Newsletter

Friday 13th November 2026

Holy Ghost Catholic Primary School

www.holyghost.wandsworth.sch.uk

We have certainly been busy over the past two weeks at Holy Ghost, and half-term already feels like a distant memory! I hope you had a restful break with your families.



The evenings are getting darker, and there has certainly been a drop in temperature as we head further into the colder months. With winter on its way, please make sure your children are coming into school dressed appropriately for the weather, with warm layers, trousers and tights to help keep them cosy throughout the school day.

Last week, our Y6 Sustainability Team, consisting of Faustine, Emma Marie, Emma B and Oliver, entered the **Wandsworth Recycling Competition**.

Working together, they created this wonderful piece using recycled and junk-modelling materials. A huge thank you to everyone who kindly donated materials to support their project—as you can see your contributions were put to good use! We eagerly await the results, which will be announced in December!

It has been lovely to have many children come into my office to tell me they have received 75 dojos or more. We are proud of all of our children for giving their best in carrying out the school values. A special congratulations goes to Lorenzo in Y3 who was the first child to receive 100 dojos on the final day of the term in October!

As Advent draws closer, we warmly invite all our families to join us for our **Advent and School Parish Mass on Sunday 6th December at 9.30am**. Thank you to everyone who has already volunteered for their child to do a reading at Mass. We are still looking for a few more volunteers, so if you regularly attend this Mass and your child would like to be involved, please email the school office.



Congratulations to Ms Ferguson

You may have noticed that Miss Ferguson was missing for the last three days of half term. She was busy back in Yorkshire preparing for her wedding, which took place on Saturday 24th October.



We wish her every happiness as she begins married life with James.

She shall be known as Mrs Ferguson at school!



Year 6 class trip— Shackleton Tour

Year 6 enjoyed a fascinating visit to Dulwich College to learn more about Ernest Shackleton and his incredible Antarctic expedition. Having been studying Shackleton's Journey by William Grill in English, the children loved discovering more about his adventures and seeing the historic James Caird boat up close.






Year 5 - Kew Gardens

I was delighted to join Year 5 on their visit to Kew Gardens on Tuesday as part of their Science curriculum. The children enjoyed an informative session exploring rainforests and plants in different habitats, before having the opportunity to wander around the wonderful gardens and see their learning brought to life. It was a fantastic trip and a lovely day was had by all!








Year 3 Trip—Wintershall

Year 3 enjoyed a wonderful trip to Lambeth Palace to visit the Wintershall Live Nativity Story. Despite the rainy weather, the children had a lovely time meeting and interacting with the different characters from the Nativity story, bringing the story of the birth of Jesus to life in a memorable way. During the visit, they also took part in a one-minute silence to remember those who lost their lives in war as part of Armistice Day. It was a lovely and meaningful trip, enjoyed by all!






Special Year 1 Visitors

Thank you so much to Raiph's Grandmother and Matilda's Grandmother and Great-Grandmother for visiting our Year One class today. They shared with us some lovely first hand accounts about their childhood experiences, and what changes they had noticed within their life times. The children had an opportunity to practise their oracy skills through asking lots of interesting questions!





Armistice Day

On **Armistice Day**, the whole school community came together to remember and honour all those who have fallen in past and present conflicts. We took a moment to reflect, show our respect and pay tribute to the courage and sacrifice of those who have served and continue to serve our country. After the minutes silence, the school came tother to say the Lords prayer and discuss the importance of celebrating this day each year.



B Buddies



We are delighted to announce our new **'B' Buddies!**

Following an application process and interviews with Mrs Murphy, these fantastic representatives have been selected to become our playground buddies and support our Y6 playground mentors.

Their role is to support children who may be feeling a little low or lonely, or who simply need a helping hand to feel included in a game.

Our new buddies received training from Barnardo's on Wednesday and are now ready to take on this important role. They will be officially introduced to the school next week as we launch Anti-Bullying Week.

We look forward to seeing them make a positive difference by supporting children during their break and

Diary Dates

2026

Monday 16th November

- Anti-bullying week—Off Socks Day

Tuesday 17th November

- Y6 Class Mass

Wednesday 18th November

- Y6 Class Trip

Wednesday 19th November

- Y2 Class Trip
- Fr Ariel visiting Reception

Friday 20th November

- Own clothes day
- Visiting Author—Benji Alexander

Saturday 21st November

- Parish Christmas Fair

Tuesday 24th November

- Y3 Winter Sounds Rehearsal
- Y5 Class Mass

Thursday 26th November

- Parent-teacher appointments

Monday 30th November

- Y6 Advent Confessions

Tuesday 1st December

- Y4 Class Mass

Friday 4th December

- Rec & Y1 Class Trip

Monday 7th December

- Y5 Advent Confessions

Tuesday 8th December

- Y3 Class Mass

Wednesday 9th December

- KS1 Nativity
- Y3 Winter Sounds Concert

Thursday 10th December

- School Open Day (Reception prospective parents)

Friday 11th December

- KS1 Nativity

Wednesday 16th December

- Y2 Class Trip

Friday 18th December

- End of Term—1.30pm

2027-2028 Reception Admissions

If you require Fr Richard to sign a Certificate of Catholic Practice as part of your child's application, we kindly ask that you arrange this with him before the Christmas holiday break, if possible. December is an especially busy time for the Church, so we would appreciate your help in ensuring there is sufficient time for certificates to be signed.

The admissions form and certificate can be found on the school website - https://www.holyghost.wandsworth.sch.uk/Admissions/

Please remember that **all applications must be submitted by 15 January 2027.**

School Uniform

You will have seen a letter sent out last week about the statutory changes we have made to our uniform policy. This policy is available on our school website.

Hair and Accessories

Please remember that girls with hair longer than shoulder length should have it tied back. **We also ask that the number of hair clips worn is kept to a minimum and that purple hair accessories are used wherever possible. Large, brightly coloured headbands are not permitted.**

School Shoes

Please note black boots are not acceptable as school shoes.

School Coats

Please make sure your child comes into school with a branded school coat. We have many names coast in the office - please feel free to come and take one of these if your child has lost their coat!

Attendance

The weekly attendance figures are as follows.

The winners for this fortnight are

Year 5 with 97.96%

Our total school attendance this week is : 95.79%

Attendance Matters
Every student. Every day.

Anti Bullying Week

In celebration of Anti-Bullying Week, we are inviting all of our pupils to wear Odd Socks on **Monday 16th November.** We wanted to create a fun way of celebrating Anti-Bullying Week and what makes us all unique. Odd Socks Day is an opportunity to have fun, be yourself, and spread awareness of the core values Anti-Bullying Week promotes.



Dear Parents and Carers,

Would your child enjoy a fun-filled Christmas Holiday Camp with Transform PE?
We're exploring the possibility of running a **Transform PE Christmas Holiday Camp** and would love to hear from families who may be interested!

Our camps offer children the opportunity to stay active, make friends and enjoy a fantastic range of activities, including:
Football and multi-sports Dodgeball and laser tag
Gymnastics and team games Christmas-themed games and challenges

All activities will be delivered by our friendly and experienced Transform PE coaching team, providing a safe, inclusive and enjoyable environment for children.
Interested? Let us know!

We've created a short Google Form to help us understand how many families would be interested in attending.
Please complete our expression of interest form here:
-Expression on interest form Christmas camp
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeYLmwsRqKulhG_eLUCZ39Qdg9orRoklnz2rTFyWjS8GmrVKA/viewform

Please note: This is an expression of interest only, not a confirmed booking. Further details, including dates, timings, location and pricing, will be shared if there is sufficient interest.

