



Newsletter

Friday 25th
September 2026

Holy Ghost Catholic Primary
School

www.holyghost.wandsworth.sch.uk



It has been a wonderfully busy two weeks since our last newsletter, with many opportunities for our school and parish community to come together.

We began by celebrating Education Sunday, and it was lovely to see so many of our children and families at the 9.30am Mass. A special thank you to all the children who came proudly wearing their school uniform and to those who took part in the readings and offertory. It was wonderful to see so many families joining us for this special celebration and give thanks to all who work in education.



Last July marked the 25th anniversary of Father Richard joining the priesthood. On Thursday, we came together to celebrate his Silver Jubilee with a beautiful Mass. It was lovely to see so many families from our school there to support Father Richard and celebrate this wonderful achievement. The church was full, which was a fitting testament to the service, dedication and commitment he has shown to our parish and school community over the past 25 years.

Our class Mass rota will now begin, giving each year group the opportunity to attend Mass this term. Year 6 will be the first class to attend, joining the parish Mass next Tuesday at 9.30am. We look forward to seeing our children continue to play an active part in the life of our parish throughout the year.

The Wednesday Word is change.

‘We can all improve and change for the better.’

Pope Francis

School Chaplains

Today, our School Chaplains led our New School Year Mass, taking an active role in preparing and leading this special celebration. They prepared the readings, organised the altar servers and wrote the bidding prayers. We are incredibly proud of the responsibility and leadership they have already shown in supporting the faith life of our school. They will be in contact with you soon regarding upcoming events for the Month of the Rosary.

We look forward to formally recognising their important role when Father Richard presents them with their Chaplaincy badges during our Whole School Collective Worship.



Healthy Snacks

Children are welcome to bring a healthy snack to enjoy at break time. Please remember that we are a **nut-free school**, so snacks containing nuts or nut products must not be brought into school.

Healthy snack ideas include:

Fresh fruit – apples, bananas, pears, oranges, grapes or berries
Prepared fruit – melon, pineapple or mango pieces
Fresh vegetables – carrot, cucumber or pepper sticks
Plain yoghurt or fromage frais
Cheese portions or cubes
Oatcakes or plain crackers
Breadsticks
Rice cakes
Dried fruit in small portions

Please do not send:

Crisps or other savoury snack packets
Chocolate or chocolate bars
Sweets
Biscuits or cookies
Cakes, muffins or doughnuts
Cereal or snack bars containing chocolate or high levels of sugar
Nuts or any products containing nuts

Thank you for helping us encourage healthy choices.

Y6—TFL Presentation

Today, our Year 6 pupils welcomed Corinna Mutimer for a workshop focused on building their confidence in travelling independently and staying safe. The session provided pupils with practical advice and useful strategies to help them navigate their journeys safely as they prepare for the transition to secondary school.



School Clubs—payment of balance

We are now into our second week of school clubs and the children are enjoying themselves. Payments have been set up on ParentPay. We still have some spaces available in several clubs, so if you would like your child to join, please email the office.

Our very own Mrs Dissera takes on the Shine Night Walk

We are incredibly proud of our very own Mrs Dissera, who recently completed the **Shine Night Walk**, helping to raise awareness and much-needed funds for cancer research.

If you would like to support Mrs Dissera and this important cause, please consider making a donation via the JustGiving page linked below.

<https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/catrionas-giving-page-267>

DOJO CHAMPION

Congratulations to our first pupil to reach 50 dojos for hard work, following our school values and always trying their best!



Y3 Singing Project

Under the guidance of Wandsworth Music Service, our Year 3 classes have begun their singing sessions in preparation for the Christmas Fairfields Hall concert in December.



Diary Dates

2026

Tuesday 29th September

- Y6 Class Mass 9.30am

Friday 2nd October

- * Y2 Reading and Writing Session

Monday 5th October

- Y5 Viking Workshop

Tuesday 6th October

- Inter Planet Cross Country—
Y3-Y6, 9.00-10.30

Wednesday 7th October

- Y6 Class Trip

Thursday 8th October

- Fr Ariel to visit Y6

Friday 9th October

- PTA Cake sale

Tuesday 13th October

- Y4 Class Trip

Thursday 15th October

- Fr Ariel to visit Y5

Monday 19th October

- Y2 Class Trip

Tuesday 20th October

- Y4 Class Mass

Friday 23rd October

- Y3 & Y4 Reading & Writing Session

Attendance

We place great importance on school attendance and hope you do too.

The weekly attendance figures are as follows.

The winners for this week are

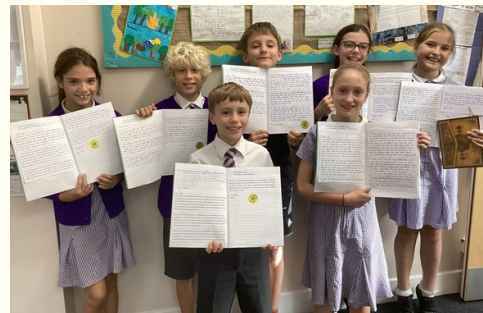
Year Reception with **99.1%**

Our total school attendance this week is **:97.26%**



Golden Book

Well done to the Year 6 children who were chosen for the Golden Book for their wonderful letter writing! The children wrote thoughtful and reassuring letters, showing a great understanding of the characters' emotions. They used excellent punctuation and vocabulary and made sure their writing helped the reader understand how the characters were feeling.



Parent Reading Sessions

This October, we are excited to begin our informative **Family Learning sessions**. This term, we will focus on **Reading** – sharing ways you can support and guide your child's reading at home.

For KS1, we will be exploring how to build phonics skills; whilst in KS2, introduce strategies you can use to encourage your child to become a confident and enthusiastic reader. We anticipate the sessions will be 45-60 minutes in length, starting at **9am in the hall**. The children will join us half way through the session for you to work with them.

Friday 2nd October—Year 2

Friday 9th October—Year 1

Friday 16th October—Year 5+6

Friday 23rd October—Year 3+4

For our new reception parents, we will be sending some Stay and Play dates in November—please keep a look out in your EYFS newsletter.

School Clubs

Our school clubs have now started, and the children have already been having lots of fun and enjoyment taking part in their different activities.

Karate Club: Our Karate Club has got off to a fantastic start! Roderick was delighted to help the Sensei demonstrate some of the moves to the class. It was wonderful to see the children getting involved, learning new skills and enjoying their first session.



Art Club: Every week the children use a different medium and here is some of their work this week.



Tennis Club: Great skill and enthusiasm were on display at the tennis club this week !



Lego Club: Future architects and designers in the making!





Transform PE

£34.50

9AM–

3.30PM

£44.50

9AM–5PM

HOLY GHOST OCTOBER SPORTS CAMP



FOR AGES 5-12



SPORTS



ARTS & CRAFTS



LAZER TAG

Join us for a week dodgeball, laser tag and much more! Children will develop their skills, teamwork and confidence while taking part in fun, competitive challenges led by qualified coaches. With a focus on teamwork, and having fun, our sessions provide a safe, supportive environment for children to compete, learn new skills and make new friends.

**OCTOBER
26TH–
OCTOBER
29TH**



[Sign up here](#)

**10% SIBLING & EARLY
BIRD DISCOUNT**



For the past two years, Holy Ghost has been working with Barnardo's PATHS (Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies) programme. We use PATHS to support our PSHE teaching and to help children develop important social and emotional skills.

Holy Ghost PATHS Parent Webinar

As part of the programme, Barnardo's is offering a **parent webinar to all Holy Ghost parents** to discuss what the scheme offers to pupils, what your children will be learning and give you the opportunity to ask any questions to our service coordinator Chris. This will take place on Monday 28th September at 5.30pm. Please see the flyer attached.

PATHS Parental Support Webinars

In addition to this, Barnardo's are holding a six-week webinar workshop for parents and carers, starting on the Friday 9th October. These sessions are designed to provide practical information and guidance on ***how you can support your child's social and emotional development at home.***

The workshops will focus on supporting children's social and emotional development and will provide parents and carers with useful strategies that can be used at home.

Please see the attached flyer and letter for further information about the programme, including details of the sessions.

You can access the webinars using the link below:

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join: <https://teams.microsoft.com/join/399877285563955?p=DtcMhK3NYlg89zopyh>

Meeting ID: 399 877 285 563 955

Passcode: Fn7q4qw2

Support Your Child's Social & Emotional Development!

with the **PATHS Online Parent Workshop**

Join Our 6-Week Online PATHS Parent Workshop

Discover how to support your child's emotional wellbeing, relationships and success both at home and in school.

What will we cover?

- Self-Awareness**
Understand emotions and strengths
- Self-Management**
Build strategies, focus and resilience
- Social Awareness**
Show empathy and understand others
- Relationship Skills**
Build positive friendships and communication
- Responsible Decision-Making**
Solve problems and make good choices
- Gain practical ideas to reinforce PATHS learning at home.

Why Join?

The PATHS Parent Workshop will help you understand the skills your child is learning in school and provide practical strategies to support their social and emotional development at home.

FREE!

For more information or to register, please contact your **PATHS Lead**.

PATHS™
The PATHS™ Programme for Schools (UK Version)
Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies



Key Information
for Supporting the
PATHS®
Curriculum at Home



Join us for a **Parent Workshop** with Chris Davis, our PATHS school Programme Coordinator, to find out how this benefits Holy Ghost pupils. Paths is the curriculum that runs alongside PSHE. Find out about what the curriculum involves, topics your child will be learning and how you can support them at home.

During this webinar, you will have the chance to ask questions about how Holy Ghost staff teach and use the programme to support positive behaviour and emotional literacy every day.

Monday 28th September @ 5.30pm

Science Poster - Autumn 1 term

We are excited to be starting another Science Poster theme this half term, focusing on **scientists from around the world**.

We look forward to seeing the children's creative and inspiring poster creations and learning about the amazing scientists who have helped shape our world



Holy Ghost's Science Poster Theme Autumn 1 Term

Scientists of the World!



"He described plant life, from the cedar of Lebanon to the hyssop that grows out of walls. He also taught about animals and birds, reptiles and fish."

— 1 Kings 4:33



The poster could include:



A chosen famous scientist such as George Washington Carver, Katherine Johnson, Jane Goodall, Gregor Mendel, Michael Faraday, Dorothy Hodgkin, Lord Patrick Vallance, Dr. Maggie Aderin-Pocock, Sir David Attenborough or Louis Pasteur.

Or, why not discover a scientist you have never heard of before?

You could even investigate Solomon and explore the Bible's description of his knowledge of the natural world!

Can you design your poster digitally, create a scientist profile, draw a scientific diagram, make a timeline, include an experiment or investigation, create a fact box, add photographs, use speech bubbles, include graphs or statistics, or even create a 3D model of something connected to your scientist or their discovery!

Remember, a great scientist doesn't simply know the answers — **a great scientist asks great questions.**



"He draws up the drops of water, which distil in mist from his vapour."

— Job 36:27



Please bring in your wonderful science posters no later than the last Monday of the term (19th October), and we will show the rest of the school!

☀ We can't wait to see your chosen scientist poster! ☀

Ms. Zammit, Science and ICT Lead

