



Holy Rood Catholic Primary School

Spring Term, Issue 1 — Friday 10 January 2025

The theme of our prayers:

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

Important Dates and Events

Friday 17 January 2025 – Y3 – Oakwell Stadium tour
Monday 20 January 2025 - Y5/Y6 Internet safety session with South Yorkshire Police in school
Friday 24 January 2025 - Y4 Basketball at RITC
Thursday 6 February 2025 – KS1/KS2 will join the World Sing-a-long
Monday 10 February 2025 – 10.30am Nursery Stay and Play
Tuesday 11 February 2025 – 9.15am Year 5 & Year 6 Parents internet safety workshop in the hall – Y5/6 Parents welcome
Tuesday 11 February 2025 – 2pm Tiny Tots Stay and Play
Wednesday 12 February 2025 – First confession at Holy Rood Church – 6.30pm
Thursday 13 February 2025 – Holy Rood choir members to Young Voices
Friday 14 February 2025 – School closes at 3.30pm for February half term.
Monday 24 February 2025 – School reopens
Tuesday 4 March 2025 – Scholastic book fair in school – Opening times to be confirmed
Wednesday 5 March 2025 – Scholastic book fair in school – Opening times to be confirmed
Wednesday 5 March 2025 – Ash Wednesday
Thursday 6 March 2025 – Scholastic book fair in school – Opening times to be confirmed
Thursday 6 March 2025 – World Book Day – dress as a word
Thursday 6 March 2025 – Year 1 to visit Library

Last fortnight's attendance

Class	% Attendance
Foundation 2	87.2%
Year 1	95.6%
Year 2	90.3%
Year 3	95.7%
Year 4	96.4%
Year 5	99.3%
Year 6	96.5%
SCHOOL TOTAL	94.7%

Year 5 have continued where they left 2024 – as the winners with attendance at 99.3% - Well done Y5!

School Holidays 2024/2025

February Half Term – Monday 17 February – Friday 21 February 2025
Easter Holidays – Friday 18 April – Monday 28 April 2025
May Half Term – Monday 26 May 2025 – Friday 6 June 2025
Summer Holidays – break up Friday 18 July 2025

Inset days 2025

Monday 28 April 2025
Monday 21 and Tuesday 22 July 2025

Advanced notice of important assessment dates 2024/25

Y1 Phonics will take place from Monday 9 June to Friday 13 June 2025

Y2 SATs will take place in June 2025

Year 4 Multiplication Check will take place from Monday 9 June to Friday 13 June 2025

Year 6 SATs will take place from Monday 12 May to Thursday 15 May 2025

Winter weather

Thank you for your patience and understanding this week with regards to dropping children off and collecting them from the front of school. Please ensure that you have up to date contact numbers as if there is any future weather that would cause disruption, we will contact you via text message.

Additionally, please can you ensure that all children are dressed appropriately for the weather and have a school jumper or cardigan on each day as there are areas of school that can become colder when the temperature drops low and outdoor break and lunch times will resume once the ice has melted from the playground.

Absence reporting

Please can we remind parents that when reporting a child absent due to illness, please let us know what is wrong with the child. "Illness" and "not well" is insufficient information – we need to check there is not an outbreak of something in the class (e.g. winter vomiting bug/norovirus etc). Absences will be marked as O (Unauthorised) if we are not sure what is wrong.

Christmas Events

Thank you to all parents and friends who attended our Christmas Events – from carols around the tree, children's performances to our Christmas Fair you gave very generously and we raised over £1500.

Medicines in School

Can we remind parents that children should not be bringing any unprescribed medication into school – including throat lozenges such as strepsils - as the children need supervising when taking them to prevent incidents such as choking.

School meals

Please ensure that, if your child chooses packed lunch, they have one with them. Our lunch orders are taken to the kitchen by 10am and there is not always a spare meal available.

Internet Safety Workshop – Advanced Notice

On Tuesday 11th February at 9:15am, Year 5 and 6 will take part in a workshop with South Yorkshire Police on Internet Safety. Parents are invited to attend the workshop to enable them to hear the key messages that the children are receiving around being safe online. The session will last approximately 1 hour. Please let the office know if you plan to attend.

Drop off and collection of children

We have seen an increasing number of children being dropped off and left at school before the gates open. Please stay with your child until the gates open at 8:45am. Although they are on school premises, we cannot be held responsible for any accidents or incidents which may happen until the gates open at 8:45. Additionally, at the end of the day, please ensure you collect your child from their classroom at 3.30 prompt. Leaving children before and after school is a safeguarding issue and could result in Social Care being notified. We understand that there may be extreme emergencies which are beyond your control and we would be supportive in these rare instances.

Appointments

Please can we remind parents to let us know in **advance** of any pre-booked appointments. Ideally, let us have a copy of the appointment when you receive it. We can then have your child ready for collection from reception.

After School Clubs

Please remember letters for the next term after school clubs are sent out before the end of the current half term. Once letters are sent, payment options are then opened up on the Gateway App.

As you are aware, many of our clubs have limited places and are therefore on a first come first served basis. If the payment option disappears, this is usually because the club is full.

We do not offer refunds if your child changes their mind about attending a club – this is clearly stated in our letters; please ask your child before signing up and paying.

Also, for clarification, pupils who are in receipt of free school meals are entitled to attend ONE after school club per term at no cost. These places are also limited and need to be reserved as soon as you get the letters of notification and the consent opens on the Gateway App. Reserving more than ONE space could result in cancellation of all of the spaces and the places being offered to other pupils.