

Dear Parents and carers,

As we approach the end of a busy half term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support throughout the Autumn Term. Looking at all the posts on the school's Facebook page, it is wonderful to see the vast range of opportunities the children have had, along with so many occasions for our families to be involved in school events.

A huge thank you to our lovely children who are great ambassadors for Holy Rosary primary school. They continue to make me smile every day with their enthusiasm, courtesy and genuine kindness. It is a pleasure to be around them.

Thank you for your continued support with fundraising events that have taken place this term; without such events, we would not be able to offer all of the extended opportunities to our children. Mission Christmas is the annual campaign for the charity 'Cash for Kids' and all donations go to families in need, here in the North East. Without your kindness and generosity, some children may not have received anything at all for Christmas, thank you for your amazing donations.

I would also like to say a huge thank you to all of the staff who work at Holy Rosary, not only for their incredible hard work, but for their dedication to the children and the families who belong to our school community. I see, first-hand, how they go above and beyond what is required of them each and every day, and I feel very lucky to work with such committed and passionate teachers. In a time where so much is expected of those working in education, the staff at Holy Rosary continue to work hard for the good of everyone involved in our school.

School Attendance

Please make sure that your child attends school. Each week, the class with the best attendance receives some money to put into their class piggy banks. The table shows class attendance since September 2023.

Reception	92.2%
Year 1	93.6%
Year 2	95.8%
Year 3	95.3%
Year 4	96.5%
Year 5	95.7%
Year 6	95.8%



Happy Birthday – November and December Birthdays



Dylan	Archie	Esme	Blossom
Elliot	Ethan	Lilly	Darcy
Henry	Ada	Polly	Harper
Isaac	Eleana	George	Myles
Jax	Tia	Jaxon	
Reuben	Elijah	Louie	
Lola	Alice	Tommy	



You said, we did!!

As the new Head Teacher of Holy Rosary Primary School, it has been really helpful to hear your ideas and opinions on how we can continue to improve our school. We listened, and this is what we have done:



<i>You said.....</i>	<i>We did.....</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More opportunities to see your children's work and reflect on their progress. • Mental and emotional support for our children and their families. <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">   </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the variety of reading texts and genres for our children. • More support for children with SEND. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candle time and sharing of R.E work • Parent drop ins which will take place every term • Mrs Wilson continues to work closely with Alliance to provide small group and 1:1 support for those children who need it. • Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA) to be trained in the Spring and Summer term. • Worry boxes in each classroom for children to access daily. • Weekly teaching of PHSE. • A member of staff to be trained in delivering the Rainbows Bereavement Support Programme - Losses include bereavement through the death of a loved one, family breakdown or separation. • Mrs Wilson completed a reading audit with the rep from Oxford Reading Tree and purchased new books to broaden the range of genres and exciting texts for children to read at home. We included graphic texts as this genre is particularly popular with our KS2 children. • Adapted teaching to make sure all children make progress and reach their full potential. • Individual targets are SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic with a time limit for review) • Quality assurance of teaching and learning through lesson observations, adapted teaching, work sampling, data analysis and pupil voice.



- More consistent approach to managing behaviour across the school
- After school wrap around child care.
- Engaging our children more during whole class teaching.
- Bigger focus on Physical Education.



- SEND coffee mornings with an opportunity to chat to additional supportive agencies, for example Daisy Chain, Sunflowers etc. Our first coffee morning to be held in the Spring term, date to be confirmed.
- Provision mapping - teachers to identify and monitor children who require more than High Quality First Teaching in order to make progress.
- Pupil progress meetings with Senior Leadership Team, with a focus on children with SEND.
- Our 'Good to be Green' behaviour strategy has been implemented across the school to manage behaviour consistently in the classrooms and the dinner hall, as well as in the playground. Our approach to behaviour management will continue to have a focus on positively reinforcing good behaviour.
- We are still in the process of discussing our after-school wrap around child care with the Trust. If our financial position allows it, we hope to have this facility up and running by the summer term.
- Interactive white boards have been installed in each classroom, from Nursery up to Year 6, making whole class teaching more interactive and engaging for our pupils.
- Mrs Desborough and Mr Bradley, our P.E leads, have spent this term researching and implementing a new P.E scheme called Real P.E. 'Real' supports primary schools to deliver an outstanding PE curriculum. It is a unique, child centred approach that supports primary schools to transform how we teach PE to include, challenge and support EVERY child.
- Our P.E leads have also invested in a scheme called 'Drumba'. It's a high intensity workout session based on a mix of popular music whilst learning and playing a custom made drum. The children love it, as well as the staff.



Candle Time and Mass dates and times for Spring Term

We are pleased to be able to invite you to celebrate Candle Time and Mass with your children once again in the Spring term. Candle time will begin at 9.15 and Mass starts at 10am

Candle time	
Nursery	19 th January
Reception	26 th January
Year 1	2 nd February
Year 2	9 th February
Year 3	23 rd February
Year 4	1 st March
Year 5	8 th March
Year 6	15 th March

Mass times	
EYFS and KS1	KS2
18 th January	25 th January
1 st February	8 th February
22 nd February	29 th February
7 th March	14 th March
21 st March	



As we approach the end of our first term in school, and the coming of Christmas, let us take time to truly focus on the true meaning of Christmas - the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ who was born all of those years ago. Let us remember those who may not be looking forward to this time. Those who may be lonely, worrying about the cost of Christmas, or those who are suffering as a result of war or conflict. We ask that the Light of Christ be with them always to bring hope, comfort and peace.

A reminder that school breaks up for Christmas this Friday and we will look forward to welcoming our children back to school on Monday 8th January.

I wish you all a very happy, holy and peaceful Christmas filled with the light and love of Christ.

God bless,

Mrs L. Flaherty