HOLY NAME
CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

Issue 11 | Friday 20th November 2026

Headteacher's Welcome

Dear Parents/Carers,

Throughout the school week, I spend time walking around school visiting each class to see what they are learning and join in the discussions relating to the lessons. In every lesson that I have visited this week, the pupils have been engaged, active in their learning and most importantly smiling. It has been a week where our mission statement has truly been evident each and every day.

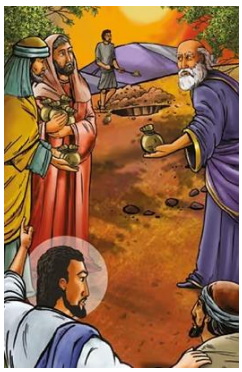
This week, I also had a meeting with our Local Academy Council who spent time reading a copious amount of documentation in order to ask challenging questions to ensure our school is continually improving. This week Mrs McDonagh and Mrs Burt attended their final meeting as parent governors. I would like to thank both of them for their hard work and dedication over the past four years, and the support they have given me since I arrived here at Holy Name. As we now have two vacancies for parent governors, you will have received a letter regarding this earlier on in the week. Please do consider nominating yourself if you feel that you have a set of skills that would further enhance our Academy Council. If you would like to discuss the role with me before the deadline for nomination, please contact the school office.

On Thursday next week, you are invited into school to watch a kinetic letters lesson in your child's class. As you will have seen from the PowerPoint on Class Dojo, the impact has been very impressive across school and we want to share this with you so that you can support these foundational skills at home. On Thursday, please enter via the main office and you will then be escorted down to class. **There will not be an opportunity to go between classes on this occasion.**

Have a wonderful weekend with your families.

God Bless
Mr J M Gibbons
Headteacher

Spiritual Reflection - Matthew 25:31-46 (Christ the King)



This Sunday is the last in the Church's year. It is the day we celebrate the feast of Christ the King. In the Gospel, Jesus (using the language and imagery of his time) describes what will happen when he comes again at the end of time. Like a shepherd who calls his sheep to follow him, Jesus invites people to be with him forever. Jesus emphasises that we should love our neighbour: that is, we should look after our neighbour in need. The Gospel reminds us that every act of kindness done to someone else is also done to Jesus, and it will be rewarded accordingly.

Dear Lord Jesus,
please help me to see you in everyone I meet,
and be kind to all, especially to those
that I sometimes find it difficult to love.
Amen.

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The School Office

As you will know Mrs Flynn will be retiring in the next few weeks and we will be planning a number of celebrations to say thank you and to wish her well in her retirement. In the background, we have been busy recruiting a new Office Manager. I am pleased to announce Mrs Devlin has been successfully appointed to this role and has started working even closer with Mrs Flynn to begin the transition between roles. There is now an advert for an Admin Assistant live on MyNewTerm.

Year 4 Trip to



Year 4 visited Thackray Medical Museum on Monday. We started our day with an actor led trip into a Victorian school room where we became detectives working out which characters we were, and what their back story was. This led into a trip along 'Disease Street' following our characters and their journey through sickness and health. In the afternoon we worked our way around the museum learning about the advances in medication and care within the NHS.

Football News!

More football action has taken place this week. Our U11 team had a fixture against St Mary's, Horsforth on Monday. This was a wonderful advert for youth football, played in the spirit of the game. Both teams demonstrated hard work and perseverance. The final score was 2-1 to Holy Name – Well done!

Our girls team played last night at Horsforth High. They played two matches – whilst they lost the first match they then went on to play in what Mrs Watson has described as 'nil-nil thriller' with some excellent performances from the squad! Well done girls!

Celebration of the Word Intentions

If you would like one of our Celebration of the Word's in school to be said for the intention of a family member or friend, please complete the form attached. The prayers of all our school will be joined together on, or a close to the date requested.

Celebration of the Word Intentions – Fill out form

Certificates

	Headteacher's Award	Maths Marvel	Literacy Legend
Reception	Lucas	Mayowa	Ava S
Year 1	Joseph	Shiva	Robyn
Year 2	Micayla	Zack	Garsha
Year 3	Mayah	Ralph O	Elliott
Year 4	Class 4	Leo	Jacob
Year 5	Daisy	William	Noah
Year 6	Anastasia	Leonie	Ting Hoi

Attendance

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
90%	94%	99%	98%	95%	99%	98%

House Points

St George	St Andrew	St Patrick	St David
153	171	175	189

Our Safeguarding Team


Mr Gibbons
DSL


Mrs Watson
DDSL


Mr Stewardson
DDSL



Miss Godfrey
DDSL


Mrs Harrington
DDSL


Mrs Flynn
DDSL

Key Dates

24th Nov	Year 6 Educational Visit	7th Dec	Rock Steady Concert 2.15pm	11th Dec	KS1 Nativity Christmas Fair 3.20pm
30th Nov	St Andrew's House – wear blue	8th Dec	Y3/4 Diocese of Leeds Singing Concert 9.30am	14th Dec	**No Clubs this week** Choir Singing Event
1st-3rd Dec	IEP Reviews		EYFS Performance	15th Dec	Craft Morning 9-10am FOHN Treat for all
3rd Dec	Reconciliation Service	9th Dec	Non Uniform Day (bring a bottle)	16th Dec	Carol Service KS2 9.30am in Church
4th Dec	Creative RE morning with St Mary's (Y3-6)	10th Dec	EYFS Performance Christmas Jumper Day Christmas Dinner Day	18th Dec	Christmas Party (party clothes) **School Closes 2pm**