

## **September Newsletter**

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

We are pleased to welcome a number of new pupils to school. Aoife, Ava, Danny, Edey, Elsie, Hollie and Maggie have joined class 1. Heidi has joined Class 2 and Dylan, Lily and Jacob have joined Class 4.

### **Classes**

The classes for this term are as follows:

Class One – Miss B Allsworth

Class Two – Mrs R Kplomedo (Monday - Wednesday) & Mrs S Squelch (Thursday, Friday)

Class Three – Mrs M Thomas

Class Four – Miss C Richards

Class Five – Mrs S Squelch (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday am) & Mrs A Davies (Wednesday pm – Friday)

Support staff, Mrs L Lewis, Mrs P Williams, Mrs C Walters and Mrs Van Kempen will continue to work throughout the school to support our pupils.

### **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.

### **Permission Forms**

Pupils will be bringing home a number of permission forms this week – please could we ask you to complete these and return them to school promptly so we can update our records.

### **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](http://www.holynameschool.co.uk)) also contains all our latest news, including regular updates showing events happening in class and a calendar of school events.

### **Meet The Teacher**

Wednesday September 11<sup>th</sup> 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. Each session will run twice to allow parents to attend more than one session.

Our individual teacher-parent meetings will take place on October 8<sup>th</sup> and October 9<sup>th</sup> 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.

At breaktimes pupils may bring in a snack of fruit or vegetables.

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

## **School Dinners**

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

## **Uniform**

All school uniform can be purchased from School Trends using the link on our school website.

School uniform consists of logoed yellow polo shirts (**not white**), logoed red school jumpers or cardigans, grey trousers, skirts or pinafores and flat black shoes (not trainers). Girls may wear red gingham dresses during warm weather. We no longer have a separate winter uniform so shirts and ties are not required.

PE kit consists of black or navy shorts and a red school PE T shirt. In cold weather pupils also need dark coloured jogging bottoms and a plain dark sweatshirt or hoodie.

We do have a very 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

Please could you ensure your child brings PE kit to school and that all items are clearly labelled with their name.

## **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 11<sup>th</sup> – Meet The Teacher

September 13<sup>th</sup> 10am School Mass

September 30<sup>th</sup> – 10am School Mass

October 8<sup>th</sup> – Parents’ Evenings

October 9<sup>th</sup> – Parents’ Evenings

October 23<sup>rd</sup> – 2pm Harvest Celebration

October 28<sup>th</sup> – November 1<sup>st</sup> – Half Term

~~November 4<sup>th</sup> INSET Day~~

November 8<sup>th</sup> - 10am Whole School Mass (All Saints)

November 18<sup>th</sup> INSET Day – **please note this is a change to the previously shared date**

December 4<sup>th</sup> Christmas Disco

December 9<sup>th</sup> – 10am Mass

December 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Concerts (details to follow)

December 19<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Mass

December 23<sup>rd</sup> – January 5<sup>th</sup> Christmas Holidays