



## **Holy Family Catholic Primary School**

**Advent Term**

**Newsletter No.2**

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

Dear Parents and Carers

Our first full week back in school has been busy as children are settled into routines and the full curriculum offer is up and running. The atmosphere has been calm and focused, with all children working hard and seemingly enjoying being back with their friends. Our new nurse provision for 2-year-olds has opened seamlessly, and we have enjoyed watching our very youngest children join our school community; it is absolutely joyful to have them here!

We had a lovely visit from our new parish priest, Father Tony, today; I walked him around school and he loved seeing the children so busy in their learning and happily enjoying playtime. We look forward to working with him more closely as he settles in to our parish.

In our assemblies this week, we have been talking to the children about welcoming others and being inviting and accepting of all. We have seen this mission in action as children who are new to our school have been well looked-after and are starting to feel at home. We talk to our children about the principles of Catholic Social Teaching and, this week, we have seen them working for the dignity of others and the common good by supporting the well-being of others and treating each other with respect and kindness. We are so proud of how kind they are. We hope that, if your children are new to our school, they can feel how welcome they are.

This week, a number of our Year 6 children sat their Bucks 11+; well done to these children for your hard work leading up to this, and good luck to those who are still waiting for the Slough 11+, which takes place on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September.

We were fortunate to have a series of Road Safety Workshops taking place in school today; our KS1 classes engaged really well with our visitor who taught them how to cross roads safely through drama, role play and songs. They seemed to be having a fantastic time!

Next Wednesday – 17<sup>th</sup> September – we are holding two phonics information sessions, aimed at helping parents of children in EYFS and KS1 when supporting their child at home with their reading. Mrs Hume will lead the sessions – one at 8:50-9:20am and another at 2:45-3:15pm. Please come along and learn more about our phonics scheme and hopefully leave feeling more confident in supporting your child at home.

On Thursday of next week – 18<sup>th</sup> September – we are holding our Meet the Teacher sessions. Parents are invited into school at 2:30-2:50 (KS1) and 2:50-3:10 (KS2) where they will hear from their child's teacher regarding the curriculum, homework and any other relevant information about their new year group. Please come along and ask any questions you may have at the beginning of a new year.

We are pleased to be running a three-day holiday camp at the beginning of the October half term. Please see details in this newsletter.

In the coming weeks, we will be looking to recruit a new Parent Governor. Please look out for more information, and consider applying for this rewarding and important role, supporting our school community.

Wishing you all a great weekend.

God bless,

Mrs Benn

### **DIARY DATES**

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September**

Week 1 of the Menu

Extra-Curricular Activities Start

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September**

KS2 Road Safety Workshops (In School)

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September**

Phonics Information Sessions for Parents of Children in Reception & KS1 8.50-9.20am and 2.45-3.15pm

Year 5 Swimming (1 of 10)

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September**

Meet the Teacher – 2.30-2.50pm for KS1 and 2.50-3.10pm for KS2

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September**

Berks 11+ Exam

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September**

Week 2 of the Menu

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September**

Year 5 Swimming (2 of 10)

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September**

MacMillan Coffee Morning (children only) - £1 Donation

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September**

Holy Family Catholic Church CAFOD Walk

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September**

Week 1 of the Menu

**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September**

Year 3 (Mrs Martinez & Mrs Kukla) Class Visit to Langley Library

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October**

Year 5 Swimming (3 of 10)

Year 4 (Miss Dardis & Mrs Remfeld) Class Visit to Langley Library

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October**

CAFOD Harvest Family Fast Day

### **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, and Mrs Benn, who will issue a 'Head teacher's Award' certificate.

### **Extra-Curricular Activities**

Extra-Curricular Activities commence from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September. Parents should have already been contacted directly by the Activity provider or Mr Holder, to confirm which activities their child has been enrolled on.

Mr Holder had a great response for the KS2 club trials held this week and has distributed letters for the invite-only clubs. We are sorry for any disappointment caused yet hope parents and children understand that each club has a maximum number for after school clubs. If places become available, they will be offered to KS2 children. Thank you.

### **October Holiday Camp 2025**

We will be running a three day holiday camp during October half term this year on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup>, Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> and Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2025. Please see further information attached to this newsletter.

### **Summer Reading Challenge**

Well done to those children who have completed this year's Summer Reading Challenge! The project finishes tomorrow (Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September). Please encourage your children to let their teachers know that they have completed the challenge but if you'd like your child recognised for their efforts, please email [bethany.chandler@hfcs.org.uk](mailto:bethany.chandler@hfcs.org.uk) by Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September to let us know once they have finished, if you have not done so already. Thank you.

### **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:** Polly Ho-Yen

**Interest Age:** 9-14

**Reading Age:** 9+

Four misfit students and their teacher are trapped in school during a flood. They must work out their differences and come together to save the day in this emotional and gripping story about friendship.

### **Macmillan Coffee Morning – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2025 (Children Only)**

We would like to support the Macmillan Coffee Morning in school.

All children will be given a cake/doughnut on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September and we would like to suggest that, in return, children make a voluntary donation (suggested donation £1).

In order for this to be a success we would appreciate any donations of cakes/doughnuts for the children to enjoy with their friends in their classes. If families would like to donate cakes/doughnuts to be given out on the Friday, please can these kindly be brought to your child's class that morning. **All items must be nut free and clearly display all ingredients.** If you need any containers to be returned to you, please ensure these are clearly labelled with your child's name and class. As we are now a cashless school monetary donations will need to be made via parent pay. Please help us raise as much money as possible for this worthy cause.

Thank you for your support.

### **Office Queries**

If you find yourself with a query that needs to come via the school office, can we request that you pop in before school or send an email to [school.admin@hfcs.org.uk](mailto:school.admin@hfcs.org.uk) wherever possible. Our Reception area and office staff are incredibly busy at the end of the school day, and not always available to answer questions as thoroughly as they would like to, due to focussing on ensuring that all children are collected and off-site safely. Thanks in advance for your co-operation.

### **Children's Safety at the End of the Day**

Please can parents remember to pass a signed consent form to Mrs Gonoud if they intend for their child to walk home from school unaccompanied. The forms can be obtained from reception. Please also remind children that they should return to school immediately if they are outside school and have become separated from their parent/carer or experience any other issues.

Please be reminded that children are not allowed to play on the adventure playground or with playground equipment when waiting at the end of the day. They are only allowed to play on the climbing equipment when accompanied by a member of school staff and we would appreciate you reminding your children to wait with their adult if waiting for older siblings.

### **Medicine to be Administered in School**

Please note that we are only able to administer medicine to children once a day. If your child needs medicine during the school day, please speak to Mrs Gonoud or another member of our Reception team to complete the necessary forms.

### **E-safety**

This week in school children have been considering e-safety, and the safe and responsible use of technology. E-safety is about behaviour as much as electronic security. As parents, it is important to have clear, simple rules for the technology your children have access to, to be aware of what they are using and to keep communication open. Talk to your children about online behaviour. Throughout our e-safety lessons we emphasise that children should tell an adult if they are upset by what they have seen online.

We have used resources from thinkuknow.co.uk and childnet.com which both have resources and advice for parents and carers and copies of some videos we have used.

Please take the time to ask your children what they have talked about.

### **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.

### **Open Evening for Secondary Schools September 2026 Entry**

If we receive any information, or flyers, about local secondary school open evenings they will be forwarded directly to Y6 parents.

#### **St Joseph's Catholic High School –**

Please see the attached information leaflet for further details.

#### **Baylis Court School –**

Please see the attached information leaflet for further details.

### **Nursery and School Admission for September 2026**

#### **Admission to Reception September 2026**

The above admission round opens on the 15<sup>th</sup> of September 2025 and closes on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026. You must apply via your local authority website completing a Common Application Form (CAF) for a place in a Reception class to start September 2026.

In addition to completing a CAF, please complete our Supplementary Form (Called 'Reception School Supplementary Form' on our website) and return with the relevant supporting documents to Holy Family Catholic School by 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026. Reception Supplementary Forms can be obtained from the school website or the school office.

#### **Admission to 2 or 3 Year Old Nurseries September 2026**

The Nursery 2026 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 2026.

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

The date currently scheduled for your child to receive the flu immunisation in school is 7<sup>th</sup> November 2025. An online consent form from the NHS Berkshire Immunisation Team will be emailed to parents of children in Reception-Year 6 over the next few days. Consent needs to be given before 9am on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2025. Please see the letter you will be emailed for further information and details regarding how to give your consent. Thank you.

### **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<br>Mrs Harris | Set 1   | M- <a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/3WjNzD1t/4ra4M6pz">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/3WjNzD1t/4ra4M6pz</a><br>A- <a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/toJ6j4fK/EUVmf3WS">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/toJ6j4fK/EUVmf3WS</a><br>S- <a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/vQ81LPHF/36WWozvh">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/vQ81LPHF/36WWozvh</a><br>D- <a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/yuhZIljb/irwSnT3T">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/yuhZIljb/irwSnT3T</a> |
| Mrs Crow                | Ditties | SH- <a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/5mRD6dfM/tkLCn6vh">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/5mRD6dfM/tkLCn6vh</a><br>TH- <a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/hjwKpd7k/1caXNM7O">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/hjwKpd7k/1caXNM7O</a>   |

|  |                        |  |
|--|------------------------|--|
|  |                        | CH-<br><a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/gQmaBDQ3/bHjwWsmX">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/gQmaBDQ3/bHjwWsmX</a>   |
| Mrs Keogh                                    | Green                  | AY- <a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/aU5AiD62/yksx8eLO">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/aU5AiD62/yksx8eLO</a><br>EE-<br><a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/EdmNiHrU/XCmgKL8F">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/EdmNiHrU/XCmgKL8F</a><br>IGH-<br><a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/uby6j6vr/JMrV63cQ">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/uby6j6vr/JMrV63cQ</a> |
| Mrs Hendy                                    | Purple                 | AIR-<br><a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ssml5QGI/ABQxuwLy">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ssml5QGI/ABQxuwLy</a><br>IR-<br><a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/QXH9MXqT/hnsHqa9d">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/QXH9MXqT/hnsHqa9d</a><br>EE- <a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/EdmNiHrU/XCmgKL8F">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/EdmNiHrU/XCmgKL8F</a> |
| Mrs Wilson<br>Mrs Hogg<br>Miss<br>MacFarlane | Orange<br>Blue<br>Grey | EA- <a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/OAeZoNDf/gRrtnNgE">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/OAeZoNDf/gRrtnNgE</a><br>OI-<br><a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/BWxJAZAy/gwq2Z9jW">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/BWxJAZAy/gwq2Z9jW</a><br>A-E- <a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/NaLPZAa4/ByaiyaxH">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/NaLPZAa4/ByaiyaxH</a>    |

### PE Kits

From next week, the children need to come into school wearing their PE kits on the days that they have PE. They do not need to bring uniform to change into and will stay in their kits for the whole day. Please see the table below to check what days your child has PE lessons.

| Teacher                     | Day/s                 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Reception Mrs Harris        | Tuesday               |
| Reception Mrs Scott         | Tuesday               |
| Y1 Mrs Hume                 | Monday and Friday     |
| Y1 Mrs Hendy                | Monday and Friday     |
| Y2 Miss Macfarlane          | Tuesday and Friday    |
| Y2 Mrs Powell               | Tuesday and Wednesday |
| Y3 Ms Iqbal                 | Tuesday and Wednesday |
| Y3 Mrs Martinez / Mrs Kukla | Monday and Thursday   |
| Y4 Miss Dardis              | Monday and Wednesday  |
| Y4 Mrs Green/Mrs Evans      | Monday and Friday     |
| Y5 Mrs O'Reilly             | Tuesday and Thursday  |
| Y5 Mrs Fox                  | Tuesday and Thursday  |
| Y6 Miss Caswell/Mrs Doyle   | Thursday              |
| Y6 Mrs Ragg                 | Thursday              |

Please note there may be special events, e.g. attending mass at Holy Family Church, when children will be required to bring uniform or a PE kit to change into. Thank you, Mrs Hume.

### Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Update

If you want to be involved in the PTA in anyway, maybe you have an idea for an event/project or want to volunteer. It's a great way to meet other parents and gain some new skills. Please contact [holyfamilylangleyppta@gmail.com](mailto:holyfamilylangleyppta@gmail.com).

### PARISH NEWS

#### Holy Family Catholic Church – Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist

Message from Kieran McKeown – Pastoral Worker at Holy Family Catholic Church:

*Dear Parents/Carers*

*If you have a child in Year 3 or above and you wish for them to celebrate the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist for the first time you are asked to register them by coming to the Church the week beginning Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September to meet with Roni, Lucy or Kieran. You may book a registration slot from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September by ringing Lisa in the parish office (01753 543770) between 9.30am and 1pm., Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday. Registration times are from 4 to 6pm*

*Thank you, Kieran*

## **Holy Family Catholic Church – CAFOD Walk**

### **Event Details & Time:**

- The event will take place at Holy Family School, High Street, Langley SL3 8NF on Saturday, September 27th and it will begin at **2pm**
- People can walk around the school field as individuals or families or community/country groups for as many times as they like (1, 2, 3 or more)
- If the weather is nice you may like to bring a picnic. Tea, coffee and soft drinks will be available
- Our Diocesan CAFOD representative (Deborah Purfield) will be there, and we will take a photograph for the CAFOD website
- We are aiming to raise £5,000 for CAFOD through online donations or sponsorship forms.

### **Sponsorship Forms & Online Donations for CAFOD:**

- Kindly start sharing the news about your walk with your friends, family members, social media groups etc. and request sponsorship for your walk. You can share with them our justgiving page or the paper sponsorship forms. If your sponsor is a taxpayer, please ask them to select the gift-aid option as CAFOD is a registered charity.
- Online sponsorship donations can be made using the justgiving page - <https://justgiving.com/page/cafod-slough-run/>
  - **Note:** After entering the card details and gift-aid options, you will progress to the donation summary page and **please watch out for the tip amount.** Scroll down the page and you can adjust the tip amount or set it to £0 by clicking the 'Edit' link.
- Paper sponsorship form is attached to this email if you prefer to use this option(cafod\_sponsorship\_form.pdf). We will also leave some printed copies on the table at the front of the church (where we keep the newsletters) if you would like to collect one when you come for Sunday mass.

## **OTHER**

### **Brownies**

There is a well-established Brownies group which meets in term time (every Thursday) at Kedermister Hall, off Reddington Drive, 6.15-7.45pm. They are currently recruiting girls aged 7-10 to join their group – please see attached poster for further information.