



Holy Family Catholic Primary School

Lent Term

Newsletter No.17

Friday 24th January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope children enjoyed having a long weekend and a short week; it certainly seems to have passed quickly! INSET days are always invaluable to staff. Staff in the EYFS worked on their curriculum plans, while teachers from KS1 and KS2 focused on strengthening our provision across the foundation subjects.

The role of our school nursing team is growing. By way of follow up to an annual Year 6 survey Ms Nandra led a workshop with Year 6 on Tuesday to address some of the concerns that children raised in their surveys. She covered topics such as transition, worries, good routines and the importance of looking after our physical and mental health. She will return next Thursday to meet 1:1 with a number of children, and one of her team will be following up with some small group sessions to address other worries raised by children. We have never benefited from such support previously and we welcome the confidential advice and direct communication with parents to support individual children as they begin to prepare for the big change that moving to secondary school presents.

On Wednesday we once again welcomed a strategic leader from St Thomas Catholic Academy Trust as he worked alongside staff to assess the strength of our teaching of maths. You will be pleased to know he was very impressed with the progress children make in lessons and across the school.

The deadline for KS2 children returning posters to advertise the clubs they plan to lead has now passed. I am delighted to have received 34 posters. Posters will be displayed in the dining room windows and children brave enough to stand up in Key Stage assemblies will have the opportunity to 'sell' their club to others. We are looking forward to 'Hearts on Fire, Feet on the Move #3' and the mayhem this brings to our corridors!

We have been awarded a small capital allocation to open to 2-year-olds from September 2025. We are beginning to prepare to expand our provision. As yet, we will not be taking applications but if anyone has a child who they think will be eligible for 15 hours or 30 hours funded 2 year old provision from September 2025 we would appreciate parents making an expression of interest by emailing Mrs Mynett Helen.Mynett@hfcs.org.uk . We will endeavour to keep interested parents updated with our progress.

Today, we have launched our Jubilee Year of Hope. Unfortunately, the banners and other items ordered have yet to arrive. Fortunately, we have the whole year to demonstrate we are Pilgrims of Hope. Please read the attached letter outlining how we plan to mark out 2025 as a special year.

Wishing you all a good weekend

Kind regards

Mrs Benn

DIARY DATES

Monday 27th January	Week 2 of the Menu
Tuesday 28th January	Year 4 Class (Mrs Green & Mrs Evans) Visit to Langley Library
Wednesday 29th January	Year 2 Visit to Heathrow Airport to Watch Dragon Dance Year 4 Class (Miss Dardis) Visit to Langley Library Reception Stay and Play 2.30pm
Friday 31st January	Year 2 Class Assembly (Mrs Powell) Parents Welcome 9am
Monday 3rd February	Week 1 of the Menu
Tuesday 4th February	Year 5 Class (Mrs O'Reilly) Visit to Langley Library
Wednesday 5th February	Year 2 China Day Year 4 Swimming Year 1 Class (Mrs Hendy) Visit to Langley Library
Monday 10th February	Week 2 of the Menu
Tuesday 11th February	Nursery Stay & Play 11.15-11.45am & 2.15-2.30pm Year 5 Class (Mrs Fox) Visit to Langley Library
Wednesday 12th February	Year 4 Swimming Year 6 Class (Mrs Doyle/Miss Caswell) Visit to Langley Library
Friday 14th February	Year 3 Class Assembly (Miss Iqbal) 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 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 Abigail Thekkekara who performed Indian classical dance (Bharatnatyam) last weekend at the Annual Christmas and New Year Gala organised by the Association of Slough Malayalees. Abigail performed confidently in front of an audience of around 300 people.

Congratulations to Avia Alphonz Dijo who also performed Bharatanatyam (Indian classical dance) at the Annual Christmas and New Year Gala Dinner organised by the Association of Slough Malayalees. This marks Avia's second stage performance of Bharatanatyam.

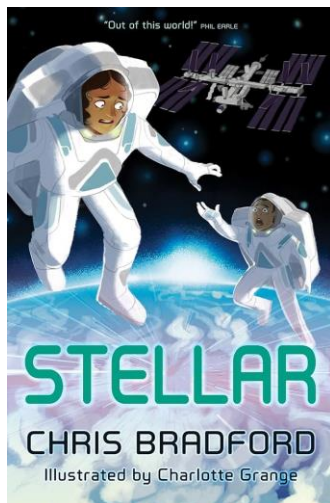
Congratulations to Jacob Mathew who attended his local parkrun, which is a 5 kilometre run, and finished with a time of 43 min and 35 seconds. Jacob was first in his age category.

Weekly Sports Update

Our Year 5/6 girls football team played against Willow Primary on Wednesday which, in my opinion, was the best match they have played so far. The girls are continuously fighting to improve every game and should be so proud. Special mention to our captain for the game, Julia Szulc, for showing great leadership and for ensuring the girls stayed positive throughout. Also, a big well done to Thea D'vaz Tidd for her excellent control when playing in our defence - she controlled the back line so well. Well done to all of the girls! Mr Holder.

Book of the Week

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



Author: Chris Bradford

Illustrator: Charlotte Grange

Stella is thrilled to be holidaying in space with her family, but when her brother Ryan spins off into outer space, she must use her knowledge of the stars to rescue him. An exhilarating cosmic adventure, written in a dyslexia-friendly style. (Age 8+)

Wednesday Word

This week, one of our Year 6 Faith Ambassadors, Victoria Remfeld, writes:

Jesus, filled with the Holy Spirit, went teaching in the synagogues. One day he unrolled the scroll of the prophet Isaiah, and read out loud: "The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to heal the broken hearted and set free all those who are oppressed." Then Jesus said, "What you have just heard is coming true today."

In this week's Gospel, we can read that Jesus brings the good news to the poor, to proclaim freedom to prisoners and new sight to the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the Lord's year of favour.

I assume that everyone of us has received the good news in their life.

Today, through the power of the Holy Spirit, Jesus is still with us!

Jesus wants us to demonstrate our faith in God through showing love, kindness and forgiveness in our everyday words and actions. Let's do our best to be "Good News" to everyone we meet.

Do you remember the last time when you received good news?

" The Good News always remains the same: JESUS HAS RISEN!" - Pope Benedict XVI

Your sincerely,

Victoria Remfeld, Faith Ambassador

Year 4 Swimming

Parents will be contacted regarding the missed swimming lessons (due to pool closure) as soon as possible (we hope to still offer the full number of swimming lessons to our Year 4 pupils but, if this is not possible, we will refund parents). We will update parents as soon as we have an update. Many thanks for your patience and understanding.

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	O- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/4JDaF0WF/lh7h9cGc G- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Qx4Boyie/scxAgS2E P- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/hrb02iWo/zojBjJgF N- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/PsVBoDgQ/OXUgkA1d
Mrs Mulrooney	Set 1	G- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Qx4Boyie/scxAgS2E https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/J5MgHKxH/barbwBNm https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/qNTBRE12/22RWtZcJ https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/0enmvyqs/Xz5cqEiA
Mrs Scott	Word Time	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/J5MgHKxH/barbwBNm https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/qNTBRE12/22RWtZcJ https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/0enmvyqs/Xz5cqEiA https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/sYwoEf6M/Y23g9zpl https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/cz4IMKNE/KIyjA1Yf
Mrs Crow	Ditties	TH- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Z2RV4rFz/cZh96EoD CH- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/WUV2oSb9/Dij5f9j5 QU- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/VDx7cuJQ/Bp4zUrzz NG- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ZY3T6AdN/yfkNK0P9
Mrs Keogh	Purple	AIR- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/AiiJHJrU/7jShdITI IR- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/TXbTzf1h/CRjUrBq6 OU- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/JmBLCFbH/wD2zPGAN OY- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/IXc9ItSw/LzMSMI1

Mrs Wilson	Orange	UR-
Mrs Birch	Yellow	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/5UPRP4x6/7ZgogEAh
Mrs Hendy	Blue	ER-
Mrs Hogg	Grey	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/TyXfXub8/Ky0p9cvN
		OW-
		https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/3hiCk6B5/kv3Xb9Da
		AI-
		https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ydcwKLgU/9C66wnaq

Attendance

Anyone whose attendance is recorded as less than 90% and/or has six or more lates between 4th November – 20th December should have received an attendance letter from our attendance officer, Mrs Oakes, this week. Our school attendance 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.

As previously informed, any unauthorised absence attached to school holidays, or holidays taken during term time, penalty notices will be issued if 5 or more days unauthorised absence is taken during any ten-week period. Please refer to the notice from Slough Borough Council which has been sent out with previous newsletters.

OTHER

Langley Library

You may already be aware that there is/will be a consultation regarding a possible closure of Langley Library. The consultation will last for 10 weeks with a proposal being made in the Spring. An ePetition has been set up - please see link below. This ePetition runs from 17/12/2024 to 17/03/2025.

democracy.slough.gov.uk