

Headteacher: Mrs Lucie Banks

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21st August 2025

#### Dear Families,

I hope you have all been having a wonderful summer holiday. Everyone at Holy Cross has been hard at work getting ready for the new school year, and we can't wait to welcome you back on **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September**.

Please find below some helpful information and reminders to ensure the school year starts smoothly.

## **School Day**

### Procedures for the beginning of the school day

- Children can enter school from **8:30am** to enable them to settle quickly to their early morning work. The Register will be taken at **8:40am**.
- Reception will be greeted by members of staff at The Annexe gate.
- Year 1 will be greeted at The Annexe gate on <u>Mondays, Tuesday and Wednesdays.</u> On <u>Thursdays and Fridays</u>, they will come into the main building via the school hall.
- Years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 will enter the main building via the school hall.
- Children in Years 4-6 may come into school unaccompanied.

#### Procedures for the end of the school day

- School finishes at 3:10pm, and parents come on to the school site to collect their child from the following places:
  - Reception The Annexe.
  - Year 1 Monday from The Annexe. <u>Tuesday Friday</u> from the back of the school, by the conservatory steps.
  - Years 2 and 3 from the back of the school, by the conservatory steps.
  - Year 4 from their classroom door.
  - Years 5 and 6 from the hall door.
- Children in Years 5 and 6 may also walk home alone once you have completed the permission slip. Consent forms will be sent out to parents in the first week.

### **School Meals & Packed Lunches**

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to **Universal Infant FREE School Meal (UIFSM)** served with milk or water.

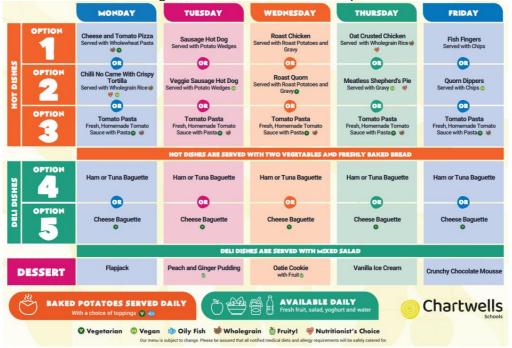
If you have a child in Years 3-6, and are eligible, they will also receive a Free School Meal. If you are not entitled to Free School Meals then dinners may also be purchased for children in Years 3-6, at a cost of £3.10 per day.

Children in all year groups may choose to bring a packed lunch, rather than having a school meal.

Most schools have adopted healthier lunchbox policies, which have been put in place to encourage healthy eating in school. At this time, we do not want to adopt a separate policy; however, we would draw your attention to the guidance below:

- Chocolate bars, fizzy drinks and sweets are not allowed
- Chocolate covered biscuits e.g. KitKat should be small and limited to one bar per day
- Nuts are banned to protect children in school with severe allergies, this includes products such as Nutella spread

Menu for the first week back. Don't forget it will start on the Tuesday!



### **Breaktime Snacks**

We will continue with our Tuck Shop, this is excellent value at 30p a day for a healthy snack! We offer a great selection of snacks, such as biscuits, bread sticks, wraps, breakfast bars, fruit and brioche rolls. Please pay online on your Compass account, if this is not possible we can take cash in the office.

Alternatively, children may bring a small healthy snack from home. Chocolate biscuits and crisps are not allowed at break time.

### **School Uniform**

Uniform is an important part of a school's identity. It reinforces who we are as a community and helps enable pupils to feel pride in their school. It ensures pupils are not put under any pressure because of the type of clothes they wear and promotes equality. We wear our uniform with pride, and thank you for ensuring your children are properly equipped for the school day.

Please ensure that your child has the correct uniform at all times, information can be found on our website: <a href="http://www.holycrossrcpri.iow.sch.uk/web/school\_uniform/591997">http://www.holycrossrcpri.iow.sch.uk/web/school\_uniform/591997</a>

Just a reminder that children may wear flat, black, short ankle boots. **'Ugg' style boots, boots with coloured patterns, boots higher than the ankle, boots with fur trims, and boots with heels are all unsuitable for school wear and are <u>not allowed</u>.** 

A reminder also that nail polish, and any kind of false nails (e.g. gel nails) are **not permitted.** 

#### **Breakfast Club**

We continue to offer early-morning provision from 7:45-8:30am, providing a range of quiet early morning activities, indoor games and outdoor sports. We also provide a healthy breakfast option as part of our breakfast club. Last entry if requiring breakfast is 8:10am. The Breakfast Club costs £2.50 a day. Please book places through the school office. Payments are made through Compass.

### **PE Days**

Children will continue to come to school in their PE kit on PE days. Please ensure that your child has the correct PE kit at all times:

http://www.holycrossrcpri.iow.sch.uk/web/school\_uniform/591997

Saint Jude (Reception)	Wednesday & Thursday
Saint Mary (Year 1)	Thursday & Friday
Saint Mary (Year 2)	Wednesday & Thursday
Saint John (Year 3)	Tuesday & Wednesday
Saint Teresa (Year 4)	Tuesday & Friday
Saint Veronica (Year 5)	Tuesday & Wednesday
Saint Michael (Year 6)	Tuesday & Thursday

### Children with PE on a Tuesday will need to come in their PE kits on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

#### **Forest School**

All Holy Cross pupils will be experiencing Forest School over the year. We are running slightly shorter blocks this year, to ensure the wider curriculum is given sufficient time. St Veronica Class will be starting the term with Forest School.

St Veronica Class will need Forest School clothing on the following dates: 02/09/2025 (This is to be confirmed, and notification will be sent to families as soon as we're able) 08/09/2025 15/09/2025

# **School Equipment**

Children in Years 5 and 6 are permitted to bring in their own stationary, if they would like. There is no requirement for families to provide this, it is purely optional.

If children wish to bring in their own equipment, please ensure it is a single, sensible-sized pencil case, with handwriting pens (no biros), pencils, coloured pencils, a highlighter, sharpener and eraser.

We look forward to seeing you on **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September**.

Kind regards,

Mrs Lucie Banks Headteacher