



## Holy Family Catholic Primary School

**Advent Term**

**Newsletter No.6**

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

Dear Parents

On Thursday morning, we had the absolute delight of the Year 6 Variety Show, and what a show it was! Each and every act was thoroughly rehearsed and the children absolutely shone; the group of presenters pulled the whole show together wonderfully with their enthusiasm and sense of humour. We saw acts that we had never seen before, and many dancers and singers that kept the audience entertained for over an hour. What a talented bunch we have in Year 6!

KS2 children particularly enjoyed dice stacking by Aiden and watching Jed speedily solve his Rubix cube. Both acts drew spontaneous cheers from the audience which followed anticipation and suspense. We hold this performance annually, just prior to 11+ exam results being released, to remind everyone in Year 6 they are just as God intended them to be... fantastic young people who will all be successful following a myriad of different next steps after Holy Family.

Today, our Faith Ambassadors represented us brilliantly at the annual Diocesan School's Mass. They travelled to Dunstable with pupils from St Anthony's and St Ethelbert's, schools which belong to our St Thomas family of schools. Every school in the diocese was represented and addressed by Bishop David Oakley, who shared God's blessing for the year ahead.

Our fifteen Faith Ambassadors have each been assigned a class for which they have the responsibility of delivering the weekly 'Wednesday Word'. The Wednesday Word is a Catholic outreach programme that provides resources that our faith Ambassadors are using to share the Sunday Gospel and lead children in a short reflection. Our young leaders started this ministry this week and they were very well received from Nursery to Year 6. Well done Faith Ambassadors.

Well done to all our Year 5/6 footballers who won their mid-week match; it was a great start to the season. Mr Holder particularly enjoyed this win as, until July 2024, he was a sports coach at Cippenham Primary School. Read more about the game in the newsletter.

The Department for Education issued updated attendance guidance for all schools which came into effect in August 2024. It is called 'Working Together to Improve School Attendance'. This brings significant changes to how we will monitor and address unauthorised absences. More detailed information about this will be shared with parents next week in a letter from Mrs Oakes (Attendance Officer) and Mrs Clarke (Attendance Champion).

This weekend our oldest children are expecting to receive their 11+ results; we wish all our Year 6 children the 11 + results they expect and hope for. Please hold them in your prayers in the next few weeks as they make choices about the secondary schools they aspire to attend.

A couple of reminders. If you have not done so already and you would like to order Christmas cards/gifts with your child's artwork on, please remember to return your child's artwork and

form to your child's class teacher on Monday (14<sup>th</sup> October). Also, please complete the flu consent form by 9am on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October if you would like your child to receive the flu vaccine in school (Only 170 out of 450 pupils have consented so far). Winter uniform always looks smarter than summer uniform so you may wish to find your child's school tie for portrait photographs next Friday. Finally, Pantomime tickets (arranged by HFCS PTA) to see Dick Wittington at the Theatre Royal Windsor on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December go on sale tonight from 5pm. These tickets always sell out very quickly (usually within the hour/a few hours) so please do read the section at the end of this newsletter if you would like to buy tickets.

Thanks for your continued support and wishing you all a lovely weekend.

God bless

Mrs Benn

### **Prayer**

World Mental Health Day (10th Oct)

Dear God, you are always near to us,  
especially when we are weak, suffering and vulnerable.

Reach out to those who experience mental illness.

Lift their burdens, calm their anxiety, and quiet their fears. Surround them with your healing presence that they may know that they are not alone.

Amen

### **DIARY DATES**

<b>Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Week 1 of the Menu
<b>Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Year 1 Class (Mrs Hendy) Visit to Langley Library
<b>Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Year 5 Swimming Year 1 Class (Mrs Hume) Visit to Langley Library
<b>Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October</b>	National Flu Immunization Program for Children in Reception – Year 6
<b>Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Year 5 Class Assembly (Mrs Fox) Parents Welcome 9am School Photographs
<b>Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October</b>	Week 2 of the Menu Year 4 Visit to Kew Gardens
<b>Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October</b>	Year 2 Class (Miss Macfarlane) Visit to Langley Library
<b>Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October</b>	Year 5 Swimming Year 4 Class (Miss Dardis) Visit to Langley Library
<b>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Year 3 Ancient Greek Day
<b>Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Staff INSET Day – School Closed
<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November</b>	SMARTPHONE & SMART WATCHES FREE SCHOOL Week 1 of the Menu

<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Nursery Stay and Play Parents Welcome 11.15-11.45am and 2.15-2.45pm  Year 3 Class (Mrs Martinez/Mrs Kukla) Visit to Langley Library
<b>Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Year 5 Swimming  Year 4 Class (Mrs Green/Mrs Evans) Visit to Langley
<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Reception Stay and Play Parents Welcome 2.30-3pm
<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Year 2 Class Assembly (Miss Macfarlane) Parents Welcome 9am

### **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](mailto: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 Emrys Yarrow, Igor Malec and Joel Tomczak (all in Year 2) who play for Slough Hurricanes U7's (Under 7's) and won their recent match against George Green Juniors U7'S. Igor was a fantastic defender and stopped lots of goals from the opposing team. Joel and Emrys were both strikers, with Joel scoring a 3 goals and Emrys scoring 2 goals. Emrys was awarded man of the match for following the coach's instructions, passing the ball, tackling and scoring goals. Well done Emrys, Igor and Joel – brilliant team work.

Congratulations to Julia Grzywnowicz (Year 3) for progressing in her Taekwondo lessons and receiving blue tag. Well done Julia.

Congratulations to Preksha Ajmera (Year 4) for successfully completing Stage 4 in her swimming lessons and progressing to Stage 5. Well done Preksha.

Congratulations to Harman Warya (Year 4) for progressing to Stage 4 in his swimming lessons. Well done Harman.

Congratulations to Adam Grzywnowicz (Year 6) for progressing in his Taekwondo lessons and receiving red tag. Well done Adam.

Congratulations to Evie Forrest for teaching herself to ride her bike without stabilisers. Well done Evie.

### **Weekly Sports Update**

Our Year 5/6 Boys played brilliantly in a very tight game between Holy Family and Cippenham School on Wednesday. The match began with very strong attacks from both sides which highlighted the strength of both defences. Just before half time, a fantastic bit of footwork from Riley O'Neill led to our first goal of the game meaning we went into half time 1-0 up. The second half saw a brand new team with all 6 out field players changing over. Cippenham attacked from the off leading to fantastic saves from Marcel Traboulsi. Cippenham equalised

with a great long shot making the game 1-1. With 8 seconds left on the clock Aidan Oakes calmly slotted away the ball from outside of the box to win us the game 2-1. Every single player showed outstanding ability and teamwork. A special mention to our captains Antoni Gregorczyk and Ayden O'Neill Kumar who showed immense determination and fantastic leadership skills. Mr Holder.

### **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:** Linda Sargent & Joe Brady

**Illustrator:** Leo Marcell

When Tosh meets Louis, they bond over their shared imagining of a magical island. A moving graphic novel about friendship, imagination and chronic illness. (Age 8+). Mrs Doyle.

### **Visits to Langley Library**

On a Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons during October and November, each class will have the opportunity to walk to Langley Library to spend some of the afternoon getting familiar with the library and looking at books together. Depending on the age of the children, some classes may need to request parents or grandparents help to accompany the children to the library, so please speak to your child's class teacher if you are able to help. Please ensure that your child has a raincoat in school on the day they are attending the library, as we still plan to go if it rains!

### **Staffing/Student Teacher Updates**

On Monday, Molly Wilson will join Mrs Powell's Year 2 class for her final teaching practice. Part of learning to be a teacher includes interacting with parents so please speak to Ms Wilson as you would Mrs Powell during the time she is with us.

Thea Dmaro will be volunteering in Mrs Scott's class every Monday for the remainder of this academic year while she completes a childcare qualification.

Helen Judge is our St Thomas Accounts Manager. She will be based at Holy Family every Tuesday starting from 22<sup>nd</sup> October.

Please join with staff in making the above additions to our team welcome, as you always do.

Sadly, Mrs Fletcher-White, our Business Manager, will be leaving Holy Family on the 12<sup>th</sup> December. Despite only joining Holy Family just over a year ago, she quickly became an integral part of our team. We thank her for her hard work, good humour and ability to solve everyone's problems. She will be missed.

### **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 8<sup>th</sup> 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	B- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/jdLftut/LcPKNaOp">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/jdLftut/LcPKNaOp</a> F- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/nvuHPfFq/HO1vMCuG">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/nvuHPfFq/HO1vMCuG</a> E- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/qM5BMLBb/bs77Bs7k">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/qM5BMLBb/bs77Bs7k</a> L- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/83EOfAGd/AGKcZQmw">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/83EOfAGd/AGKcZQmw</a> H- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/qnDlrn8L/nTg5J0p0">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/qnDlrn8L/nTg5J0p0</a>
Mrs Crow	Red	NG- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/48LVYteM/MtBplrqd">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/48LVYteM/MtBplrqd</a> NK- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/1zFOA4Wi/sA6f1JoB">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/1zFOA4Wi/sA6f1JoB</a> CK- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/HUaEgzwK/7SQ69O8n">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/HUaEgzwK/7SQ69O8n</a> TH- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/5mzg4gnM/p53n8bHk">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/5mzg4gnM/p53n8bHk</a> Word time <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/AmcRIU1s/HQegCvHy">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/AmcRIU1s/HQegCvHy</a>
Mrs Keogh	Green	OW- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/KvMZwj3o/LIKsEmiw">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/KvMZwj3o/LIKsEmiw</a> OO- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/3uVkJGfxr/aDNxepcq">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/3uVkJGfxr/aDNxepcq</a> OO- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/iGHmJ03g/dCVWWJvo">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/iGHmJ03g/dCVWWJvo</a> AR- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/TdIIRI1y/rIZYovmx">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/TdIIRI1y/rIZYovmx</a>
Mrs Wilson	Pink	EA- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/4OrjnQ3q/pALiArT6">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/4OrjnQ3q/pALiArT6</a> OI- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/u6IMEpq7/6hFxD3NX">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/u6IMEpq7/6hFxD3NX</a> A-E- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/trr0sBE5/uRvatyT8">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/trr0sBE5/uRvatyT8</a> I-E- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/THjY3rnW/9tqMYvsc">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/THjY3rnW/9tqMYvsc</a>
Mrs Hendy	Orange	URE- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/1o7HA4WR/yAJZYkr8">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/1o7HA4WR/yAJZYkr8</a> IRE- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/0EInFAUL/1Bd2emhA">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/0EInFAUL/1Bd2emhA</a>

		EAR- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/WSpak1VS/Ug92pP8h">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/WSpak1VS/Ug92pP8h</a> AW- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/pmqVHN9b/MxBkpiOX">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/pmqVHN9b/MxBkpiOX</a>
Mrs Hogg Miss Macfarlane	Blue Grey	EAR- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Ygu1Mhve/cHYdsWVA">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Ygu1Mhve/cHYdsWVA</a> URE- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/1o7HA4WR/yAJZYkr8">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/1o7HA4WR/yAJZYkr8</a>

### **School Portrait Photographs – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October**

The school photographer will be in school next Friday (18<sup>th</sup> October) for school portraits. Please ensure your child is wearing smart school uniform. Thank you.

### **School Lunches**

As school is closed on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October for Staff INSET day, Colham Catering have asked me to remind Key Stage 2 parents to go onto the Meal Portal and cancel/untick their child's meal choice for that Friday or you may be charged. If your child is in KS1 and entitled to a Universal Free School meal, please also go in and untick the meal for any absences as school will be charged and food will be sent to school which will go to waste. If you require any guidance, please feel free to contact Colham Catering directly ([colhamcatering@colham.org](mailto:colhamcatering@colham.org)).

Thank you for your continued support, Mrs Fletcher-White.

### **Flu Immunisation for Children in Reception – Year 6**

The date scheduled for your child to receive the flu immunisation in school is 17<sup>th</sup> October 2024. An online consent form from the NHS Berkshire Immunisation Team was emailed to parents of children in Reception-Year 6. This is a reminder that the schools consent forms to parents/carers for flu will be closed on **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October at 9am** to allow the nursing teams sufficient time to safely plan and triage all consent forms. Any parents wishing to consent after this point will be unable to and are advised to email [Eastschoolimms@berkshire.nhs.uk](mailto:Eastschoolimms@berkshire.nhs.uk) for further information. Thank you.

### **Year 6 Secondary Transfer and School Visits**

Year 6 children will need to complete a **Common Application Form** for secondary school **before 31<sup>st</sup> 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.

### **Secondary School Admissions September 2025 – Information Event**

Year 6 children and their parents can receive information with regards to Secondary School Admissions 2025 at an event organised by Slough Borough Council Admissions Team on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2024, 3.30-5.30pm at Chalvey Community Hub. This event will provide a wealth of information to help you choose the right schools, make an application, and understand how the application process works. For further information, please see the attached flyer.

### **Nursery and School Admission for September 2025**

### **Admission to Reception September 2025**

The above admission round is now open and closes on 15<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

### **PTA (Parent Teacher Association) NEWS**

#### **Christmas Cards – Please return by Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October**

If you would like to place an order, please fill in the form on the back of your child's art work and **return the art work to your child's class teacher on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October – this is the final day we can accept the forms.** Many thanks.

#### **Pantomime - TICKETS ON SALE TODAY AT 5PM**

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 AT 5PM TODAY, FRIDAY 11 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!

**TO SECURE YOUR TICKETS, please send an email from 5pm onwards TODAY on Friday 11 October,** stating your name, how many tickets you wish to purchase, up to a maximum of 6 per family and the name and class teacher / year group of your oldest child to: [holyfamilypanto2024@outlook.com](mailto:holyfamilypanto2024@outlook.com).

Please also let us know if you have any special access requirements, which will be accommodated, and if your child has a birthday around the time of the panto. You will receive an email back with details of how to pay for your tickets. **PLEASE DO NOT EMAIL BEFORE 5PM TODAY AS YOUR REQUEST WILL NOT COUNT.** This is to make it fair, as these tickets usually sell out within an hour.

**Thank you for your support, from the Holy Family PTA**



## **OTHER**

### **Windsor Christmas Card Competition 2024**

Children at HFCS has been invited to take part in this competition. Please see the attached flyer for further information.

### **GEMS**

GEMS are holding a session *How to support your Child through Winter (Autism and/or ADHD)* on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 10am – 11.15am. Please see the attached flyer for further information and how to register.

### **SEND-AID**

Please see attached flyer for details of SEND Advice and Information (SEND-AID) Sessions Autumn/Winter 2024.

### **Family First Magazine**

If of interest, please see the following link to an Autumn edition of the Family First Magazine:  
<https://familyfirst.co.uk/issue4-24>

### **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.

### **Slough Children's Centres and Family Hubs**

Please see the link below for further details regarding activities and support offered at your local Centre/Family Hub that may be of benefit to you and your families:

<https://www.sloughfamilyservices.org.uk/kb5/sloughcst/directory/parents.page?parentschannel=6>