



Holy Rood Catholic Primary School

Spring Term, Issue 1 — Friday 12 January 2024

The theme of our prayers:

I know God loves me and I trust God to take care of me

Important Dates and Events

Thursday 18 January 2024 – Topic visitor in school to see Y1

Friday 19 January 2024 – Y3/4 Girls Football at RITC 1.15pm – see separate letter – parents are welcome

Friday 26 January 2024 – Y3/4 Boys Football at RITC 1.15pm – see separate letter – parents are welcome

Thursday 1 February 2024 – Collaboration cup – Year 3 on Holy Rood school field

Monday 5 February 2024 – Children's Mental Health week

Tuesday 6 February 2024 – Safer Internet Day

Wednesday 7 February 2024 – 6.30pm First Confession at Holy Rood Church

Friday 9 February 2024 – Non-Uniform – wear your pyjamas for Sheffield Children's Hospital - £1 donation

Friday 9 February 2024 - Last day of half term – break up at 3.30pm

Monday 19 February 2024 - First day of half term – school open

Tuesday 20 February 2024 - Young Voices Concert at Sheffield Arena

Friday 23 February 2024 - Y3 Ball skills @ RITC

Tuesday 27 February 2024 – Year 5 Vocal workshop in school

Friday 1 March 2024 - Y5 at Horizon CC Science workshop

Tuesday 5 March 2024 – Book Fair arrives in school

Wednesday 6 March 2024 – Y6 trip to the theatre

Thursday 7 March 2024 – World Book Day – wear your pyjamas and bring your favourite book

Friday 8 March 2024 – Year 3 Colour run at Horizon CC

Last fortnight's attendance

Class	% Attendance
Foundation 2	93.8%
Year 1	96.6%
Year 2	99.2%
Year 3	97.0%
Year 4	99.6%
Year 5	95.4%
Year 6	100%
SCHOOL TOTAL	97.3%

The year has started really well with most classes having attendance above 97%.

Year 6 are the first for 2024 with 100% Well done and keep it up!

School Holidays 2023/2024

February Half Term – Monday 12

February – Friday 16 February 2024

Easter Holidays – Friday 29 March 2024 – Friday 5 April 2024

May Half Term – Monday 27 May 2024 – Friday 7 June 2024

Summer Holidays – break up Friday 19 July 2024

Inset days 2024

Friday 7 June 2024

Monday 22 July 2024

Advanced notice of important assessment dates 2023/24

Y1 Phonics will take place from Monday 10 June to Friday 14 June 2024

Year 4 Multiplication Check will take place from Monday 10 June until Friday 14 June 2024

Year 6 SATs will take place from Monday 13 May to Thursday 16 May 2024

Thank you

I hope you and all your families have had a very happy and peaceful Christmas! On behalf of the staff at Holy Rood, may I thank you all very much for your generosity for the cards and gifts we received at Christmas.

I am delighted to welcome all of our pupils and their families back to school. The children have arrived with beaming smiles and are so happy to return to see their friends and teachers.

Leave of Absence

There are updates on changes to fines that the Local Authority issue for unauthorised holidays and/or absences during term time.

In line with Government and Local Authority Guidance, from January 2024, if a child takes leave of absence in term time, **both parents/carers** can be issued with a fixed penalty notice of £60 each.

With immediate effect the following amendments have been made to the process, and will apply to any unauthorised absence from January 2024 onwards:

- Where a child(ren) is absent for 5 days or more, both parents/carers with parental responsibility may be issued separately with a Fixed Penalty Notice (fine), per child.
- If you go ahead with a leave of absence when unauthorised, you may receive a Penalty Notice issued by the Local Authority. This penalty will be £60 per child if paid within 21 days; payment after this time but within 28 days is £120.
 - For example, if 2 children are absent for an unauthorised holiday, both parent/carers may receive a Fixed Penalty Notice of £60 per child, therefore each parent receiving a fine of £120. A total penalty of £240 for the absence (if paid within 21 days), raising to £480 if paid within the 28 days.
- Failure to pay a Fixed Penalty Notice will render you liable to criminal proceedings in the Magistrates Court under Section 444(1) of the Education Act 1996.
- Where more than one holiday during term time is taken, a fine for each holiday may be issued.
- When a child is under a period of exclusion from school, a Fixed Penalty Notice may be issued if your child is seen in a public place during the period of exclusion, during school hours.

Attendance/Appointments

If your child has an appointment, you should let the office have a copy of the letter/text/email as soon as possible **before** the appointment. We can then mark your child's absence accordingly. Without evidence of the appointment, an unauthorised absence mark will be given.

In addition, please remember that you should ring, text or email school to let us know if your child is going to be absent and why. We cannot accept 'unwell' or 'feeling ill' as we need to know if there is an outbreak of a particular illness within a class that may need reporting to Public Health.

Medication in School

Just a reminder that we cannot give any medicines to a child which has not been prescribed. We need to see evidence of the prescription (eg label on either the box or the bottle or the prescription itself).

If medication has been prescribed 4 times per day, a yellow medical form must also be completed before the medicine is administered by school.

We **will not** give medication to pupils that is only prescribed for 3 times per day.

After school clubs

There are still spaces in the following afterschool clubs:

- Key Stage 2 (Years 3 to 6)
 - Monday – football with Barnsley Football Club Reds In the Community
 - Monday – Chess with Mrs Darnbrough
 - Tuesday – Football with Momentous

- Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2)
 - Wednesday - football with Barnsley Football Club Reds In the Community

Please check with your child before payment is made as refunds will not be given.

Drop off in a morning/supervision of your children

We are seeing an increasing number of children being dropped off at the school gate and then proceeding to run around before the doors to the classroom open. Please can we ask parents to walk the children who are in Y1 and Y2 round to their classroom doors to ensure that they are in their classroom safely? Please note that Nursery and Reception doors open at 8.45am and the rest of school open their doors at 8.50am. Thank you

F1/F2

Please remember that our F1 (Nursery) provision starts at 8:45am prompt.

F2 (Reception) class children should arrive at the side entrance at 8:45am so they can settle into class and complete important letter formation activities before their RWI lessons start at 9:00am.

School Crossing – advanced notice

Please note that there will be no school crossing patrol on Racecommon Road on the following dates:

9th February 2024

24th May 2024

22nd July 2024

Horizon car park – advanced notice

Please note that on Tuesday 16th January 2024, parking at the Horizon Car Park **in the morning** will be limited/restricted due to an event taking place. Any parent/carer dropping off will need to move their cars quickly so they are not locked in.

Tesco tokens

If you shop at Tesco Extra, Stairfoot please could you (and your family, friends, neighbours and whoever else you can ask) collect blue tokens and either drop them in our section in store or bring them to school and we will drop them off on your behalf? Voting for our Project will commence from Mid-January 2024 until the end of March 2024

The project with the highest number of votes across our region will receive £1,500, the second placed project £1,000, and the third placed project £500. We will use this money to purchase reading sheds for our playground to further enhance our reading culture.