

Holy Cross Catholic Multi Academy Company

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

2023





**To all Parents, Carers, Staff, Governors
and Directors
at Holy Cross Catholic Multi Academy
Company Schools**

As we come to the end of another academic year this newsletter gives a flavour of the activities that have been taking place across our school communities over recent weeks as well as some information about future plans.

This year we have had several capital programs taking place improving our school buildings and security. Cardinal Newman's new build is now out to tender and we have recently had the wonderful news that Bishop Ullathorne is in the first phase of the next stage of the Department for Education new build programme.

Recently the primary schools have received their assessment results relating to academic achievements of their pupils following SATs, well done to all the pupils and staff. Our Year 11 and 13 students and staff wait for GCSE and A level results in August but we are very aware of all the hard work that has been undertaken by the pupils and staff in preparation.

At this time of year we also say goodbye to staff and pupils that are leaving this year our community - we thank them for their service to our pupils and and wish them well in their future endeavours.

I would like to thank all the Governors and Directors for the time they give to Catholic Education as volunteers. Our best wishes to the Governors and Directors who are leaving this year and a warm welcome to the new Governors who will be joining us in the new academic year. We are looking for more foundation Governors so if you are interested, please get in touch.

Thank you to all the staff, children, parents, volunteers, clergy, Governors and Directors for all that has been achieved this year. Wishing you all a very pleasant break from school, come back safe and refreshed. God Bless you all.

John Teahan

Chair, Board of Directors



Dear Staff, Parents and Carers, Governors and Directors

As we come to the end of another academic year we look back on the many successes achieved throughout the year. We also look forward to the summer holiday and the opportunity for rest and relaxation and quality time with our family and friends. We continue to be immensely proud of all our young people and amazed at the many wonderful achievements by pupils and staff in all our schools.

A huge thank you to all our young people and staff who make our schools wonderful places to work and who have worked so hard and supported one another, not just in their school but across the MAC and their communities. Over the last twelve months we have further developed opportunities to work together across our schools, and the support we have gained from working together as a family of schools is much appreciated.

I would like to thank all our parents and carers for your continued support, patience and understanding. The partnership between parents/carers and schools has never been as important as it is now and it is up to all of us to make sure it remains strong and mutually supportive. At the end of this newsletter please see information from Coventry City Council regarding access to support during the summer holiday if needed.

At the end of the year we have to say goodbye to many members of our communities as they move onto new things. Well done to all our year 6 pupils on their recent SATs outcomes and good luck to you all as you prepare to start secondary school. I am sure that our year 11 and 13 students and staff will be anxiously awaiting their GCSE and A level results in August but whatever the outcomes I know that our staff and pupils could not have worked any harder and we are incredibly proud of them all!

At the end of the academic year we say goodbye to staff who are leaving us and thank them for their contribution to our schools and their dedicated service to our communities. We wish them every success, good health and happiness in the future. We also wish every success and happiness to Years 6, 11 and 13 as they all prepare for the next phase in their educational journey or the start of employment.

On behalf of everyone at the Holy Cross Catholic MAC, I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a peaceful, happy and relaxing summer holiday and we pray that in September we can begin our new academic year with normal schools' systems and routines.

Holy Cross of Jesus be our hope.

Marina Kelly

Catholic Senior Executive Leader



In other news...

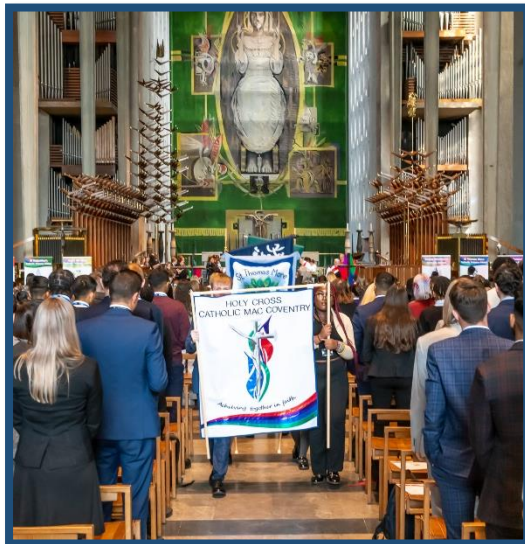
Holy Cross Catholic MAC Feast Day

On Wednesday 14th September 2023, we will be celebrating our annual feast day at The Cathedral Church of Saint Michael and we are delighted that Archbishop Bernard Longley will be leading our celebration of mass. After mass pupils and staff will be participating in workshops in the new and old cathedral.



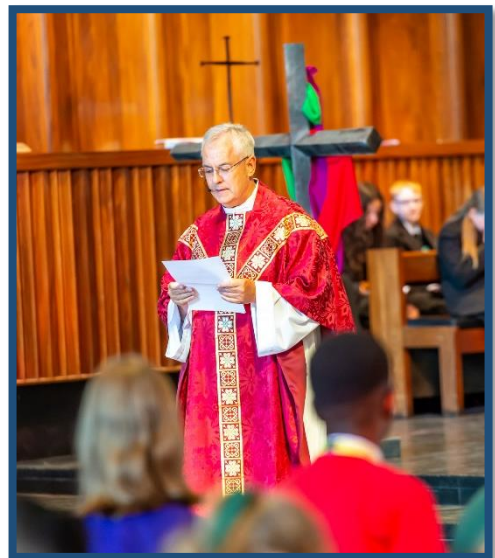
This event is a wonderful experience for our young people and puts Christ at the centre at the start of our new school year. The day will evolve around The Way of the Cross focusing on our 7 key areas:

- Responsive to God's calling
- People of Peace and Justice
- Charitable and caring
- Stewards of our planet
- Equal and inclusive
- Global Citizens
- Active members of a Catholic community



Canon Tom Farrell

Many congratulations to Canon Tom Farrell who recently celebrated his 40th anniversary of ordination. Canon Tom has spent 17 of his 40 years at Christ the King and we thank him for all his tremendous hard work and support for our young people and schools.



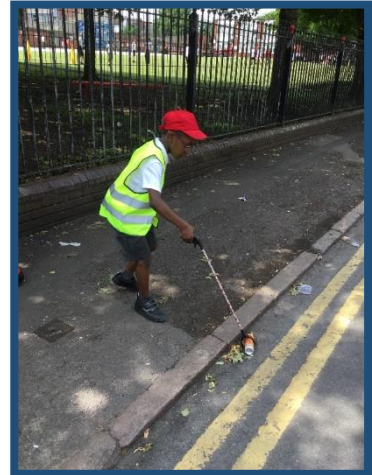
Green Heroes!

Our Pupils Leading the Way in Litter-Picking!

Our school pupils have been having a big impact on our communities through their dedicated litter-picking efforts. With unwavering enthusiasm and a strong sense of responsibility towards the environment, our students have taken up the noble cause of keeping our communities clean and green.



Through their tireless work, they have not only enhanced the aesthetics of our surroundings but also set a remarkable example for others to follow.



Their commitment to preserving the environment and fostering a sense of civic duty is truly commendable. Together, they are creating a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable future for us all. Many thanks to everyone who participated!



Parent Survey - May 2023 Feedback

A big thank you to all our parents and carers who took the time to complete our recent survey. There was lots of positive feedback as well as helpful comments about areas that parents felt could be improved. Headteachers from our schools will update parents about actions taken in response to the individual school feedback.

We had 590 responses from parents across the MAC:

- 86% said they would recommend their school to another person
- 85% said their child was happy at school
- 87% said their child felt safe at school
- 83% said the school recognises when their child is working well
- 74% said they felt their school communicates well with parents
- 79% said the school ensures its pupils are well behaved
- 81% said the school has high expectations for their child

Emotional support is outstanding

Pastoral care is brilliant

I also like the way the teachers teach, how they know, understand and lead the students

My child is extremely happy here.

It is a wonderful school with lovely staff that promotes the well being of children

I have been supported so well by the school/all staff.

My son comes home happy. He enjoys everything about school

My son is absolutely happy at the school.



Department for Education National School Rebuilding Programme

School Rebuilds

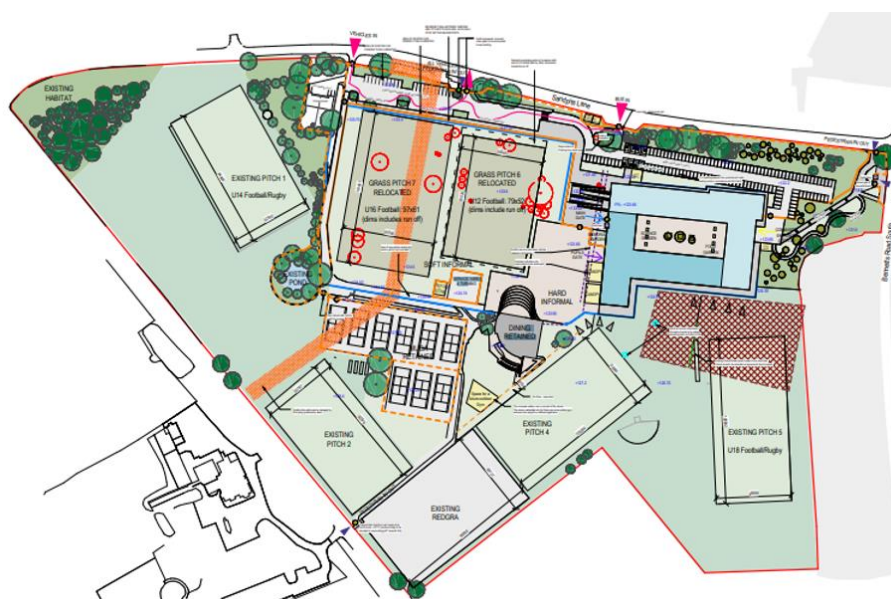
As previously shared we are ecstatic that both secondary schools in the Holy Cross Catholic MAC are being fully rebuilt under the new national School Rebuilding Programme. This exciting news means that Holy Cross Catholic MAC is one of only a handful of educational trusts in the country receiving more than one secondary school rebuild.

Cardinal Newman

The Cardinal Newman Catholic School rebuild has passed initial planning and the process to appoint the successful contractor will conclude shortly.

Detailed design work is now beginning with construction starting in early 2024 opening in late 2025. The recently built £4m canteen and dining block will, of course, be retained.

No designs have been agreed at this point but detailed 'cost control' designs have been drawn up for the procurement tender.



Bishop Ullathorne

We were delighted to learn recently that the Bishop Ullathorne Catholic School rebuild is in the next phase of projects in the national School Rebuilding Programme scheme.

Initial meetings are taking place this summer and we will update with projected timescales in the next MAC newsletter.

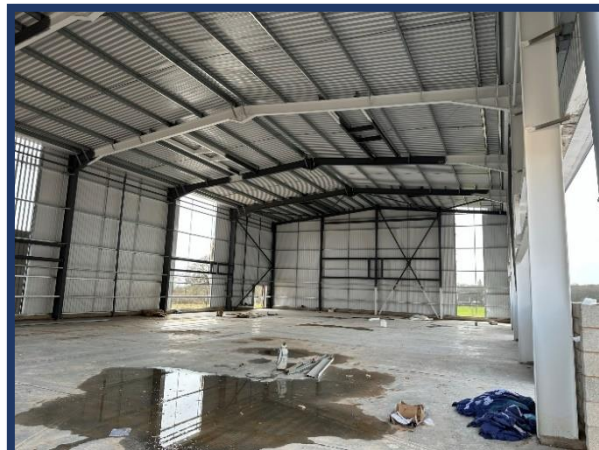
HCCMAC

Capital Works Update

Bishop Ullathorne

The Bishop Ullathorne new £4m Sports Hall is taking shape and on target for an August opening. The brand-new facility will house 4 badminton courts, indoor football, cricket nets, basketball hoops, trampolining and mats for gymnastics.

The new changing areas will be complemented with accessible provision and officials' changing areas for tournaments.



St Elizabeth's Hall Extension

The St Elizabeth's Hall extension project was completed in May providing essential additional learning space within the school. The additional space costing over £400,000 will link directly to the main hall and house a new Learning Resource Centre area as well as office space and storage.



Coventry Peace Orchard

Coundon Park hosts the Eden Project on 23rd July 2023. There will be lots of community-based events taking place and it will be a lovely day out!

If you are interested, please see here for more information:

<https://www.coventryrocks.co.uk/listings/coventry-community-celebration>



Join Eden Project Communities at The Peace Orchard, for a Coventry Community Celebration, on Sunday 23 July 2023, 11am - 3:30pm.

Equip yourselves with some simple, family-friendly bushcraft and survival skills as part of the exciting Go Parks project with the Wild Earth team, and take these learnings back to your communities. Roots in Nature will be practising the ancient Japanese art form of Hapa Zome - meaning 'leaf dye' - and working on your wellbeing with worry dolls.

Get crafty with Creative Kindness who'll be exploring the lifecycle of the butterfly, with Origami, painting pebbles and making mini bug hotels from household waste. Garden Organic will give you the know-how on home composting, seed sowing and organic growing, while Team Springboard will be arming you with seed bombs in a bid to boost biodiversity.

To tackle the greatest issues facing humanity, we need strong and resilient communities, yet societies are becoming increasingly fragmented. Based on the belief that we are better equipped to tackle challenges when we face them together we are building social capital for our collective future.

News from Our Schools



Achieving together in faith

Christ the King Catholic Primary School

Peter Pan Performance

Well done to year 6 who gave an outstanding performance of their end-of-year musical, Peter Pan. A huge thank you to all the pupils and staff who have worked so hard on our production and thank you to all their families and friends for supporting them.



Coventry Food Bank

Well done to all the children and staff for the wonderful food collected for the Coventry Food Bank.



Sports Day

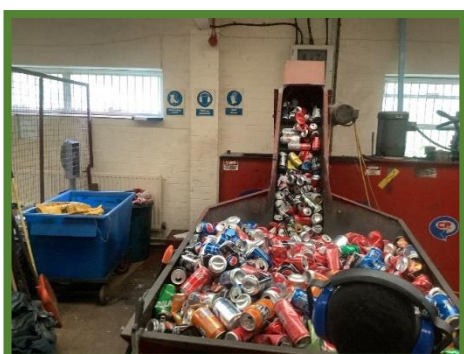
Pupils participated in a range of fun sporting activities during the Sports Festival Week. Well done to the Year 6 record holders 2023 in 100m sprint, chest push, standing long jump and speed bounce.



St Augustine's Catholic Primary School

Eco Team

On Wednesday 7th June 2023, children from our Eco Team, and Mr Bennett, were invited alongside a small group from Christ the King School to Crown Recycling. They were able to see and learn all about the process of recycling.



Sports Day

We had a wonderful time on Wednesday 14th June for Sports Afternoon. Thank you to all the parents/carers and family members who were able to attend the event.



Coventry Music Collective

All the children from nursery to year 6 attended one of the two sessions with Coventry Music Collective who are a ten-piece band made up of staff from Coventry Music Hub, including peripatetic teachers and pupils from

secondary schools in Coventry. As they entertained staff and pupils with a variety of musical styles performed with a jazz twist our children were intrigued and inspired. The music could be heard throughout the school and MAC Head Office and it brought a smile to everyone's face. It was fabulous!

St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School

Belgrade Theatre

Thank you to The Belgrade Theatre who led a wonderful performance for our Year 6 children focused on transition and change, as they continue their preparations for secondary school



Warwick Castle

Year 1 had a fantastic visit to Warwick Castle. They really enjoyed the action-packed War of the Roses show. They climbed to the top of Guy's Tower, explored the Great Hall and enjoyed playing in Zog Land.



Infant Sports Day

Well done to everybody involved in this year's sports day event when pupils had the opportunity to take part in a range of activities.



St John Vianney Catholic Primary School



Community Litter Pick

In an effort to teach the importance of community spaces, students from St John Vianney participated in this year's MAC Community litter pick. Year 5 pupils contributed to the effort to keep their community clean and free of litter.



Coventry Schools Girls Cross-Country

Well done girls for achieving second and third place in the Coventry Girls Cross Country. We are extremely proud.



St John Vianney presents *The Lion King*

In the last week of term, we had 3 standing ovations for our performances of *The Lion King*. Everyone in Key Stage 2 participated, whether in the choir, dancing, acting or taking a leading role and everyone was fabulous "It was moving, funny and captivating" "Amazing! Such confident performances!" "Loving it! You can tell the hard work that went into everything".



St Thomas More Catholic Primary School

Year 6 - Cinderella Rockerfella Production

Year 6 put on a stunning performance of Cinderella in the week of term. Their performances were amazing with talented singing, acting and genius comic timing! A huge well done to all involved - children and staff!

Thanks go to parents, staff and the PTFA for their involvement in the Year 6 show.

Next stop, Broadway



Peace Prayer Garden

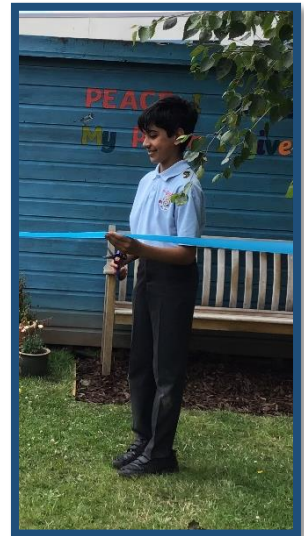
We are thrilled to share the wonderful news that the Peace Prayer Garden at our school is now complete! This project gave our pupils a great opportunity to help plan and design the garden. It will be a wonderful space for our young people to pray for peace together!



school sports events across the city. We are incredibly proud of all our pupils and our sporting achievements.

Coventry Catholic Sports Team

This year our pupils have represented St Thomas More at a number of Catholic



Bishop Ullathorne Catholic School

Diversity Day Picnic and Sponsored Walk

It is wonderful to see so many students embrace the recent Diversity Day and came to school wearing outfits that reflected their culture. A huge thank you to everyone who played a part in making the day happen – a special thank you to Year 12 students particularly for all their hard work



Sports Day

Bishop Ullathorne had a very busy Sports Day with lots of records being broken. Students worked well in their tutor teams and there was a wonderful atmosphere around school. We know how lucky we are to have some wonderful school grounds to use on sports day!



Cardinal Newman Catholic School



Big Day in 2023

What an amazing two days students' have had on their Big Day In 2023! From Duck and Jump, to an inflatable assault course, to Nerf Wars and even Waltzers, students have had the time of their lives! And they deserved every bit of happiness and joy they had over the two days following all their hard work, commitment, enthusiasm and resilience over this last year, but particularly as this is our first big end

of year celebration after COVID.

A great time was had by everyone!



Matilda

Our recent school production of Matilda highlighted how talented and dedicated Newman students really are! A huge well done to all the cast and a special thanks

to the Performing Arts Department and everyone else who supported and helped put on such a fantastic show!



Summer Fun Coventry 2023

This summer holiday, children and young people who are eligible for benefit-related free school meals (or who meet our other eligibility criteria) can benefit from an amazing range of free holiday clubs, experiences, and food. The link below shows the wide collection of activities available, when and where they are being held, and the age ranges. A meal is provided at all clubs on each of the days they are running.

Once again there is lots to do and lots of support for our young people and their families in Coventry and the surrounding areas throughout the school summer holiday weeks.



Please use the following link to take you to further details about the many different events taking place:

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk>

How can I get help?

If you do not have access to the internet, you can call our Customer Contact team on 08085 834 333 for help to register your bookings over the phone. If you need help setting up your online account or using the booking system, contact our Early Help team on 08008 870 545. Alternatively, you can drop into one of our Family Hubs or Libraries across the city.

Visit: [coventry.gov.uk/directory/115/warm](https://www.coventry.gov.uk/directory/115/warm) to see where they are based.



Holy Cross Catholic MAC Prayer

Dear Lord

Let us be guided by your wisdom to
be united as the family of God.
Help us to use our gifts and talents
to spread friendship, peace and
justice across our Holy Cross
schools and communities.
Give us the strength and courage
to always do our best and be the
best person we can be.

Amen

**Holy Cross of Jesus
be our hope**