



Holy Family Catholic Primary School

Advent Term

Newsletter No.10

Friday 22nd November 2024

Dear Parents

We have had a successful week, with school being open late on Tuesday and Thursday for Parents' Evenings. Thank you to all who attended; we hope you found your meetings useful and informative, and that you are pleased with the progress your children have made so far this term. Thank you to our teachers who have got to know your children well and are able to discuss them in detail with you. Our children from Year 2 onwards led their own discussions with their parents before teachers joined in, as we like our children to take personal responsibility for their learning; if this was your first 'child-led' parents' evening, we hope you found it valuable.

If you were in school this week, I hope you managed to take a moment to admire the work on display in the hall, as Years 1, 4 and 5 all displayed a mixture of art and written work linked to their humanities topics. It was wonderful to see the children proudly showing their parents examples of their best work!

Today in Nursery the children enjoyed 'When I Grow Up day' and it was lovely watching the vast array of professions represented as children came through the gate this morning; we had police officers, doctors, astronauts and footballers. It is fantastic to see the ambition our children have at such a young age! I hope they all had a wonderful day.

Also today, our Year 3 children visited the Eton Museum of Antiquities as part of their history topics Ancient Egypt and Ancient Greece. They thoroughly enjoyed their day, where they were led through informative and fun workshops and completed activities based upon the artefacts that they saw. These 'extra' days are really enriching and enjoyable for the children; thank you to the Year 3 team and our parent volunteers for facilitating the trip.

Last Friday, we were blown away when watching past pupil, Tanisha Muir, performing on Children in Need; she was on stage singing with Ella Henderson! Tanisha has worked tirelessly raising money throughout the year, and we are really proud of her and her achievements.

We are very much looking forward to our Youth Day mass this coming Sunday at 11:30am, and hope to welcome lots of our families, past and present. There will be teas and coffees available afterwards in the narthex, and a chance to chat and spend some time together.

May you all have a lovely weekend.

God bless

Mrs Doyle

DIARY DATES

Sunday 24th November	Feast of Christ The King Youth Mass at Holy Family Catholic Church 11.30am
Monday 25th November	Week 2 of the Menu Year 6 WWII Day (At School)
Tuesday 26th November	Reception Class (Mrs Scott) Visit to Langley Library
Wednesday 27th November	Year 5 Swimming Year 5 Class (Mrs O'Reilly) Visit to Langley Library Year 6 Christmas Unwrapped at Langley Free Church
Friday 29th November	Nursery and Reception Saint's Day – St Andrew
Sunday 1st December	First Sunday of Advent
Monday 2nd December	Week 1 of the Menu
Tuesday 3rd December	Year 6 Class (Mrs Ragg) Visit to Langley Library
Wednesday 4th December	Year 6 Visit to Battle of Britain Bunker Year 5 Swimming PTA Pantomime – Dick Whittington at The Theatre Royal Windsor 7pm
Friday 6th December	Mufti Day (if you are able to, please bring in a donation for the Love Christmas Campaign)
Sunday 8th December	Second Sunday of Advent
Monday 9th December	Week 2 of the Menu Extra Curricular Activities Finish This Week
Tuesday 10th December	EYFS Nativity for Parents 2pm
Wednesday 11th December	EYFS Nativity for Parents 10am Year 5 Swimming
Thursday 12th December	KS1 Nativity for Parents 10am KS1 Nativity for Parents 2pm
Sunday 15th December	Third Sunday of Advent - Gaudete Sunday

Celebrate Success!

To link in with our Vision statement, 'To value, inspire and challenge all', we invite parents/carers to notify us of special achievements (outside of school e.g. music, sports, positive contribution) your child has achieved so they can be recorded on their school record and shared with children and staff. Please email bethany.chandler@hfcs.org.uk for notification. Your child will receive recognition for their achievement from their class teacher, who will award them a marble for the class jar, and Mrs Benn, who will issue a 'Head teacher's

Award' certificate. If you send a photo of your child's achievement it will be posted on Mrs Chandler's 'Wall of Fame.'

Amazing Achievements

Well done to Abigail Dsouza who recently played the violin at the Slough Music Service Recital Evening. Additionally, Abigail participated in the BBC 500 Words competition, which was a fantastic experience for her.

Well done to Carren-Grace Nganga for participating in the BBC Children In Need choir as part of the Slough Community Choir

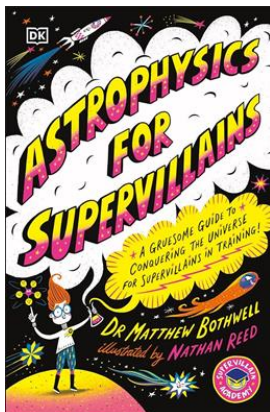
Well done to Hollie Forrest for competing in her first ever cross country event last weekend on behalf of Slough Junior Athletics Club. Hollie ran 2k at Broughton Castle in Banbury for the under 11 category and really enjoyed it.

Well done to Olivia Caswell-Harrison for reaching the next level in her swimming lessons and for also scoring a goal in her first football match this weekend and being awarded Player of the Match.

Well done to Noah Glemp, who trains with Icon Football Academy, for being awarded Player of the Week due to his resilience and hard work during the training and match.

Book of the Week

Each week, I will recommend a lovely new book, which will hopefully inspire our children to broaden their reading tastes.



Author: Dr Matthew Bothwell

Illustrator: Nathan Reed

A fun and jokey guide to astrophysics, focused on some of the more sensational elements of space. (Age 9+).

Wednesday Word

Our Wednesday Word this week is LEADER.

This Sunday is the last in this Church year. It is the day on which we celebrate the feast of Christ the King. This day is a golden opportunity for us to make a new start with Jesus – our Universal King.

Jesus leads us in the ways of truth and love. Jesus stands up for God's true values of love and forgiveness. Good leaders always help people to follow the good and right ways. Think of a special leader you are grateful for – perhaps a family member, a teacher or our priest. Think of a way in which you can help the leaders you know – maybe you could pray for them or try to follow their leadership or try to be a really good example for others.

Feast of Christ the King – Youth Sunday 24th November

This Sunday (24th November), all pupils (past and present) are invited to attend the 11.30am Mass at Holy Family Catholic Church for a youth Mass to celebrate the Feast of Christ the King on the last Sunday of our liturgical year. We hope this will become an annual reunion Mass, held every year on the Feast of Christ the King at 11.30am. An opportunity for pupils and staff, past and present to re-connect and strengthen our sense of belonging to the Holy Family School Community as lifelong.

Marking and Feedback Explanation

Recently, our teachers have been working hard to update our **Marking and Feedback Policy** to better support your children's learning and progress. The revised policy focuses on providing constructive, timely, and meaningful feedback that helps children understand their strengths and areas for improvement. Teachers will ensure that feedback is clear and accessible for children of all ages and abilities, using a mixture of strategies. Emphasis is placed on the children responding to the feedback in order to take age-appropriate ownership of their learning. Please find the revised policy and guidance attached to last week's newsletter.

Love Christmas Campaign – Bags of Kindness – Friday 6th December MUFTI DAY

We would like to build on your wonderful generosity last year and request your help in supporting the Diocesan Love Christmas Campaign again this year. On Friday 6th December, we invite children to wear their own clothes to school in exchange for bringing in donations of much needed gifts to put smiles on the faces of young families, children and the elderly living in isolation and poverty, as well as young people leaving the care system and living alone, and young carers who do so much all year round for others and have little time to actually be a child.

Donations needed include a range of small items such as: selection boxes, small toys, books, games, colouring books, puzzles, shortbread, biscuits, sweets or chocolate, clothing such as scarfs, hats, gloves, games that can be played as a family, make up, nail varnish, hand cream and other treats, with the goal of both helping each recipient to feel the warmth of human connection and the joy of Christmas and to know that someone is thinking of them and cares for them.

Please can we kindly ask that all donations be brought into school by Friday 6th December and passed to either your child's class teacher or the School Office (please do not wrap any gifts).

Please contact Mrs Chandler (bethany.chandler@hfcs.org.uk) if you have any queries.

We will be very grateful for any donations received, whether it be one item or several. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

Phonics

If you would like to continue to support your child at home with their phonics the following links below might be useful. If you look for the name of the adult who leads your child's RWI group or the colour of book that they are on you will see links to the sounds that have been taught this week. This support is primarily aimed at those children in Reception – Year 2 who are currently learning their phonics; however, all parents are very welcome to access the links below regardless of what year their child is in.

Mrs Harris	Set 1	G- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/qXZQ8yHw/8cTdd4bM O- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/2nIRATBc/sQwGBGPh C- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/W8IJRSDF/sq0m3OPM
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		K- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Mz8Uhsrr/qZ6ex9UG
Mrs Scott	Set 1	Z- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/DfmsaY8L/h3sevbMD X- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/xCWsnBIn/HYPPC4CA W- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/As1mVWty/XiCtggqT J- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/xwwJVj2q/b1zuP6MZ
Mrs Mulrooney	Word Time	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/pRgFXBzw/gtYTaLCC https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/7TJsNboh/o2zN7ixs https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ZwobxEHx/PyLDvKpX
Mrs Hendy	Ditties	SH- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/8XeYcmfb/Jog0ANOS CH- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/hQx5q3qy/QmvaePgr NK- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/TBtBlyMP/3AuCpIks NG- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/p62hvAtt/ZrqU8RDN
Mrs Crow Mrs Keogh	Green Pink	AIR- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/zsa0yhfA/2rV7Obq2 IR- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/5Do19tzC/fScmZiAK OU- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/WsiVUJ1L/Y3w5hI49 OY- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/kSpceF4w/cff3t2yz
Mrs Wilson Mrs Birch Mrs Hogg	Orange Yellow Grey	UR- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/BGQojWRR/DfSFVIG0 ER- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Uph0HaZS/pVOcvcrl OW- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/HDGUKiX6/azLjP4MT AI- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Qscsoly4/fZZ21EZg ARE- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ro01xnhx/ALJsDGyC

St Thomas Catholic Academies Trust (STCAT) – Train to Teach 2025

STCAT will be hosting a series of open mornings across STCAT schools, offering you the perfect opportunity to find out more about becoming a teacher with St Thomas Catholic Academies Trust. Please see attached flyer for more information.

Nursery and School Admission for September 2025

Admission to Reception September 2025

The above admission round is now open and closes on 15th January 2025. You must apply via your local authority website completing a Common Application Form (CAF) for a place in a Reception class to start September 2025.

In addition to completing a CAF, please complete our Supplementary Form (Called 'Reception School Supplementary Form 2025 2026' on our website) and return with the relevant supporting documents to Holy Family Catholic School by 15th January 2025. Reception Supplementary Forms can be obtained from the school website or the school office.

Admission to Nursery September 2025

The Nursery 2025 admission round is now open. Nursery application forms can be obtained from the school website or the school office; please complete our Application Form and return with the relevant supporting documents by 15th January 2025.

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION (PTA)

Pantomime Update – Tickets Will Be In School/Book Bags Next Week

Thank you to EVERYONE who bought tickets for the pantomime at The Theatre Royal Windsor, which will be a performance of Dick Whittington on Wednesday 4th December at 7pm <https://theatreroyalwindsor.co.uk/dick-whittington-24/>. Your tickets will be sent home in your children's school/book bags next week, so please keep an eye out for them. Thanks for your support – Holy Family PTA.

OTHER

Langley Football Club U7s/U9s Are Recruiting

Please see attached flyer for more information.

Volunteering Opportunities in Slough

If you are interested in volunteering, please see the information attached to this newsletter about a forthcoming volunteer fayre being delivered by Slough CVS in conjunction with Slough Family Hubs.

Parents Of Children With SEND

The Slough Partnership is updating its Special Education Needs, Disability (SEND) and Inclusion Strategy. The strategy sets out how Slough will deliver the right support at the right time for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities, and their families. The Local Authority are working alongside parents and carers on the priorities for what happens in Slough to support children, young people with SEND.

If you would like to find out more or provide feedback, please join one of these sessions:

1. 18 November, 1 to 4pm - Chalvey Community Hub Ladbroke Road, Slough, SL1 2SR
2. 21 November 10.00 -1.00 Monksfield Way Childrens Centre SL2 1QX
3. 22 November Special Voices 9.30 -1.00 Information/Local Offer Live Day. Singh Sabha Sports Centre, Stoke Poges Lane, SL1 3LW

Please see related flyer attached to this newsletter also.

Public Health Nursing's Drop-in Community Clinics and Community Sessions During November 2024 – January 2025

Please see attached the timetable for Public Health Nursing's Community Clinics and Community Sessions during November 2024 – January 2025. The community sessions are run by Nursery Nurses and the Community Clinics will have School Nurses and Health Visitors present.