



Newsletter

Friday 9th
October 2026

Holy Ghost Catholic Primary
School

www.holyghost.wandsworth.sch.uk



We began our celebration of the Month of the Holy Rosary with a special assembly thoughtfully prepared and led by our school chaplains. They explained why October is dedicated to the Rosary, the importance of this special prayer and how we pray it. Throughout the week, the children have continued their prayerful reflections in class by praying a decade of the Rosary and listening to the stories of Jesus and Mary that we remember through the different Mysteries of the Rosary. It has also been lovely to see the beautiful artwork produced as part of the children's homework, showcasing their thoughtful artistic interpretations of Mary. The chaplains have chosen a selection for the school prayer table which they have organised this month.



We warmly invite all families to join our chaplains and Father Richard for a special Family Rosary Prayer Session on **Tuesday 13th October at 8.45am** in the Mary Chapel at church. This will be a lovely opportunity for our school community to come together in prayer during this special month. All families are welcome!

Throughout October, we are also celebrating Black History Month. This year's theme is '**Honouring Our Communities**'. Each class has been exploring a different aspect of community, reflecting on the importance of diversity and the valuable contributions people make to the world around us. Over the next two weeks, the children will continue their learning by exploring the lives and achievements of inspirational Black individuals who are making a positive difference in our world today. We look forward to sharing the children's learning with you in our next newsletter.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2026
HONOURING OUR COMMUNITIES



The Wednesday Word is **INVITATION**.

'Jesus invites us to build the civilization of love together.'

Pope Francis

Golden Book and Dojo Points



Well done to our fantastic Year 2 writers, who used their imaginations to the full by writing in the role of Traction Man -

while he was wearing a romper suit and green bonnet! Not an easy task!

Congratulations to our very diligent and helpful pupils who have been allocated over 50 Dojo points!



Year 6 Leadership Roles

Congratulations to our Year 6 pupils on their new roles.



Prefects



Mentors



House Captains (Planets)



Sports Leaders



Eco Team



Digital Leaders

Bunting for Hope—"Put people and planet before profit"

This week, we were delighted to welcome Trevor Bragg from Friends of the Earth to our school. Trevor spoke to the children about the importance of looking after our planet and protecting the environment for future generations.

The children enjoyed learning more about the ways we can all make a difference and help keep our planet safe. Some of the "bunting" made by the children.

For more information please see <https://friendsoftheearth.uk/latest/craftivism-balham-climate-action>



Year 6—Tower of London

Year 6 enjoyed a fascinating visit to the **Tower of London** as part of our History topic, *Crime and Punishment*. The children explored the Tower and discovered how crime and punishment have changed throughout history, learning about some of the famous prisoners who were held there. The children particularly enjoyed learning about **John Gerard**, a Catholic priest who was imprisoned at the Tower before making a remarkable escape. The visit brought our classroom learning to life and gave the children a fascinating insight into crime, justice and punishment in the past.



Year 5—Viking Workshop

Year 5 had a wonderful afternoon taking part in an exciting Viking workshop! The children enjoyed learning about Viking life, exploring fascinating facts and discovering what it was like to live during the Viking era. It was a fantastic hands-on experience that brought their history learning to life, and the children thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to become young Viking explorers!



Black History Month

Year 6 welcomed Chelsea Football Club to Holy Ghost for a special Black History Month presentation and a series of engaging activities. The children explored the importance of community, belonging and supporting one another, while reflecting on inspirational Black individuals who have made a positive impact on their lives and the wider world. It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate diversity, share ideas and recognise the importance of learning from the achievements and experiences of others.



Diary Dates

2026

Tuesday 13th October

- Parent Rosary Session
- Y4 Class Trip
- Y3 Class Mass

Wednesday 14th October

- Y6 Class Assembly

Thursday 15th October

- Fr Ariel to visit Y5

Friday 16th October

- Y5 & Y6 Reading and Writing session—9am

Monday 19th October

- Y2 Class Trip

Tuesday 20th October

- Y4 Class Mass
- Author visit

Wednesday 21st October

- Y5/Y6 boys Football Competition

Thursday 22nd October

- Y5/Y6 girls Football Competition

Friday 23rd October

- Y3 & Y4 Reading & Writing Session—9am
- End of Half Term 3.30pm

Monday 2nd November

- Children return to school

Tuesday 3rd November

- Y2 Class Mass

Wednesday 4th November

- Y5 Southwark Recording
- Y6 Class Trip

Friday 6th November

- PTA Quiz Night

Tuesday 10th November

- Y1 Class Mass
- Y5 Class Trip

Wednesday 11th November

- Y3 Class Trip

Tuesday 17th November

- Y6 Class Mass

Wednesday 18th November

- Y6 Class Trip

School Chaplains—Food Bank Drive

The Chaplains are organising donations to the food bank at St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church in Wandsworth. They are asking every child to bring a donation to school on either **Tuesday 20th or Wednesday 21st of October**. The Chaplains will be at the school gates to collect the donations.

The food bank has asked specifically for items that can be prepared using minimal fuel or equipment, as many of their clients are experiencing fuel poverty. Items that would be particularly appreciated include:

Tins - vegetables, soup, meat, fish, puddings and custard

Packets - semi-cooked rice, pasta, biscuits

Jars - honey, nutella, jam, pasta sauces

With your support, we are very excited to donate as much as we can to this very worthwhile cause!

Thank you, The Chaplains

Attendance

The weekly attendance figures are as follows.

The winners for this week are

Year 5 with 98.9%

Our total school attendance this week is : **96.1%**

Parish—Save the Dates

Saturday 21st November—Parish Christmas Fair

Sunday 6th December—Parish Seniors Lunch

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.

Please note that if you cannot make these sessions, teachers will happily provide a 1:1 session to run through the slides and give you feedback on your child's reading.

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 16th October—Year 5+6 & **Friday 23rd October**—Year 3+4



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**



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

