



Our values this term:

Honesty

Responsibility

Holy Rood Catholic Primary School Newsletter

25th March 2026



Lord our God,
 we thank and praise you for the greatness of your love, shown to us in Jesus Christ.
 We thank you for the new life we celebrate at Easter;
 help us to keep growing in the life that never comes to an end.
 We pray for our families, our friends, and all those we care about:
 fill them with hope and happiness.
 Amen.

Relics of Carlo Acutis



This term, our KS2 chaplains were invited to St Gregory’s Church to view the relics of Carlo Acutis. The children took part in Mass and were fortunate to receive prayer cards which they were able to touch to the relics, making them third-class relics.

We were also kindly given enough prayer cards for every child at Holy Rood, which will be distributed soon. The children represented the school wonderfully, and we are very proud of them. Photos from this special visit can be viewed [here](#)

All Stars After School Club

We are excited to introduce *All Stars*, our brand-new after school wraparound care club.

Starting next term, the club is designed to provide a safe, engaging, and fun environment for children at the end of the school day. Each day will have a different timetable of activities and flexible booking to suit family needs.

If you have any questions or would like any further information regarding All Stars or require any assistance with booking, please contact the school office.

Holy Rood Catholic Primary School
All Stars Wraparound Care

Mindfulness Monday Relaxation, calm time & outdoor games	Creative Tuesday Arts, crafts, painting & drawing
Eco-Wednesday Gardening, planting & nature fun	Imagination Thursday Scrapbooks, comics & storytelling
Feel-Good Friday Movies, board games & relaxing time with friends	

Bookings can be made via your Arbor account – If you require any assistance, please contact the school office.



Contact Information

Please can we ask all parents/carers to check their contact information on their Arbor account and update if necessary. It is really important that the school hold the correct information for you. This includes telephone numbers, email addresses and home addresses. If you require assistance updating the information, please contact the school office who will be able to help. Thank you.



Secondary School Transition



As all Year 6 children will now have been offered a place at secondary school, we will be starting to think about their transition. We have good links with all the local secondary schools and will be working with them directly over the next term or so to make sure this goes smoothly. We will be in touch to let you know what the transition will look like for your child over the next few months. If you have any questions or concerns about your child moving to secondary school, please do get in touch with either Jo Beard (SENDCo) or Liz Galvin (Pastoral Lead).

Online Safety – Telegram and Discord



Digital platforms continue to evolve quickly, and with them, the risks faced by children and young people. Two popular apps - **Telegram** and **Discord** - have been increasingly linked to safeguarding incidents in UK schools. Please see below for key information relating to both these apps, along with guidance for parents and carers.

Telegram: What It Is and Why It's Popular.

While Telegram may seem similar to messaging apps like WhatsApp, for example, it has several key features that make it unique:

- **Secret Chats** – Also known as ‘disappearing messages’, users can set ‘self-destruct’ times on messages, ranging from 2 seconds to a week.
- **Chat Bots** – Accounts operated by Artificial Intelligence (AI) systems are used to play various games and engage in conversation with users.
- **People/Groups Nearby** – These features allow users to connect with individuals or groups nearby, without making their physical location known.
- **Channels** – A tool that lets a group of administrators or an individual administrator broadcast messages to an unlimited subscriber base.

Key Safeguarding Risks

- Exposure to harmful or illegal content, including extremist material, deepfake pornography, and child sexual abuse material.



- Large, unmoderated group chats where children may encounter strangers or inappropriate content.
- Disappearing messages that make monitoring or evidencing harmful interactions difficult.
- Bullying within group chats.
- Limited parental controls, making it difficult for adults to oversee activity.

Guidance for parents and carers

<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/apps-and-platforms/social-media/telegram-messenger/>



Discord: What It Is and Why Young People Use It.

Discord is a communication platform originally used by gamers but now widely used for chatting via text, voice, or video in themed communities called “servers”. These can be public or private.

Key Safeguarding Risks

- Grooming: shared interests can help adults build rapport with young people.
- Exposure to inappropriate or harmful content, including sexualised material or discussions around self-harm or eating disorders.
- Unmoderated spaces where harmful language or content may appear.
- Direct messages from strangers unless privacy settings are changed.
- Screensharing that can expose children to inappropriate content in real time.

Guidance for parents and carers

<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/apps-and-platforms/social-media/discord/>

Year 6 visit to Bletchley Park

Throughout this term, Year 6 are learning about World War Two and we were very lucky to visit Bletchley Park as an introduction to our new history topic. Bletchley Park is well-known as the centre for code-breaking during the war.

The children were able to step back in time and experience the roles of the men and women who worked at Bletchley Park: walking through the exact huts where mathematicians gathered to decipher codes sent by the German army as well as learning how to break codes in the style of the historic Alan Turing.

It was a very enjoyable day and the trip has given Year 6 a good insight into the history we will be exploring this term! More photos of the trip can be viewed [HERE](#).





Dates for your Diary



Wednesday 25th March 2026 – KS1 film night

Thursday 26th March 2026 – KS2 film night

Friday 27th March 2026 – Last day of term 4

Monday 13th April 2026 – Children return to school for term 5

Tuesday 14th April 2026 – Year 5 trip to Buscot and Coleshill Estate

Wednesday 15th April 2026 – Jaguars Class swimming lessons begin

Wednesday 15th April 2026 – Year 6 parent residential meeting

Thursday 7th May 2026 – Year 4 trip to Chedworth Roman Villa

W/C 11th May 2026 – Year 6 SATs week

W/C 18th May 2026 – Year 6 residential to Morfa Bay

Wednesday 20th May 2026 – Panthers class swimming lessons begin

Friday 22nd May 2026 – Last day of term 5

We wish all our children and families a wonderful and restful Easter break and look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 13th April 2026.