

September Newsletter

A warm welcome back to all parents and pupils after the summer holiday.

Classes

The classes for this academic year are as follows:

Class One – Mrs K Rees

Class Two Mrs N Beavis

Class Three – Mrs R Kplomedeo (Monday - Wednesday) & Mrs S Squelch (Thursday, Friday)

Class Four – Miss C Richards

Class Five – Mrs A Davies (Monday, Tuesday) & Mrs N Thomas (Wednesday – Friday)

We are pleased to welcome Miss R Williams to the staff – Miss Williams will be covering Mrs Lewis' maternity leave and will be working alongside Mrs P Williams, Miss K Phillips and Mrs C Walters supporting pupils in their learning.

School Day

The doors are opened at 8.45am and the school day begins at 8.55am – please can we ask that all pupils are here on time.

Children who arrive late are greatly disadvantaged because they miss starting the day with their peers and the beginning of lessons. This means that they are often unsettled and confused about tasks. Their teacher will not always be able to re explain work.

School ends at 3.15pm. Classes 1 and 2 will be at the main entrance from 3.10pm where they will be handed over to an adult. Pupils from Classes 3,4 and 5 will come out of the hall door at 3.15pm.

Home School Communication

This year we will be continuing to use ClassDojo for home-school communication. This allows us to distribute all newsletters electronically, saving on paper, printing costs and time. It also helps us to avoid lost letters and ensure we are able to communicate with you in an effective, efficient manner. If you need a code to add an additional member of your family (eg Grandparents) to Dojo please ask.

If you need to contact a member of teaching staff via Dojo they will aim to respond within one working day.

The office is always not staffed in the afternoon – last year we were receiving a lot of phone messages in the afternoons relating to arrangements for pupil collection. Wherever possible please could we ask that arrangements are made prior to the school day. If you do need to inform the school about changed arrangements please phone in the morning if possible.

If you have any concerns regarding your child please come in and speak to us – if staff are not immediately available they will be happy to arrange an appointment.

Pupil Absences

If you are using Dojo to report a pupil absence please could you message Mrs Jones directly using the admin account.

If you would like to send a duplicate message to the class teacher that would be fine.

The way dojo is set up means messages are only seen by the recipient, they do not go to all staff - any messages sent to teachers after 8-30am may not be read until dinner time or the end of the school day.

The school Website (www.holynameschool.co.uk) also contains all our latest news, including regular updates showing events happening in class and a calendar of school events.

During the coming weeks you will receive a number of forms that need to be completed and returned to school – we ask that parents return these promptly so we can update our records.

Meet The Teacher

Wednesday September 12th

3.30 pm – 3.50 pm

3.50 pm – 4.10 pm

We would like to invite all parents to a 'Meet the Teacher' session where class teachers will talk about curriculum plans, homework and class expectations – they will also show you some of the new Hwb ICT systems we will be using this year. Each session will run twice to allow parents to attend more than one session.

Our individual teacher-parent meetings will take place on October 2nd and October 4th You will be able to book appointments later this term. We hope all parents will be able to attend as these are important meetings that provide an opportunity to review your child's progress and set targets for the coming year.

Planned Absences

We actively discourage children's absence during school sessions, including for family holidays.

We ask that wherever possible, health appointments are made outside the school day to minimise disruption to your child's education.

We are only allowed to give permission for term-time absences in exceptional circumstances. Please read the latest ERW guidance that can be found at

<http://www.erw.wales/media/1064/170516-holidays-in-term-time-faq-v2-en.pdf>

Healthy Schools

As part of our healthy school initiative can I remind you we will no longer distributing cakes and sweets brought into school by pupils. If your child wishes to share a treat with their class to celebrate their birthday we ask that they bring in a selection of fruit.

Fruit will be available for pupils to buy every day (20p per day) and toast will be for sale on Mondays.

School Dinners

On October 1st we will be moving over to a cashless catering system. The cost of school dinners this year is

Reception/Year1/2 pupils £ 2.35

Year3/4/5/6 pupils £ 2.45

Dinner menus can be viewed at <https://www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/school-meals/school-menus>

Uniform

All school uniform can be purchased from Tesco using the link on our school website. We do have a small amount of uniform available in school – please ask in the office for details.

Thank you for your support and co-operation in maintaining our uniform standards.

Please do ensure that all clothing is clearly labelled.

PE

Tuesday Classes 2,3,4 & 5 (C5 Swimming)

Wednesday Classes 4 and 1

Thursday Classes 1,2,3 and 5

Medicine

If your child needs an asthma inhaler to be kept in school, please can you send a clearly labelled inhaler and complete the permission form – these are available from Mrs Jones.

If your child is taking prescribed medication you will need to speak to Miss Richards and complete the relevant form. We are only able to administer prescribed medication and would ask parents to try and avoid sending medicine into school whenever possible.

School Admissions

All applications for school places are processed by the local authority at

<https://www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/school-admissions> - if you know of anyone who is interested in sending their child to Holy Name School please could you direct them to this website. We are always happy to show prospective parents around the school.

Dates for your Diary

September – Meet The Teacher

September 7th 10am School Mass

September 24th School Photos

October 1st – we will be moving over to cashless catering for school meals – more details to follow

October 2nd – Parents' Evenings

October 4th – Parents' Evenings

October 4th – 10am School Mass

October 24th – 2pm Harvest Celebration

October 25th – School Disco
October 26th – INSET Day
October 29th – November 2nd – Half Term
November 9th - 10am Whole School Mass (All Saints)
December 3rd – 10am Advent Mass
December 6th 5.30pm Come and meet Father Christmas
December 18th – Carol Concert (details to follow)
December 19th – 10am Christmas Mass
December 20th - Carol Concert (details to follow)
December 24th – January 4th Christmas Holidays