leading Mass @10am in Holy Family Church – all welcome
2.10.26	Stanley Park 100-year anniversary event – children involved will be notified
5.10.26	Harvest donations to be sent into school – tins, dried goods or toiletries – thank you! St. Francis Mass for Head Pupils at English Martyrs 10am Year 2 class assembly at 2:30pm in school
8.10.26	Year 3 leading Harvest celebrations @ 2:15pm
9.10.26	Year 6 trip to Anchorsholme Author event
15.10.26	Year 6 pilgrimage to Ladyewell shrine
16.10.26	Non Uniform day - £1 donation to Mary's Meals
22.10.26	Year 2 leading Mass @10am in Holy Family Church – all welcome
23.10.26	Reception class breakfast 8:30am Close for half term 3:15pm

