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# HOLY NAME CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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WEBSITE: **Currently being re-constructed**



## NEWSLETTER

Number 155



Friday 5th September 2008

### WELCOME BACK!!

A very warm welcome back to all members of our community; pupils, staff and parents. We hope you have enjoyed a restful summer, and that you managed to get some good weather!

The children are all looking very smart and are obviously very proud of their new uniforms. Thank you very much for your efforts in this regard.

### MASSES

The first whole school Mass of the year will be on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September (9.15am). Parents are very welcome to attend.

### NEW MEMBERS OF STAFF

Many of you will have already met Mrs Milner (Year 1 Teacher) and Mrs Waugh (Year 4 Teacher) if you have a child in their classes. We welcome them to our school and wish them every happiness as they settle at Holy Name. Please do your best to make them feel part of our community very quickly.

### SOME REQUESTS FOR YOUR COOPERATION

- As mentioned last year in one of our Newsletters, we would like to encourage children to think carefully about the size of bag they are bringing to school. We have limited space in the cloakrooms and larger rucksacks or bags can take up a disproportionate amount of space and sometimes can cause a health and safety hazard. Children should usually only have 1 small bag, preferably a 'Pump Bag' for their PE clothes. Any other equipment should be brought in a small bag, and taken home once it is not needed in school. Thank you.
- We would like your help in encouraging Year 2, 3 and 4 children to become more independent in the way they come into school in the mornings, and leave their classrooms in the evening. We also need to ensure that the cloakrooms are at all times as clear and free from unnecessary blockages as possible. With this in mind, we ask parents of these children to avoid coming into the building in the morning and evening unless you need to speak to your child's teacher, or have another significant reason for being in the cloakroom area. Thank you.
- Please make sure your child has a coat with him/her. Although the weather in September can sometimes be nice enough not to wear one, it is important they have the option.

### WEBSITE RE-LAUNCH

We are currently undertaking a major redesign of our website, and we hope that the new site (once it goes live) will be more useful for you, and will be used more. We would welcome thoughts from anyone who feels they have a good idea for this site, and we would particularly welcome thoughts on the following:

- 1) If we decided to stop sending you hard copies of this Newsletter, and published it on the Website instead, would that work for you?
- 2) If we could set up a system which enabled us to send you an email or text message, instead of sending you letters, would that be something you would support? Would it work for you?

**Please respond via. Mr Brennan's email (above)**

### GUITARS

Pupils who are in KS2, and are interested in learning to play the Guitar can now access qualified tuition through the Education Leeds Artforms Service. Lessons will take place in groups of around 4 children, for approximately half an hour every Wednesday morning. If you think your child would like to take advantage of these lessons please let Mr Brennan have his or her name. We will hold informal auditions for the limited places next Wednesday morning, and children who have been selected will be able to start lessons properly on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September. Priority for places will be given to children in Year 5 and 6 initially. **Lessons will cost £35 per term.**

### BRASS & WOODWIND

Lessons with Mr Stott will commence next Monday morning. All new participants should have been given their new instruments in July.

## **VIOLINS**

Lessons will commence on Wednesday next week for those children already learning. Unfortunately we have very few spare places this year, but if any become available we will let you know.

## **CHOIR**

We are still trying to organise a pianist to accompany our Choir practices after school (probably on Tuesdays) but in the meantime we will be holding Choir practices in school time, between 11am and 11.30am every Thursday. The first major 'outing' for the Choir will be on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October at special Denary 'Harvest' Mass (7.30pm), where we hope they will sing during Communion.

## **MARTIAL ARTS LESSONS**

We are very lucky to have a well established after-school 'Tai Kwando' club at Holy Name, which has been running for 3 years very successfully. Children already enrolled will start lessons again on Wednesday next week (4.30pm - ). However, we are now able to run a 'taster' course of 10 weeks for beginners aged 6yrs+. These lessons will commence on Wednesday next week (3.30pm – 4.30pm) and will cost £30 for the whole course. We need a minimum of 10 children to be involved for it to be worthwhile..... why not let your child have a go??? Builds self-confidence, self-discipline and helps with fitness. (All instructors are fully qualified and CRB checked). Letters went out yesterday to children who expressed an interest. More are available from Mr Brennan.

## **CLUBS**

It is still early days, but some keen staff and parent volunteers are already making arrangements for clubs this term. There are more to come!

<b>CLUB</b>	<b>LEAD PERSON</b>	<b>YEAR GROUPS</b>	<b>DAY</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>START DATE</b>
Cross Country	Mr Duffy	5&6	Tuesday	12pm-12.30pm	16 <sup>th</sup> Sept.
Athletics	Mrs Burton	5&6	Wednesday (Girls) Friday (Boys)	3.15pm – 4.15pm	17 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup> Sept.
ICT CLUB	Mr Delroy	5&6 (Alternately)	Tuesday	3.15pm – 4.15pm	23 <sup>rd</sup> Sept.
CC4G (Girls ICT)	Mr Delroy	6	Thursday	3.15pm – 4.15pm	18 <sup>th</sup> Sept.
Boxing For Fitness (£1 per session)	Extended Services Contractor	KS2	Monday	3.15pm - 4.15pm	8 <sup>th</sup> Sept.

Permission slips are not required for the first sessions..... Slips will be handed out and a register compiled at the first sessions.

## **SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS**

Next Friday we will hold the elections for our new School Council. Children will be voting for fellow classmates to join the School Council and represent their class at the regular meetings with Mr Brennan. They will be involved in the appointment of staff, and help with the re-design of the playground, and discussions about policy which directly affect them and other significant decisions. They will also have a small budget available to them. Children interested in standing as candidates will be involved in giving speeches etc on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

## **PARENT HELPERS**

We are always keen to make use of any volunteers..... If you can spare some time on a regular basis in the week to help in school with Reading Groups, Displays etc, please speak to us. NB: Normally we do not advise that you work in your own child's class.

## **OPEN DAY (RECEPTION 2009)**

If you (or someone you know) are interested in applying for a place in our Reception Class for September 2009 you may like to come and see us in operation on **Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September**. Contact Miss McCulloch to make an appointment. Eligible children will have been born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2004 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2005. An information Pack will soon be available from school. If you would like one please let us know.

## **HIGH SCHOOL APPLICATIONS SEPTEMBER 2009 (Year 6 Parents & Pupils)**

A **very important** pack, containing all the information you need to apply for Secondary schools in Leeds for September 2009 will be sent via your child on Monday or Tuesday next week. Please make sure you study this carefully and if you are unsure about completing forms please do not hesitate to speak to us.

## **SCHOOL MEALS' PAYMENTS**

Some parents prefer to pay for their child's school meals for a whole half-term in advance. If you would like to do this we would be grateful for the following payments on cheques payable to **'Holy Name School'**: ..... Reception – Year 4: **£64.60** Year 5&6: **£66.50** (for period Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept. – Fri 24<sup>th</sup> Oct.).