



# Newsletter

View photos on our  
Facebook page



## February 2017

### CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 2017

We celebrated Catholic Schools week with lots of activities to celebrate the part God plays in our lives.

The message this year was *Learning with Pope Francis to Care for Our Common Home*.

Primary 1 started the week off with a beautiful assembly for parents and pupils entitled "Creation". Their lovely readings, prayers and singing kept everyone captivated and it was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Well done to you all girls!



### GRANDPARENTS DAY

Thank you to all the grandparents, parents and family who came to celebrate Grandparents Day with us as part of Catholic Schools week. It

was lovely to see so many of you.

Thank you to Father Myles for leading our service.



### CONFIRMATION

Our Primary 7 girls received the sacrament of Confirmation from Bishop Farquhar in Holy Cross Church. We were very proud of all our girls and would

especially like to congratulate the girls who read, sang, participated in the processions and played flute, clarinet and violin. They had a special celebration in school the next day.

Thank you Mrs McNally for the beautiful cake!



### ROAD SAFETY QUIZ

Some of our P7 girls went to Stranmillis University College to represent Holy Cross Girls' in the annual Road Safety Quiz. They did really well, answering lots of questions that even the teachers found hard. Well done girls!



### ANNUAL BLACKBOARD TEACHING AWARDS 2017

Congratulations to Mrs Maura McNally on her nomination for the Blackboard Teaching Awards 2017.

She was 'over the moon' to be nominated for the award and says that it is especially important to her because the nomination was made by a parent in the school – 'this makes it extra special for me'.



### PEACEPLAYERS TOURNAMENT

P6 & 7 pupils from Holy Cross Girls' Primary School and Wheatfield Primary School came together to play on their integrated teams at the super twinning tournament. They all gave tonnes of energy, demonstrated great teamwork but most importantly SPORTSMANSHIP!!!!



### GLOBAL LEARNING PROGRAMME

As part of our whole school Global Learning Programme we took the time today to celebrate the Chinese New Year. Pupils throughout the school were given the opportunity to experience different aspects

of Chinese culture.

Mrs Cheung showed us some Chinese cooking and Miss Hanley introduced us to Lion dancing and the Chinese Martial Art of Tai Chi which the girls and staff really enjoyed.

"xiè xie" (thank you)  
Mrs Cheung and Miss Hanley.



### SCHOOL GARDEN

Raymond and Dana from the Europa Hotel visited to check up on the progress of our school garden which they have helped us to create. Primary 5 showed them round and told them about the work we have done to improve the garden - adding signs, making the seating waterproof, planting fruit trees and including a water butt.

They were very impressed and even videoed the pupils talking about the garden. We look forward to our continued work with



them in the future.

### READ IN BED



Well done to everyone who has taken part in Read in Bed this year especially those who were chosen as Star Readers each week. As usual it has been a great success with lots of girls getting up and recommending books to their classmates and in front of their Key Stage. Keep reading girls!

### FIRE SAFETY VISIT

Primary 5 met the fire fighters of Red Watch from Westland Fire Station. Andy, Colin, Ricky, Terry and Ally came in to talk to them about fire safety and how they can help everyone to stay safe at home. The girls then had the chance to sit in the fire engine and some even tried on the breathing apparatus.



### P7 MEET KOULLA YIASOUMA - NI COMMISSIONER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Her inspirational talk encouraged all children to have a voice in what they want for their future. She explained that all children have rights and one of these rights is the right to be heard. After her talk the children had time to meet her and have a buffet lunch. Thank you to Shane at Ardoyne Youth Enterprise for his invitation to the event and the Houben Centre Cafe for the gorgeous food.



### DAIRY COUNCIL

P5 and P6 had a visit from the Dairy Council. Tessa and Eimear came to tell them all about Food and Fitness. They taught the girls about the benefits of a balanced diet and an active lifestyle.



### SAFETY BUS

The Translink Safety bus came to our school this morning. Our Primary 7 class learnt about behaving responsibly on buses. They also got information about the consequences of damaging public buses. We also discovered that one of our

Grandad's is a very well-known bus driver!

Thank you to Kevin and Susan for making the visit so enjoyable!



### THE WATER BUS

Primary 4 and 5 had a visit from the Water Bus today. Graeme and Pat from Northern Ireland Water came and spoke to us about how we use water. They found out all the things that can be thrown down the toilet and those things that we should throw in the bin instead. They also learned about the water cycle, and how waste water is cleaned and returned to the sea so that it can continue in the water cycle. A very informative morning was had by all.



### JUNIOR ENTREPRENEUR PROGRAMME

Can you help?

P7 have begun work on their Junior Entrepreneur Programme which will finish with setting up their own small business in school.

We would love to have some local entrepreneurs visit our school to talk to the girls, give them some ideas and answer some of their questions to help them in setting up their business.

If interested please contact the school on 02890 391771.

Thank you.



## MATHS PUZZLERS

It was great to see so many girls returning their Maths Puzzlers.

We had lots of girls with their Puzzler completed correctly but only one lucky girl could be drawn from each class as the overall winner. Remember if you didn't win this time look out for the next Puzzler and don't forget to get your parents to help you.



## ECO SCHOOLS



Key Stage One were treated to the Captain Cleanup and General Grime Puppet show today. The pupils learnt about litter and the effects which it has on the environment.

## A BIG THANK YOU

A big thank you to the Irish American Partnership for their help in purchasing 6 iPads to support the children in P5-7 with their Accelerated Reading Programme. Their generosity is much appreciated.



## SAFER INTERNET DAY

As part of Safer Internet Day our KS2 pupils learnt about the importance of staying safe while using their mobile phones, tablets and computers. They know how important it is to THINK before they post anything online - remembering that once it is on the internet it is impossible to totally remove it.



**Safer Internet Day 2017** | Tuesday 7 February  
Be the change: Unite for a better internet  
[www.saferinternetday.org.uk](http://www.saferinternetday.org.uk)  
Log On Safer Internet Centre

## PARENTS' CYBER SAFETY COURSE

Children in Northern Ireland are delighted to be partnering with the PSNI to launch a FREE cyber-safety workshop for parents in Belfast City Hall: **8th March 2017 6:30-9pm**. The course is open to parents and carers of children, including grandparents.



## LEADING SCIENTISTS OF THE FUTURE

As part of the NI Science Festival, Primary 6 participated in a fantastic science workshop where they made their very own robot, the 'Doodle Bot'. The girls were delighted to see their robots in action, designing little pieces of art where they made their very own robot, the 'Doodle Bot'. The girls were delighted to see their robots in action, designing little pieces of art using four different colours at once. A big thank you to all involved in the organisation of this workshop, the girls thoroughly enjoyed it!



## A VISIT TO KINGSPAN

P7 were treated to a visit to Kingspan Stadium this week with their friends from Wheatfield Primary School. They got to check out all the facilities and took part in an iPad workshop.





## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February:** P6  
BEAM Cyber Safety workshop
- **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February:** P5 visit to W5
- **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February:** Students from St Mary's University Canada to deliver workshops to P3-7 as part of Peace International
- **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February:** Fairtrade Fortnight begins
- **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March:** SING OUT Concert
- **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March:** World Book Day - Dress up as your favourite character
- **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March:** P4 visit to Castleward
- **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March:** P7 Keep Safe
- **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March:** Cancer Focus workshops
- **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March:** P7 Love for Life programme with Holy Cross Boys' and Mercy Primary

- **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March:** Pupils visiting Bradley Manor Care Home to entertain residents with tradition music and dancing
- **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March:** Ceili - half day. School closes at 12noon buses available but no dinners

- **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March:** St Patrick's Day - school closed



- **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March:** FISCA concert at St Anne's Cathedral

- **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> April:** Half day

- **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April:** Easter Holidays. School reopens on **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April**



### Contact us:

*Holy Cross Girls' Primary School  
Ardoyne Road  
Belfast  
BT14 7HZ  
Tel. No: (028) 90391771  
<http://www.holycrossgirls.com>*

Find us on Facebook. 