



Holy Family Catholic Primary School

Pentecost Term

Newsletter No.36

Friday 28th June 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well done to Mrs Harris' Reception class who, this morning, led a wonderful assembly about Friendship. They reminded us that Jesus is our constant companion and that all we need to do is smile and use kind words to be a golden friend. Reception children are only 4 or 5 years old and should feel very proud of how exceptionally well they performed in front of so many people. It was a celebration of uniqueness as some confidently waved and shared a 'thumbs up' with parents and others seemed more shy and in need of tender encouragement from their teacher. It was uplifting and enjoyed by the whole school. Well done all.

Our choir, Faith Ambassadors and some Year 5 children joined other local catholic primary schools on Tuesday to surprise Father Kevin with a musical concert as part of the celebrations for the 50th anniversary of his ordination. Father Kevin has written to me to say he cannot thank school enough for his beautiful concert. He shared high praise for the whole event and was truly touched by the effort and warmth of the concert.

It has been a busy week for the choir, as the evening before Father Kevin's surprise concert, they performed at the Hexagon Theatre in Reading. Please read the section of the newsletter 'Music Through The Ages' to appreciate the positive impact of such a concert on children and staff alike. My thanks go to Mrs Green and Miss Caswell for all the time and effort that went into rehearsals, communication and for providing a memorable opportunity for our children to shine so brightly!

New for this year, visiting health professionals demonstrated to Nursery and Reception children how to brush their teeth correctly and everyone practiced brushing a dinosaur's teeth. Children were advised not to rinse their mouth after brushing to enable the fluoride in toothpaste to continue protecting their teeth for a longer period.

Thanks to the hard work of Emma and Lee Oakes, their family members, parents and staff volunteers, we hosted a very successful summer fair last weekend. It was lovely to see new Nursery and Reception parents volunteering. A big thank you to all who attended and enjoyed the fair; you made the wonderful atmosphere and contributed to raising £4050 to benefit our school.

We are very grateful to all parents for their ongoing support. Thank you especially to: Reception parents for watching this morning's assembly, the parents who bought tickets for the Hexagon or collected children from Reading and parents who were patient when we were late back from Fr Kevin's concert.

With the Feast Day of St Peter and St Paul being marked this Sunday 30th June, please see the prayer below which you may like to say with your families.

Have a wonderful weekend

God Bless

Mrs Benn

Prayer for St Peter and St Paul

St. Peter and St. Paul, please pray for us to grow in faith every day so that we can spend eternity with you and God in heaven. Please pray in a special way for all of our priests and for our Holy Father, that they may remain close to the Lord. Amen

DIARY DATES

Monday 1st July	Week 1 of the Menu
Tuesday 2nd July	Year 1 (Ms Iqbal) visit to Langley Library
Wednesday 3rd July	Year 5 Trip to Bray Lake Nursery – Year 2 Sports Day Parents Welcome 9.30-11.30am Year 6 Swimming Year 4 (Mrs Green) visit to Langley Library
Thursday 4th July	SCHOOL CLOSED FOR POLLING DAY
Sunday 7th July	Father Kevin's 50 th Anniversary Mass at St Joseph's Catholic High School 11am
Monday 8th July	Week 2 of the Menu Year 3 Beach Trip
Tuesday 9th July	Year 4 (Miss Dardis) visit to Langley Library
Wednesday 10th July	Year 3 & 4 Sports Day Parents Welcome 9.30-11.30am Year 6 Swimming Year 2 (Mrs Hendy) visit to Langley Library
Thursday 11th July	Year 5 & Year 6 Sports Day Parents Welcome 9.30-11.30am Optional Parents' Evening 2-6pm
Friday 12th July	Year 4 (Miss Dardis) Class Saint's Day
Monday 15th July	Week 1 of the Menu Year 3 & Year 4 Gymnastics Display - Parents invited to watch display at 4.15pm
Tuesday 16th July	Year 1 UK Day Year 6 (Mrs Ragg) visit to Langley Library
Wednesday 17th July	Year 1 & Year 2 Gymnastics Display - Parents invited to watch display at 8.20am Year 5 (Mrs Fox) Library Visit

Thursday 18th July

Year 1 & Year 2 Gymnastics Display - Parents invited to watch display at 8.20am

Year 4 Visit to Milestones

New Nursery and Reception Children Induction Morning

Friday 19th July

Year 5 & Year 6 Gymnastics Display - Parents invited to watch display at 8.20am

Amazing Achievements

Congratulations to Liepa and Luka Liutkeviciute (Year 2) who attended a Lithuanian International Contest of the Young Talents in London during the May holiday. At the event, the girls sang a song about their love for Lithuania and were rewarded a medal for Nationalism by a member of Lithuanian Parliament. Well done Liepa and Luka.

Congratulations to Noah Iftikhar (Year 2) who practiced very hard and passed his Initial Grade Piano Exam. Noah is now working on Grade 1. Well done Noah.

Congratulations to Lea Rogulska (Year 3) who has progressed to Stage 5 in her swimming lessons – excellent work Lea.

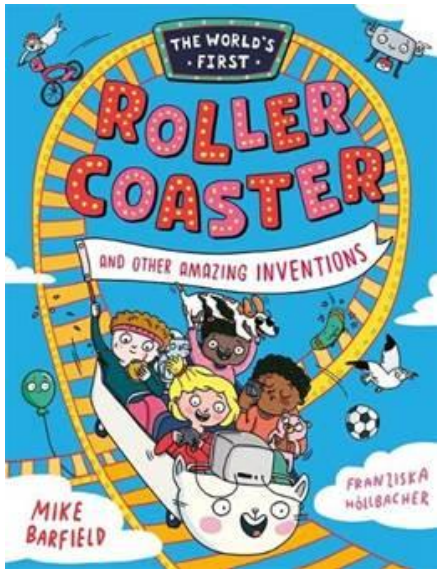
Congratulations to Daniel Baptista (Year 6) for being part of the winning team in his football club's annual football tournament last weekend. Daniel's team had a nail biting final pulling back from 2 - 0 down to win on penalties. A fantastic achievement.

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.'

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: Mike Barfield

Illustrator: Franziska Höllbacher

Find out the stories behind some of the world's most important inventions in this funny, comic style, illustrated non-fiction book. Age 7+. Mrs Doyle.

Music Through The Ages

We are thrilled to share the wonderful news about the members of our Year 4, 5 and 6 children in Holy Family's school choir and their recent performance at The Hexagon in Reading. Primary and secondary schools from across Slough took part and together their beautiful singing captivated the audience, showcasing their hard work and talent. Each note they sang was filled with joy and enthusiasm, clearly demonstrating their love for music.

This event provided our children with a fantastic opportunity to be exposed to various types of music, enriching their musical experience and broadening their horizons, which included: a Youth Orchestra, professional musicians, instruments from other cultures and even a rapper from Slough. The children were a sight to behold, dressed smartly and exuding elegance. Their behaviour was impeccable, reflecting the high standards of our school and making us all proud.

Here's what the choir had to say:

We loved being able to practice and perform with so many different choirs throughout the day. We learnt a lot of music from different time periods and cultures. It was really special to see our parents' faces as we performed and we loved the audience joining in, it made us feel proud. We particularly loved ending on 'Power in Me' because it made us feel powerful as we blasted it out. We had such a good time.

The event organisers, Slough Music Service, would appreciate impact statements for their funding body. If parents who attended could email positive feedback to carole.gonoud@hfcs.org.uk we will share your comments with Slough Music Service.

Well done to Anika, Ann, Aryahi, Avani, Avreen, Chetachi, Chiranjeev, Danielle, Elizabeth, Eliza, Eliza, Francesca, Hollie, Janna, Leyla-Rose, Lydia, Megan, Nifemi, Rosa, Sara, Sienna-Rose, Skye, Sophie, Tisha and Victoria!

We congratulate our young performers for their outstanding representation of our school and for bringing such joy to everyone present. We look forward to many more delightful performances from our talented choir in the future! You've got the power!

Miss Caswell and Mrs Green

Father Kevin's Anniversary Concert Surprise

After a busy Monday, the choir was joined by our Year 3 members on Tuesday to celebrate Father Kevin's Jubilee. This was our first individual performance as a choir and I couldn't be prouder of them. The choir really enjoyed this more peaceful occasion, noting how much they enjoyed joining with other schools to make Father Kevin feel special. They were delighted with how surprised and happy he was.

The choir were also joined by our Faith Ambassadors and others who, with Mrs Benn's help, put together a beautiful tribute to Father Kevin. Including five facts about him, floral tributes and signing the Hail Mary to music.

Well done everyone you did beautifully, Mrs Green

Sports Days

All children have been given a letter stating which colour team they will be in for their forthcoming Sports Day. If children happen to have a T-shirt in the colour specified at the top of the letter they bring home, please can they wear that colour top on their respective Sports Days. However, please do not go to the expense of buying any new tops – usual PE kit is absolutely fine. Also, after dropping children to school, please can parents wait outside the school premises until 9.20am (when the main gate by the school car park will be open) on their child's Sports Day. Thank you.

Year 6 Leavers

On Monday, parents of our Year 6 Leavers will receive a letter explaining about the Year 6 end of term celebrations. Please hold the following dates:

Tuesday 23rd July 10-11am Mass at Holy Family Church

Wednesday 24th July 9.15-10.15am Y6 Show in School Hall

Wednesday 24th July 7-9.30pm Party at Richings Park Sports Club

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) Summer Term 2024

RSE is scheduled to be taught during the week 8th – 12th July in Years 4 to 6. This year, we have received direction from Northampton Diocese that we will cease using 'Journey in Love' and move over to the current diocesan recommended scheme called 'Ten Ten'. Holy Family School's RSE policy is currently being updated and will be available on the school website by next Friday. Teachers have always shared more detailed information and resources with parents of pupils in Year 5 and Year 6 as outlined in our current policy. As some units of learning have moved from Year 5 to 4 teachers will share content overviews with parents of pupils in Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 by the end of next week. Once the information has been shared, if you have any queries, questions or concerns please do not hesitate to speak to Mrs Fox (Y5/6 Leader and Personal Social Health Education Lead) or Mrs Benn.

Staffing Update

We have a service level agreement with Get Active to provide our PE instructors. From September we will be working with an excellent and experienced PE instructor, Mr Holder. Between now and the end of term we may have different coaches. This week, we were

delighted to work with Miss Small and she will be teaching PE next week also. I will endeavour to keep you informed if we are assigned a different coach for the remainder of July.

School Reports and Optional Parents' Evening –Thursday 11th July 2pm-6pm

The Optional Parents' Evening for all classes from Nursery – Year 6 will take place on Thursday 11th July from 2pm-6pm.

Teachers have put a lot of effort into collating accurate and informative reports and these will be sent home with all children in Nursery – Year 5 next Friday, 5th July. Year 6 results will arrive in school on Tuesday 9th July so we will release Year 6 reports on 10th July when we will be in a position to include test results. We kindly request that parents wait to read their child's report before making an appointment with the teacher, and then only make an appointment if there are issues that need to be addressed. If, after reading your child's report, you would like to make an appointment to speak to your child's teacher to address a concern, please email carole.gonoud@hfcs.org.uk to request an appointment. Please clearly state your child's name, year group and teacher. Appointments will be in person and take place in the school hall.

Message from Eco-Club

Did you know 1/3 of the rubbish we throw out is food waste?

Luckily for us, Slough Borough Council are also aware of this and have introduced food waste bins to some streets in Langley for a new recycling trial. If you are one of the fortunate houses we have some helpful tips to support you with your food waste recycling. Did you know, as well as many food items you can also recycle the following items in your food waste recycling bin?

- Bread
- Dairy
- Egg shells
- Tea bags & coffee granules
- Pasta & rice

We hope you can help us with our mission to, 'make the world a better place' by doing your bit of food waste recycling.

Lots of you will have spotted our 'Garden in a wagon'. This will be leaving school early next week and will be on display in Slough town centre.

Thank you from, Eco-club

Class Photographs

The school class photographs are now available to view/order. For details of how to order, please see the information card that was sent home with your child. Thank you.

Hot weather

All children, but especially our younger children, should bring a sun hat to school daily. Sun cream should be applied in the mornings before school.

Summer Holiday Camp

We will once again be holding a Summer Camp during the first two weeks of the summer holiday (29th July – 9th August 2024). Further information regarding this will be shared over the next few weeks.

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION (PTA)

Summer Fair

A big thank you from the PTA to all those who supported this year's summer fair through helping to set up and run stalls or by attending the fair. It was a fantastic day which was enjoyed by many. We are very proud of raising £4050 which will benefit the school. We were also delighted that our first, second and third raffle prizes went to parents of pupils that currently attend Holy Family and staff.

OTHER

Get Creative HAF Club

If your child is eligible for free school meals, please see the attached leaflet for further details regarding a HAF club that will be taking place during the summer holidays.

Slough Town Football Club Summer Camp

Slough Town Football Club will be running an outfield and goalkeeper summer camp at Arbour Park Stadium during the holidays. Please see the attached flyer for further information and how to book a place.