**March Update 2019**

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Only four weeks to go until the Easter fortnight and still full steam ahead with learning at Holy Cross.



Lent begins this tomorrow. P5 will be leading Ash Wednesday Mass at 10am tomorrow. Please join us if you are free.

During Lent there will be daily Mass before school at 8.15am. We will also extend Breakfast Club to ensure those attending Mass can have toast or cereal before school starts at 9am.

**Playground games/toys**

We are introducing a selection of games and equipment during playtimes. These resources will be timetabled for each class. We will be encouraging the children to take care of these resources to ensure they last a long time! Thank you to the former Barbegs Playground group for providing funds for these resources.

**Spring Chickens**

Two weeks ago we welcomed the chicks to the world. The chicks are now away to a farm and we are looking forward to progress updates from their new home. Look out for some ‘tweets’.

**Entry to the school**

All children should make their way around to their playground entrance in the morning unless there are adverse weather conditions (ice, heavy snow). We would respectfully ask those adults dropping their child off at the main entrance to refrain from doing so if their children are not going to the Breakfast Club; in the event of a fire before 9am there would be limited numbers of staff to ensure your child’s safety.

**Latecoming**

As a school this has increased in recent weeks. Should you have a difficulty getting your child to school for 9am please contact us and we will do our best to help.

**Uniform**

Holy Cross is committed to maintaining high standards of uniform across the school. It ensures pride in our community and it also creates a sense of equality. Please ensure that your child wears grey skirt/trousers, white shirt, Holy Cross tie and grey cardigan/jumper.

Maroon, black or patterned clothing is not part of the uniform.

If you have any difficulty in providing grey clothing please contact us confidentially, and we will be happy to assist you in this.

**PE kit**

As per North Lanarkshire’s policy the wearing of ‘team’ stripes for P.E is not allowed. Please ensure your child has shorts and t-shirt for PE, joggers can be worn if the P.E is taking place outside.

**Parent/Carer Consultations**

These will take place on Thursday the 28th of March from 3.15pm until 8.30pm. Online booking is now open and guidance can be found on our school website.

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/holycrossblog/>

**Parent Council meeting**

The next meeting will take place on Monday the 11th of March at 6.30pm in the Parish hall. At the meeting the changes to the janitorial support Holy Cross receives will be discussed.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Please keep all the P3 pupils receiving this sacrament for the first time on Thursday evening in your prayers.

**Fairtrade Easter Bonnet Parade**

On Friday 29th of March, at 1.30pm we look forward to seeing the spectacular bonnet creations of our P1-3! We will be welcoming parents/carers to the parade and there will be a chance to enjoy some Fairtrade tea/coffee and biscuits. There will be no charge for this event.

**Eggstravaganza!**

This year our P4-7s will be invited to enter our egg design competition. The competition entries will have a Movie theme. Children will be given further information at assembly.

**School Blogs and Reporting to Parents/Carers**

Our class blogs are a great way for you to keep up to date with the learning taking place in your child’s class. Following feedback we have changed the frequency of these blogs. They will now be posted fortnightly. Remember, these blogs form part of our ‘Reporting to Parents/Carers’ strategy.

Information in the blogs will include current information regarding Literacy, Maths and Health and Wellbeing learning as well as information about the current ‘Topic’ work.

**Internet safety**

We take internet safety very seriously at Holy Cross. During our assemblies this term the children have been leaving how to stay SMART online.

Further information can be found at

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/findoutmore/help-me-out-staying-safe-online>

**Star Pupil**

For various reasons we are not always able to take photos for twitter of our Star Pupils. Be assured that your child’s success is celebrated at assembly. We are also introducing a small certificate which your child can bring home to share with you.

We will try where possible to also put a photo on twitter too.

**Sacrament of Confirmation**

Archbishop Tartaglia will confirm our P7 pupils on the evening of the 21st of March. This promises to be a very special occasion. Please pray for the children and their families on this special night.

**And finally,**

Should you have any concerns regarding your child’s learning please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Marie Murphy