



Our values this term:



Holy Rood Catholic Primary School Newsletter

30th September 2025



Dear Lord,

Thank you for our world of **love** and for everyone's gifts received from above.

Give us strength to always be **honest**

On this day we pray, and we promise. We will dedicate and give of our best,

Guide us if we stop to rest.

Help us always to try and show **Respect** to others wherever we go.

Give us all a **courageous** voice so we can always make the right choice.

Lead us to always promote **equality**, and celebrate our school's rich diversity.

Amen

Welcome

A very warm welcome back to all of our children and parents. It has been so lovely to see all of the children, hear the buzz of excitement and see their lovely big smiles. We would also like to extend a big welcome to all of our new Reception children and their parents. We look forward to a happy and successful year for us all.

A gentle reminder to please ensure that all items of uniform, coats, water bottles and lunchboxes are clearly labelled with your child's name. This helps staff to ensure correct items are going home with the correct child and lost property remains at a minimum.



Attendance

Every day at school is important as the children are always learning something new, as well as building on prior learning, and missing school has a significant impact. We are already receiving a number of requests from parents to take their children out of school during term time and we would like to remind everyone that school is not permitted to authorise absence requests unless it is due to exceptional circumstances. We are also receiving a large number of dentist/optician requests. Please can we ask, that where possible, these appointments are made outside of school hours, or in the school holidays. Thank you.

Attendance Matters



Any attendance that falls between 90% - 95% is considered irregular and you may be contacted by the Education Welfare Officer. Any attendance that falls below 90% is considered persistent absence and your child's school place may be at risk. Please help us with your child's education by only taking holidays during the school breaks. If you require a copy of our school calendar, please visit our website or speak to a member of the admin team who will be happy to help you.

If your child is poorly and unable to attend school, please call the school office by 9:00am of that day and every subsequent day your child is poorly, to advise of your child's absence.



School Admissions

Applications for September 2026 Year 7 places at secondary school, must be submitted by **Midnight on 31st October 2025** via Swindon Borough Council. The website can be found [HERE](#).

If you are applying for a baptised child to attend a Catholic school, you will also need to complete their Supplementary Information Form (available on their school's website) and provide the school with a copy of your child's baptism certificate by the **31st October 2025**.



Please note that all applicants **must** complete the Local Authority form – not just a school's supplementary form, and baptism certificates **must** be provided to the secondary school.

If you have a child born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022 and are requiring a place for Reception in September 2026, you can apply [HERE](#). Applications for Reception places at Holy Rood must be submitted by **Midnight on 15th January 2026**.

Please also note that we have school spaces in some of our current year groups. If you know of anyone looking for a school place for their child, please ask them to contact the school office, who will happy to help with this process.

Road Safety Reminder



Road Safety continues to be an ongoing concern at our school and we would like to kick start the academic year by asking for our parents' help in teaching our children Road Safety Awareness. It is vitally important that designated crossings are used to cross the road safely. Can we ask all parents to please **use the Pedestrian crossing** by the church on Groundwell Road and the **Zebra Crossing** on Upham Road when walking to and from school. Crossing the road in between or behind stationary traffic is very dangerous and is not a good example to set for the children who, when they are older, may start crossing roads on their own.

Children who travel to and from school in cars should be in an appropriate car seat and **MUST** always **wear a seatbelt**.

Immanuel Church has very kindly allowed parents the use of their car park. Please can we stress the importance of this facility being used. **Our local PCSOs have been in to visit the school on both sites and have advised that they will be doing ad-hoc visits, and issuing fines to anyone parked on Zigzag or double yellow lines as it is not safe for children attending school.**

If you have any concerns, please speak to a member of the office. Thank you.

Nasal Flu Vaccinations

Children will be administered the nasal flu vaccination in school on **Tuesday 4th November at Upham Road** and **Thursday 13th November at Groundwell Road**. The vaccination is recommended to help protect your child against flu, which can be an unpleasant illness and can cause serious complications. Vaccinating your child will also help protect more vulnerable family and friends by preventing the spread of flu. If you wish for your child to receive the vaccination,





you must complete the consent form which can be found by clicking on this link:
www.bswschoolagedimms.co.uk/Forms/Flu

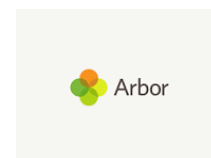
The school code for Upham Road children is: **WT137074**

The school code for Groundwell Road children is: **WT137074A**

The vaccination is free and is a quick, simple and painless spray up the nose. Even if your child had the vaccine last year, the type of flu can vary each winter, so it is recommended to have it again this year or they won't be protected. If you have any questions regarding this or require any assistance with completing the form, please contact the school, please contact the school immunisation team on 0300 247 0082 or email vcl.immunisations@nhs.net. Thank you

Arbor

Arbor is our essential communication tool used for various school needs, including booking lunches, paying for trips, selecting after school clubs and sending/receiving communications.



If you haven't already done so, please download the Arbor app. It's a convenient way to stay connected and manage your child's school-related activities. If you require assistance with accessing your parent portal, please contact the school office.

European Day of Languages

On Friday 26th September, the children celebrated European Day of Languages, where they had the chance to explore different cultures within Europe as well as try cuisine from around the world. As a school, we also thought it would be a wonderful opportunity to explore the different cultures within our own school setting. Therefore, everyone was invited into school in their national dress or colours of their home flags. We would like to say a massive thank you to everyone for taking part; it was wonderful to celebrate the diverse cultures we have within our school community and we look forward to being able to do this again soon!





Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 1st October 2025 – Year 6 Parent Welcome Meeting

Thursday 2nd October 2025 – KS1 and KS2 Harvest Mass in Church

Friday 3rd October 2025 – CAFOD – Non-school uniform day

Monday 6th October 2025 – KS2 and Owls class Parents Evening

Tuesday 7th October 2025 – Badgers Class and KS1 Parents Evening

Wednesday 8th October 2025 – EYFS and KS1 Parents Evening

Wednesday 8th October 2025 – Year 6 Residential Parents Meeting

Thursday 9th October 2025 – KS2 Parents Evening

Friday 10th October 2025 – 'Hello Yellow' – Non-school uniform day

Friday 17th October 2025 – Year 3 and Year 4 school disco – 3:15pm – 4pm

Friday 17th October 2025 - Year 5 and Year 6 school disco – 4:15pm – 5:15pm

Monday 20th October 2025 – Year 1 and Year 2 school disco – 3:15pm – 4:15pm

Monday 20th October 2025 – Year 5 film night

Tuesday 21st October 2025 – Last day of term 1

Monday 3rd November – Staff Development Day – School closed to children

Tuesday 4th November – Upham Road Nasal Flu Vaccinations

Thursday 13th November – Groundwell Road Nasal Flu Vaccinations

Monday 17th November 2025 – Kestrels Class Trip

Tuesday 18th November 2025 – Year 5 and Year 6 - Mass in school

Wednesday 19th November 2025 – Hawks Class Trip

Tuesday 25th November 2025 – Year 3 and Year 4 - Mass in school

Thursday 27th November 2025 – School photos

