



Holy Family Catholic Primary School

Advent Term

Newsletter No. 8

Friday 8th November 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you all enjoyed half term and children have had a good first week back. Children were certainly full of smiles and pleased to see their friends again on Monday.

This morning's assembly was moving and reverent. Miss Macfarlane's class reminded us of the sacrifice of fallen soldiers, the significance of the poppy and the importance of showing kindness and compassion to everyone. Year 2 should feel very proud of themselves, especially as they only had one week to practice.

Our youngest children were delighted to welcome their parents to Nursery Stay and Play and Reception Stay and Read. So many parents chose to come and spend time in their child's class which was an absolute joy for everyone. Staff were delighted by the turnout and seeing the lovely interactions between children and parents. Nursery thoroughly enjoyed showing their parents what they do in our Nursery and outside on the playground. Parents helped paint pumpkins, make firework pictures, make potions, played with spiders in the water tray, had broomstick races and retold the story of Room On The Broom around the cauldron! Thank you and we hope you enjoyed the 'window' into their school day.

On Wednesdays through November we offer tours of the school to prospective parents. It was my privilege to walk around school with two groups of parents on Wednesday; your children were hard at work and the atmosphere around school was calm and purposeful.

The Catholic Church designates November as a special month, to pray for and remember loved ones who have departed this life to their eternal rest. Classes have been holding liturgies around our Remembrance Tree and hanging their leaves in prayer and thanksgiving for the lives of their loved ones. November also marks Armistice Day and we thank our Class Councillors for holding a poppy stall to raise money for the Poppy Appeal in support of injured service men and women.

In addition to the above Mrs Doyle led a whole school 'welcome back' assembly on Monday, Year 5 have been swimming, Mrs O'Reilly accompanied our 15 Faith Ambassadors to a day of spiritual reflection at St Bernard's, two classes visited the library and we welcomed a strategic leader from St Thomas for two days....so it's been a typically busy week.

Anti-bullying week this year will reflect the theme 'Choose Respect'. Please talk to your child/children about the importance of considering the feelings, wishes and rights of others alongside their own hopes and ideas. Everyone is unique, everyone is equally important and everyone's voice should be heard. Children are invited to wear odd socks next Tuesday as a way of celebrating difference.

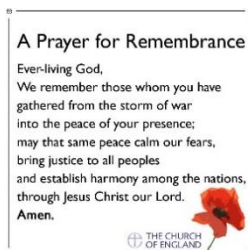
If you are on Social Media, please do take a look at our school's Instagram page which we have just launched (more details within this newsletter).

A gentle reminder that school will be closed to pupils on Monday (11th November) for staff INSET. We look forward to seeing children return on Tuesday 12th November.

Have a lovely weekend.

God bless,

Mrs Benn



DIARY DATES

Sunday 10th November

Remembrance Sunday

Monday 11th November

Staff INSET Day – School Closed

Tuesday 12th November

Week 2 of the Menu

Anti Bullying Week – Odd Socks Day

Year 3 Class (Ms Iqbal) Visit to Langley Library

Wednesday 13th November

Year 5 Swimming

Year 2 Class (Mrs Powell) Visit to Langley Library

Thursday 14th November

Year 5 & Year 6 Athletics Event

Monday 18th November

Week 1 of the Menu

Tuesday 19th November

Year 1 & Year 4 Art Exhibition (School Hall) 8.40-8.50am and 3.20-3.40pm

Year 5 Stone Age Exhibition (AOC) 8.40-8.50am and 3.20-3.40pm

Year 6 Class (Miss Caswell) Visit to Langley Library

Parents' Evening 3.45-7pm

Wednesday 20th November

Year 5 Stone Age Exhibition (AOC) 8.40-8.50am and 3.20-3.40pm

Year 5 Swimming

Reception Class (Miss Harris) Visit to Langley Library

Thursday 21st November

Year 1 & Year 4 Art Exhibition (School Hall) 8.40-8.50am and 3.20-3.40pm

Year 5 Stone Age Exhibition (AOC) 8.40-8.50am and 3.20-3.40pm

Parents' Evening 3.45-7pm

Friday 22nd November

Nursery When I Grow Up Day

Year 3 Visit to Eton College Museum

Sunday 24th November

Feast of Christ The King Youth Mass at Holy Family Catholic Church 11.30am

Instagram – Come Follow us!

This week, we have started our own school Instagram page! For those of you who use the social media platform, you can find us **@HFCSLangley**

We aim to post regularly showcasing the exciting things happening in our school. The account is public, but the ability to post comments has been turned off.



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

During half term, Shay Grewal and her daughter Tyra in Year 2, filmed for the 1000 mile swimming challenge Shay is taking part in for BBC Children in Need. Shay and Tyra were on BBC London News on Monday (4th Nov) (aired BBC One at 6.30pm) if you would like to see their update.

Congratulations to Ayaan Sheikh who has progressed to Stage 2 in his swimming lessons. Well done Ayaan.

Congratulations to Ciara Robinson who took part in another feis on Saturday. Ciara really enjoyed it and won two 2nd places, two 3rd places and a 6th place in her dances. Well done Ciara.

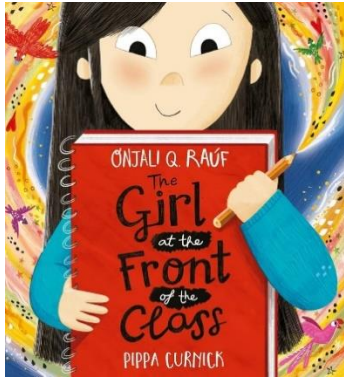
Congratulations to Lea Rogulska who has moved up to Stage 6 in her swimming lessons having only moved to Stage 5 in June. Well done Lea.

Congratulations to Sophia Sheikh who has progressed to Stage 3 in her swimming lessons. Well done Sophia.

Congratulations to Philomenraj Antony who was awarded a Yellow belt in the Taekwondo grading sessions. Congratulations Philomenraj.

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: *Onjali Q Rauf*

Illustrator: *Pippa Curnick*

A boy wonders why his new classmate won't join in and looks so sad, then discovers she has had to flee her home and everything she knows. A gorgeously illustrated book celebrating being welcoming and kind. (Age 4+). Mrs Doyle.

Wednesday Word

Hello, my name is Kian, and I am a Faith Ambassador. My role is to spread the word of the Gospel with the whole school and each term we get assigned a different class. We say FAITH IS FUN! This week's Wednesday Word is gift! Our Gospel story this week is from the book of Mark 12:38-44. After each Gospel we say a prayer "Lord Jesus we have listened carefully to your words. Please help us to share the good news of this week's gospel with our families, through our actions and our words. Amen."

Anti Bullying/Friendship Week – Odd Socks Day, Tuesday 12th November

The theme of Anti-Bullying week this year is 'Choose Respect' and all children are encouraged to wear odd socks to school on Tuesday 12th November to mark the start of this anti-bullying week. Odd Socks Day is where adults and children wear odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique.

Year 1 & Year 4 Art & DT Exhibition

On Tuesday 19th and Thursday 21st November, Year 1 and Year 4 will be jointly holding a pop-up art and DT exhibition. Parents will be able to view the work in the school hall between 8:40 - 8:50am and 3:20 - 3:40pm on that day. Entrance will be via the main school reception. Thank you.

Parents' Evening - Tuesday 19th and Thursday 21st November

We will be holding Parents' Evening on Tuesday 19th and Thursday 21st November. A letter regarding this has been sent home and children should receive a confirmed appointment time by Wednesday 13th November. Please note that children from Year 2 – Year 6 should attend with their parent/s. Our Attendance Officer, Mrs Oakes, will be available to meet with parents on both evenings. Thank you.

Attendance

Next week, anyone whose attendance is recorded as less than 90% since September should expect to receive an attendance letter from our attendance officer, Mrs Oakes. Our school target is 95%. Every day of learning missed is five hours of learning and socialising lost that cannot be recouped. Thank you for your support in ensuring children have the highest attendance rate possible.

Feast of Christ the King – Youth Mass

On 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.

Year 6 Residential Trip – May 2025

We have 47 children confirmed to attend the residential trip next May and have extended the deadline for confirming attendance to Friday 15th November. If your child has not yet returned their reply slip, please can we kindly ask that they do so by 15th November (please return a reply slip even if your child will not be attending the residential). Thank you.

Early Years Pupil Premium and Free School Meals

We would encourage all parents to consider if they can apply for additional funding from the Government in relation to their child, namely the Early Years Pupil Premium and Free School Meals (see below for further information). If the Early Years Pupil Premium is applicable, school could get up to £388 per year to help with children’s education. If your child is entitled to Free School Meals, school may be able to apply for a Pupil Premium Grant (PPG) and receive additional income for use in school. Although a PPG is not a personal budget for your child, it may mean school can then help with offering your child school trips at a reduced price/help with uniform costs, etc, in addition to your child receiving free school meals. There is absolutely no stigma within school regarding these benefits and it will be dealt with in the strictest of confidence and every penny in funding is needed by school.

[Get extra funding for your early years provider - GOV.UK](#)

[Apply for free school meals - GOV.UK](#)

If you do feel this is something your child may be entitled to, we would encourage you to speak to Mrs Conlon, our Children’s Champion, in complete confidence.

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	M- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/zYL3Rudc/G80rabgF A https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/P1ZQFL7h/TzM9DmPV S- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/gypOgI4F/UL04h0Hu D- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/iCIWIAIY/COh3tR3X
Mrs Scott	Set 1	L- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/j78tvJpc/StHrtU5I H- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/D5XrOoPI/tPO2NVfz R- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/6bHuT3O7/dmSL6tnM J- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/NQjkKAqj/1MLBmXYj
Mrs Mulrooney	Word Time	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/gGc3P1zx/FjD6kvlv https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/dHO6wr1E/AFuShVJ9 https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/bVzqJTU5/n4gC8D1Y
Mrs Hendy	Ditties	CH- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/xwCC79nL/RMtJ3GQn

		TH- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/1fLopVhi/u2xumL4F SH- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Qz5IxcCS/hQEN4fbw
Mrs Crow Mrs Keogh	Green Pink	AY- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/HCs2vh0u/absJhGIT EE- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/f19cMWWMI/9bX5JgDS IGH- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/X4CQxITf/V1vQdkX6 OW- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Pp0X2kGn/ng6qIZnm
Mrs Wilson Mrs Birch Mrs Hogg	Orange Yellow Grey	EA- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/4nSI1ABp/15cGakVi OI- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/6Cxm90Hd/Z9MwgN0Z A_E- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/iRbFBcne/nlUwePoJ I_E- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/IIInpz3V/TfoiTbQZ

School Lunches

As school is closed on Monday (11th November) 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 Monday 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).

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

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.