



Holy Family Catholic Primary School

Advent Term

Newsletter No.4

Friday 27th September 2024

Dear Parents,

Thank you for supporting our Macmillan Coffee morning today through donating on ParentPay and providing cakes. This is a charity close to many people's hearts; within our school community we have a number of parents living with cancer. We take strength from their courage and hope and pray they feel supported by us all. Children were very excited across school as everyone started the day eating cake! We thank Miss Wheeler for organising this fundraising event.

Yesterday, Years 1 and 2 took part in a very important road safety workshop. They learnt many things, including how to cross a road safely. The children were reminded that they must Stop, Look, Listen and Think before crossing any road. Thank you to Konflux Theatre for running this workshop.

On Tuesday Year 6 were lucky enough to work with Jeremy, a regular visitor to our school, who provides engineering workshops. The children spent the morning planning and building a shelter for their group of six, linking to our World War II topic. The children remained focused and engaged all morning, and, as usual, were impeccably behaved. Well done Year 6!

We will be joining in with CAFOD Family Fast Day next Friday (4th October). As part of this, our KS2 children will be walking to Holy Family Church to join the parish Mass and EYFS/KS1 will walk around the school playground. We are also encouraging all children to wear something bright into school in addition to their school uniform. More details in this newsletter. If you feel able to support CAFOD in any way, we would ask you to kindly donate £1 per child via ParentPay. Thank you for your support.

Wishing you all a good weekend

God bless

Mrs Benn

Prayer

God of refuge, the rock in whom we trust,
watch over our sisters and brothers across the world.

Bring comfort to those who grieve,
shelter to those who are homeless,
and sustenance to those who hunger and thirst.

God of mercy, open our hearts to your grace,
so that we are filled with compassion and a generosity of spirit,
and inspire us to take action.

Spirit of love, pour out your peace like a healing balm,

which brings hope in place of despair.

Amen.

Catherine Gorman/CAFOD

DIARY DATES

Monday 30th September	Week 2 of the Menu Daily Rosary Club Starts
Wednesday 2nd October	Year 5 Swimming
Friday 4th October	Reception Class (Mrs Scott/Miss Herring) Saint's Day – St Francis of Assisi CAFOD Family Fast Day Mass at Holy Family Church 10am (KS2 only) (<i>Children may wear something bright in addition to school uniform</i>)
Monday 7th October	Week 1 of the Menu
Wednesday 9th October	Year 5 Swimming
Thursday 10th October	Year 6 Talent Show Parents Welcome 9am
Friday 11th October	Year 6 Class (Mrs Doyle/Miss Caswell) Saint's Day – Blessed Carlo Acutis
Monday 14th October	Week 2 of the Menu
Wednesday 16th October	Year 5 Swimming
Thursday 17th October	National Flu Immunization Program for Children in Reception – Year 6
Friday 18th October	Year 5 Class Assembly (Mrs Fox) Parents Welcome 9am School Photographs

Please note staff INSET Day on Friday 25th October (INSET means In-Service Training; school is open for teacher training but closed to pupils).

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

Congratulations to Natalia Przybylska (Year 3) who has moved to Stage 4 in her swimming lessons – well done Natalia.

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: Tony Bradman

Illustrator: Alessandro Valdrighi

This gripping historical novel, set in 125 CE, is full of treachery and war, and provides a fascinating insight into the life of a teenage boy in Ancient Rome. (Age 9+). Mrs Doyle.

Birthday Treats

Increasingly, over the last few years some children have brought in a wide range of birthday treats. Last year, staff distributed individual cupcakes and party bags in younger classes. We wish to change this trend and return to sweet treats only. Following the October half term, children are welcome to bring in a small individual packet of sweets (e.g. Haribo's) or chocolate (e.g. Milky Buttons). From November 1st please do not send in party bags, birthday cake or any items containing nuts as we will not be able to distribute them and they will be returned to you. Thank you for your cooperation.

BBC 500 Words Competition

This year the 500 words competition run by the BBC returns. Children of all abilities are encouraged to use their creativity and imagination to write a short story they would love to read without the pressure of having to worry about spelling, punctuation and grammar. There are two age categories; 5-7 years-old and 8-11 years-old. There are a host of prizes with the main prize being 50 finalists, along with their parents or carers, attending a grand final in February at Buckingham Palace! If your child is interested, you'll need to enter the by Friday 8th November. Please see their website for further information on the competition <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words/about-500-words/zctk7v4>.

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 Scott Mrs Harris	Set 1	N- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/EoX3S2vM/pnTyJx7E P – https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/gKVpNVoy/iIe7NIwi G – https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/f6vLqxrN/8BFdDsy O - https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/wQ8mkFjm/JhtH8zBQ C - https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/6D2bzI0h/Eq02zMvx Word time https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/KJQUqOw6/cwLvTyak
Mrs Crow	Red	CH- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/FbqwJikB/im8g1QcY QU - https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/CDiImQhF/RZEumAaZ NG- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/twdaZXpd/09TDVoXp NK - https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Hu0YXAG1/zRaG212x Word time https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/I1hSPdoF/dfIa11wa
Mrs Keogh	Green	AIR - https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/589eSkDL/HXhsrzl IR - https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/KroG6XbN/jA8FEXDT OU - https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/yL5LsF2m/AqCZx2EP OY - https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/cht8jaVt/s66GRcdT
Mrs Wilson	Pink	OR - https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/mB0KOLKO/GF3N2omC AIR - https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/589eSkDL/HXhsrzl IR - https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/KroG6XbN/jA8FEXDT OU - https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/yL5LsF2m/AqCZx2EP
Mrs Hendy	Orange	ARE - https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/TdBixmhn/BfYXj4NO UR - https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/6DBWMozu/LrbVghUo ER - https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ct0CGGg0/ptx4gIB5 OW- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/BaHMEPMz/rJtxfq22
Mrs Hogg	Blue	UR - https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/6DBWMozu/LrbVghUo AW - https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/85DjDMP1/pnUfzKaD ARE - https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/TdBixmhn/BfYXj4NO EW - https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/GIO82p7R/l1PqMfZD
Miss Macfarlane	Grey	OW- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/BaHMEPMz/rJtxfq22 AW - https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/85DjDMP1/pnUfzKaD ER - https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ct0CGGg0/ptx4gIB5 U-E - https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/g70qNIeu/cI1G59Tg

CAFOD Family Fast Day

Friday 4th October is CAFOD Family Fast Day. This year for CAFOD's '*Brighten Up*' campaign children can wear something bright to school (in addition to their usual school uniform). Catholic Social Teaching calls us all to work for the common good, uphold the dignity of human life and work for justice, and so, if possible, please consider making a £1 donation per child via ParentPay to help Holy Family School in our intention to make the world a better place; all children may wear something bright regardless of whether a donation is made. On the morning of Friday (4th October), Years 3–6 will walk to church to join the parish Mass and EYFS/KS1 will walk around the school playground. Thank you for your support.

Marian Month

October is the month of the Holy Rosary and children in KS2 (Year 3 – Year 6) will be invited to pray a decade of this wonderful prayer on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday's in school. We invite you to maintain this month of dedication on Saturdays and Sundays at home.

A decade of the Holy Rosary is:

1 x Our Father

10 x Hail Mary

1 x Glory Be

During each decade you can pray with a Mystery of the Rosary. Mysteries are moments in the life of Jesus and Mary. Please see the link below to help imagine them in your mind. There are four sets of five Mysteries:

The Joyful Mysteries

The Glorious Mysteries

The Luminous Mysteries

The Sorrowful Mysteries

We do hope that you can join us for the Rosary Challenge this October. For further information, please see the following link: <https://www.teachingcatholickids.com/the-rosary-mysteries/>

Thank you, Mrs O'Reilly – RE Lead

Year 1 Behaviour Steps

As children move from Reception to Year 1, our approach to maintaining and encouraging good behaviour changes. Last week, Year 1 children brought home a copy of the Behaviour Steps which are used from Year 1 – Year 6. Our full Behaviour Policy is available in the Parents' Information section of the school's website.

School Portrait Photographs – Friday 18th October

The school photographer will be in school on Friday 18th October for school portraits. Please ensure your child is wearing smart school uniform. Thank you.

Flu Immunisation for Children in Reception – Year 6

The date currently scheduled for your child to receive the flu immunisation in school is 17th October 2024. An online consent form from the NHS Berkshire Immunisation Team has been

emailed to parents of children in Reception-Year 6. Consent needs to be given before 9am on 16th October 2024. Please see the letter you were emailed for further information and details regarding how to give your consent. Thank you.

Year 6 Secondary Transfer and School Visits

Year 6 children will need to complete a **Common Application Form** for secondary school **before 31st October** via your own local authority. Any parents of pupils who attend Holy Family School but live outside Slough should contact their home authority for a CAF.

Please also notify Mrs Oakes (Attendance Officer) if your child is attending secondary school open days this term. Please minimise absence by returning children to school promptly after school visits. Thank you.

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.

PARISH NEWS

HARVEST FESTIVAL: WEEKEND OF 28th/29th SEPTEMBER in support of SLOUGH FOODBANK

We will be asking you to bring three items to whatever Mass you attend this weekend as donations to Slough Foodbank.

Furthermore, you are invited to wear national costumes to our 11.30am Mass on 29th September.

Reference form for St. Joseph's Catholic High School. If your daughter or son is now in year 6 and you are considering applying for a place at St. Joseph's School for next year you will require Fr. Kevin to sign a reference form stating that you attend Mass at Holy Family on a regular basis. You can bring the form **any Tuesday evening during October (between 6pm and 8pm).**

IF YOUR SON OR DAUGHTER IS YEAR 3 YOU MAY WISH TO ENROL HIM/HER IN OUR FIRST RECONCILIATION/FRIST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME.

Enrolment will take place on 4th, 5th and 6th November (4pm – 6.30pm) but you will need to book an appointment. Please ring Lisa or Kieran (01753-543770) any Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday between 9am and 2pm.

First Reconciliation will take place on Saturday, 8th March 2025 at 10am

First Holy Communion weekend will be 14th/15th June

PTA (Parent Teacher Association) NEWS

Christmas Cards

This year, the PTA are offering the opportunity for parents to order merchandise, including Christmas cards, with your child's design on them. £1 from every item purchased is given back to the school so it raises vital funds. Your child will be sent home with their design over the next couple of weeks. Once you have received their design, if you would like to place an order, please return the art work to your child's class teacher by Friday 11th October. Please fill in the details on the back of the form. These will be sent off to the company who runs it and once they have received it they will provide you with details of how you can order online. Thank you from the PTA for your support.

Pantomime

The PTA are delighted to announce we are returning to the pantomime at **The Theatre Royal Windsor** this year, which will be a performance of **Dick Whittington on Wednesday 4th December at 7pm** <https://theatreroyalwindsor.co.uk/dick-whittington-24/> Once again, our favourites Kevin Cruise, Steven Blakely and not forgetting international mega-star Basil Brush will entertain us all and get us in the festive mood.

Tickets will be going on sale in two weeks time on Friday 11th October. These will be priced at a very competitive £20 per ticket, with profits going to the PTA, directly benefitting your children and Holy Family School.

We have excellent Front Stalls and Royal Stalls seats again this year, which are worth between £37 and £39 a ticket. You will be able to purchase up to 6 tickets per family, if your child is a pupil at Holy Family School, and these will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. We will, of course, accommodate any special access requirements, as always.

This is without a doubt a **FANTASTIC** night out for the children and adults alike, and we look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible! Please look out for the school newsletter next Friday for further details of how to buy your tickets **Thank you for your support, from the Holy Family PTA**

OTHER

Slough Town Football Club

Please see the attached flyers from Slough Town FC regarding an October half term football/goal keeper camp. Booking details are also on the flyer.