



Immaculate Heart of Mary
Catholic Primary School
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'With Mary we put Jesus at the heart of our work, love and learning'

Ethos statement for next week: "We are all special."

14th September 2018

Dear Parents,

We warmly welcome this week all our new starters and their families. We hope you will be very happy and fulfilled with us. This year we will again be doing our utmost to provide the very best Catholic education for our families. There are no new or radical initiatives this year (for a change) so we will just be keeping things simple, simply the best!

This year we are especially concentrating on all those so called 'basics' without which, successful learning cannot take place and certainly cannot be developed. As a school we are focusing on doing the 'ordinary things well' and paying attention to those small details that make such a big difference. We are very fortunate at IHOM to have such wonderful staff who believe in teaching as a vocation not a job.

In the following weeks we will be sharing in more detail our main school priorities with you. The teaching of mastery in Maths is one of our main curriculum priorities. We want our children to be fluent in number facts to free up the working memory so that children can easily solve problems. What Mastery means will be explained to parents during the meeting on Thursday 20th September at 3.30pm. The workshops afterwards will show you what this looks like in the classroom.

However as a Catholic school it is not just academic success which is important. The development of our children's spiritual, moral and social growth is of equal importance. As a school we have always used the term "gospel values" and how when we try to live these out we become better people. This year our language will change from values to virtues. Virtues are positive personal strengths which when taught is called character education. These virtues are all part of our school life – some are implicit, some are explicit. The purpose of focusing on virtues is the development of good sense, or practical wisdom, so that children can choose the right course of action in difficult situations. If you wish to find out more about this one of our parents Dr Chris Devaney has written a research project called Catholic Character Education – I know he would be delighted to talk about this to any parents.

Year 5 Weardale – There will be a meeting for parents on Monday at 3.30pm. Please enter school through the main door at the front of school after collecting your child.

Coats – It is important that every child comes to school wearing a coat as we head towards winter. Please make sure that every item your child brings to school is clearly labelled.

CAFOD Fast Day - This year we will continue to support the work of Cafod across the world and will begin this by joining their Fast Day on Friday 5th

October. The theme for this is 'Brighten Up' so the children can come to school wearing bright and colourful hair accessories and head wear. The idea of the fast day is that we go without a food item at some point in the day and donate what this would have cost to Cafod. We therefore ask each child to bring a donation in recognition of them 'going without' something that day.

HCPT 131 Cake sale - after 9.30am Mass at IHOM on 16th September
 If anyone would like to know more about HCPT and travelling with the group at Easter then please speak with one of the group on the day or visit www.hcpt.org.uk"

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS - Attend Today Achieve Tomorrow

Attendance – Well done to the whole school on achieving 96% attendance and to 6FE who achieved 100%.

Year Group	Attendance Wk Comm 4 th Sept	
YR	RAG -	RCD -
Y1	1LG – 100%	1LR – 100%
	1SC – 98%	
Y2	2JM – 99%	2HC – 99%
Y3	3GG – 97%	3AW – 99%
Y4	4GB – 99%	4DK – 100%
Y5	5HS – 98%	5JR – 99%
Y6	6FE – 99%	6CK – 94%

Stars of the Week

Congratulations to the following children who have been awarded Star of the Week in their class!

1LR – Gerard	4GB - Jack
1LG – Jamie	4DK - Andrew
1SC – Ella	5JR - Rachael
2JM – Phoebe	5HS - Eoin
2HC – Bodo	6CK- Chiamanda
3AW – Jacob	6FE - Lena
3GG – Pierce	

Happy Birthday to –

Year R – Michael
 Year 1 - Connor
 Year 2 – Luke, Millie & Simona
 Year 4 – Matthew, Charlotte & Florence
 Year 5 – Matthew & Liam
 Year 6 – Chiamanda, Leona, Mia, Cian & Libby



Forthcoming Events – new dates in bold

Date	Time	Event
Mon 17 th Sept	3.30pm	Weardale Meeting Y5 Parents
Thurs 20 th Sept	3.30-4.45pm	Maths evening
Fri 21 st Sept	9.15am	2LH assembly
Weds 26 th Sept	All day	Year 6 Educational Visit to York Chocolate Story
Weds 26 th –Fri 28 th Sept	All day	Y5 Weardale Residential
Weds 3 rd Oct	6.15pm	IHOMSA AGM
Fri 5 th Oct	All day	CAFOD Fast Day
Fri 5 th Oct	9.15am	Year 5 Weardale Assembly

Tues 9 th Oct	7pm	IHOMSA New Reception Parents Cheese & Wine evening
Fri 12 th Oct	9.15am	3AW Assembly
Weds 17 th Oct	6pm	YR/Y1/Y2 Phonics Training Evening
Fri 19 th Oct	All day	Individual photos
Fri 19 th Oct		IHOMSA Goosebumps Disco
Sun 21 st Oct	9.30am	Harvest Mass at IHOM Church
Weds 24 th Oct	3.45-7pm	Parents Evening
Thurs 25 th Oct	3.45-7pm	Parents Evening
Fri 26 th Oct	9.15am	6CK assembly
Weds 7 th Nov	9.30-11.30am	Open morning for children starting school Sept 2019
Fri 9 th Nov	9.15am	6FE Assembly
Thurs 15 th Nov	6.30pm	IHOMSA Christmas Market
Weds 28 th Nov	1.30pm	Y6 Confessions
Fri 30 th Nov	9.15am	3GG Assembly
Sun 2 nd Dec	9.30am	School/Parish Mass at IHOM Church
Tues 4 th Dec	All day	YR-Y5 Flu immunisations
Tues 4th Dec	7pm	Y6 Confirmation
Wed 5 th Dec	9.30am	RCD Nativity
Thurs 6 th Dec	9.30am	RAG Nativity
Fri 7 th Dec	1pm	YR Christmas Party
Fri 7 th Dec	TBC	IHOMSA Christmas Family Fun Night
Weds 12 th Dec	1pm	Y3 Christmas Party
Thurs 13 th Dec	1.45pm	Y2 Nativity
Fri 14 th Dec	9.30am	Y2 Nativity
Fri 14 th Dec	1pm	Y2 Christmas Party
Mon 17 th Dec	1pm	Y4 Christmas Party
Tues 18 th Dec	1pm	Y6 Christmas Party
Tues 18 th Dec	6pm	Yrs 4,5 & 6 Carol Service
Weds 19 th Dec	1pm	Y5 Christmas Party
Thurs 20 th Dec	9.15am	Y1 Carols around the Crib
Thurs 20 th Dec	1pm	Y1 Christmas Party
Fri 21 st Dec	1.15pm	School finishes for Christmas – no After School Club
Sat 15th June	TBC	4GB First Holy Communion
Sat 22nd June	TBC	4DK First Holy Communion

Friday 21st December – School will finish at 1.15pm. There will be no After School Club on this day.

Mrs A. M. Phillips
Headteacher

Prayer for the New School Year

*Dear Lord, may our school be welcoming
and may it be encouraging.
Let friendships grow here
and let learning, love and laughter fill our days.
Help us to do our best in our work and in our
play.
Help us to trust in you, that all will be well
because you are journeying with us every step of the way.
Amen*



If you are worried or concerned about the wellbeing of any of our pupils please ask to speak to Mrs Phillips, Mrs Hill, Miss Hargreaves or Mrs Roberts.

