



Holy Rood Catholic Primary School

Spring Term, Issue 2 — Friday 26 January 2024

The theme of our prayers:
I ask God to guide me in my life

Important Dates and Events

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
Tuesday 6 February 2024 – Chinese New Year Special Menu
Wednesday 7 February 2024 – 6.30pm First Confession at Holy Rood Church
Thursday 8 February 2024 – Y6 fundraising Valentines Bake Sale – 3.15pm outside Y6 classroom
Friday 9 February 2024 – Non-Uniform – wear your pyjamas for Sheffield Children’s Hospital - £1 donation
Friday 9 February 2024 – F2 Song and Rhyme time at 2.45pm – parents welcome
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
Wednesday 21 February 2024 – Y5 Parent Afternoon 1.30pm in school
Friday 23 February 2024 - Y3 Ball skills @ RITC – parents are welcome
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
Tuesday 5 March 2024 – 2.30pm Mother’s Day afternoon tea
Wednesday 6 March 2024 – Y6 trip to the theatre
Wednesday 6 March 2024 – Children to visit Book Fair
Thursday 7 March 2024 – World Book Day – Dress as a letter
Thursday 7 March 2024 – Special Charlie and the Chocolate Factory Menu
Friday 8 March 2024 – Year 3 Colour run at Horizon CC – no parents at this
Friday 8 March 2024 – Book fair open – see below
Monday 11 March 2024 – Book fair open – see below

Last fortnight’s attendance

Class	% Attendance
Foundation 2	96.0
Year 1	96.4
Year 2	98.7
Year 3	97.4
Year 4	94.5
Year 5	99.3
Year 6	98.3
SCHOOL TOTAL	97.2

Year 5 has narrowly taken the lead from Year 6 this week with a brilliant 99.3%. Well done

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 and Monday 22 July 2024

School Holidays 2024/2025

October Half Term – Monday 28 October – Friday 1 November 2024
 Christmas Holidays – Monday 23 December 2024 – Friday 3 January 2025
 February Half Term – Monday 17 February – Friday 21 February 2025
 Easter Holidays – Friday 18 March – Friday 25 April 2025
 May Half Term – Monday 26 May 2025 – Friday 6 June 2025

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

Tesco blue 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.

Non-Uniform Day for Sheffield Children's Hospital – Friday 9 February 2024

On Friday 9 February, we will be holding a non-uniform day to help raise money for Sheffield Children's Hospital. Some of our children have regular appointments there and therefore we wanted to help them with their fundraising. We will wear our pyjamas on this day and ask for £1 donation. This can be paid in cash on the day or on the school gateway app. Thank you in advance for your support.

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.

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.

For Year 1 to Y6, the gate opens at 0850. Your child should be in class and ready to learn by 0900 (the time the gate is shut and locked). If you are after this time your child will have to come via reception and will be marked late.

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

Parents Evening – advanced notice

Parents Evening will take place on Tuesday 19 March, 3.45pm – 5.45pm and Thursday 21 March 3.45pm – 7.15pm. Emails will be sent after February half term so that you can book your slot. Thank you

World Book Day/Book Fair

The book fair will be arriving on Wednesday 6th March. The children will get the opportunity, during school hours, to visit the Book Fair and make a wishlist of books they are interested in. The last opportunity to purchase a book will be on Monday 11th March.

The book fair will be open for purchases on :

- Thursday 7th March 8.15 to 8.45 am and 3.30pm
- Friday 8th March 8.15 to 8.45 am and 3.30pm
- Monday 11th March 8.15 to 8.45 am and 3.30pm

On Thursday 7th March we will be dressing as a word to celebrate world book day and will also be having a separate themed menu!