



Immaculate Heart of Mary
Catholic Primary School
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'Together with Jesus, we love to learn and learn to love'

Ethos statement for next week: "I know we are happiest when we are united."

18th January 2019

Dear Parents,

This week the children have learnt about the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. This feast speaks to us about who this man Jesus really is. He is revealed as the Beloved Son of the Father, full of the Holy Spirit. Moreover his disciples are told to listen to him – here is the voice of God speaking in our world.

RAG Assembly – the children in RAG did a wonderful job this morning reminding us of the story of the Epiphany and that Jesus came for everybody, not just the kings and the shepherds. It encouraged us to think about the individual gifts we have all been given and reminded us that everything we do is a gift to God. The children spoke very dramatically and were amazing at remembering all of their lines as well as singing superbly. Thank you to Mrs Galbraith, Mrs Blanc and Mrs Groves for preparing the children so well.

Dogs - There has been a very marked increase in the number of dogs coming to school. Although parents are aware that large dogs are not allowed on the school site, our new dog owners are generally of the smaller breeds. All the dogs are very cute and appear lovely but I would ask all dog owners not to bring their pet onto the school grounds as I am concerned that we are creating a situation where an accident is waiting to happen.

Some children love seeing dogs and as a dog owner you are surrounded by children wanting to pet the dog. This can be unsettling for the dog concerned who could unintentionally nip a child. Not good for the dog or the child. Also as the children are crowding round the dog either on the path or near the exit at the bottom of the path it can make it even more difficult for other parents whether with or without push chairs to get by.

I know that those with new puppies will be disappointed not to bring your dog onto the school premises but I hope that you will appreciate that this is for the best of our children and for your puppies.

Bad Weather reminder - With the possibility of winter weather appearing a few reminders.

Please assume school is **OPEN** unless you receive a text message from school, see the notification on the school website, Education Leeds or the Radio Leeds webpage.

If it is snowing please **DO NOT** ring school to see if we are open – we may not be able to answer it. We will be busy assessing the situation. When we assess whether to close our school (or not) because of adverse weather we must first look at the school site.

Is it mostly clear of snow and fairly safe to walk on?

Next, we consider the surrounding access roads. Can an ambulance and/or fire engine gain access to the site in an emergency?

We would then need to know which members of staff are managing to get into school and who cannot make it in because of the snow/adverse weather; this is why we will not be able to answer the telephones as we will be busy taking and making calls to all our staff.

Teachers and support staff are expected to try to reach work for a maximum of two hours and will ring me regularly to update me on their journey, notifying me if they cannot make it into work. Our decision to either open or close our school in adverse weather is mainly based on this as every child needs a teacher in school. Closing the school is not one we take lightly.

If the school is open as normal in adverse weather, e.g. snow, it is then up to the parent/carer to do his/her own risk assessment and decide if it is safe for his/her child to travel to and attend school. Sometimes it can make more sense to arrive at 10.00am than be stuck in rush hour traffic.

By opening the school we are saying that the school site itself is clear and relatively safe to use (with caution and common sense) but parents/carers must make the ultimate decision to bring their child to school or keep them off because of adverse weather. Our school site does not include the parish car park. If you use the car park it is at your own risk. Do not expect it to be gritted.

Our aim is to remain open as much as possible but if we decide to close school it will generally only be made if we feel that this is the best way to ensure the safety of the children and the staff.

Snacks at school – Children in KS2 are only allowed to bring in fruit as a snack for breaktime or lunchtime. Please do not send in other items of food. Fruit is available to buy at breaktime, each item costs 20p.

Packed Lunches – Please remember that there are children in school who are allergic to nuts. No nuts should be included in any packed lunch or snack. Thank you for your cooperation.

IHOMSA 100 Club – Letters have been resent this week about forming a 100 Club in school as a fun way to raise funds throughout the whole year. It will cost £2 a week but at present we have not had enough returns to make it viable. If you are happy to take part in this club then please return the form next week. As they say you have to be in it to win it!

HCPT 131 Cake Sale - after 9.30am mass IHOM on Sunday 20th January
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 . We are also trying to get in touch with S Millar and Ingrid Brien who have won prizes in our Christmas Raffle. Please ring 07980 008 148 to claim your prize!

Recommended Reading – This week's recommendations are:

Year R – Clifford the Big Red Dog by Norman Bridwell
Year 1 – The Smartest Giant in Town by Julia Donaldson
Year 2 – Frog is Frogby Max Velthuijjs
Year 3 – James and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl
Year 4 – Sara, Plain and Tall by Patricia MacLachlan
Year 5 – Walter and Me by Michael Morpugo
Year 6 – Cosmic by Frank Cottrell Boyce

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS – Attend Today Achieve Tomorrow
Can we reach our whole school target of 98%? If we reach 98% our attendance will be Outstanding.

Attendance – Well done to the whole school on achieving 98% attendance. Special congratulations to RCD who achieved 100%.

Year Group	Attendance Wk. Comm 7 th Jan	
YR	RAG – 99%	RCD – 100%
Y1	1LG – 97%	1LR – 98%
	1SC – 99%	
Y2	2JM – 97%	2HC – 96%
Y3	3GG – 99%	3AW – 98%
Y4	4GB – 97%	4DK – 97%
Y5	5HS – 97%	5JR – 95%
Y6	6FE – 97%	6CK – 98%

Stars of the Week

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

RAG – Kaiden	3AW – Hugh	
RCD – Edith	3GG – Achyut	
1LR – Jack	4GB – Abi	
1LG – Evie	4DK – Olly	
1SC – Tom	5JR – Silvia	
2JM – Emily	5HS – Alfred	
2HC – April	6CK – Chloe	6FE - Martina

Happy Birthday to –

Year R – Angel-Rose
 Year 2 – Sadie
 Year 3 – Michelle
 Year 4 - Isabella
 Year 5 – Harry, Rose & Rachael



Forthcoming Events – new dates in bold		
Date	Time	Event
Weds 23 rd Jan	6pm	Y6 SATS Information Evening
Fri 25 th Jan	9.15am	1LR Class Assembly
Fri 1 st Feb	9.15am	4GB Class Assembly
Fri 1 st Feb	6.30pm	IHOMSA Bingo Night
Mon 4 th – Thurs 14 th Feb	All Day	Y6 Bikeability
Weds 6 th Feb	6pm	Y2 SATS Information Evening – changed from 31 st Jan
Fri 8 th Feb	9.15am	2JM Class Assembly
Fri 15 th Feb	9.15am	5JR Class Assembly
Fri 15 th Feb	8.15am	IHOMSA Coffee Morning
Sat 15th June	10am	4GB First Holy Communion
Sat 22nd June	10am	4DK First Holy Communion

Mrs. A. M. Phillips
 Headteacher

Prayer to St Agnes

St. Agnes
Although you were only a child
You believed that Jesus
Was always with you

Help us to remember that
He is also with us
And to remain true to
His presence



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.

