



Holy Family Catholic Primary School

Advent Term

Newsletter No.4

Friday 26th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your generous donation of cakes for our Macmillan coffee morning. Children enjoyed having a sweet treat in class today. Thank you also for donating via ParentPay and we look forward to gifting £522 to Macmillan who offer invaluable support to families.

Tomorrow, Saturday 27th September, parishioners will be holding a sponsored walk on the school field to support people suffering across the world as a result of food poverty. All proceeds will support CAFOD, Catholic Aid For Overseas Development.

As a Catholic school we are expected to teach children the Churches' language to describe Catholic social teaching. Please talk to your children about how the above charitable acts bear witness to the 'preferential option for the poor'. At school we are teaching children the 'preferential option for the poor' means to think about the needs of the most vulnerable first.

We welcomed another Trust strategic leader on Wednesday, Mr Holdsworth, Director of Mission. He received a warm 'Holy Family' welcome from children and staff alike. It is valuable to school leaders to hear the wider external perspective that Trust leaders bring. On Monday, we will welcome Mr Hewitt, Director of Education, who will carry out a Quality Review.

The Year 6 classes enjoyed their visit from Govina, our school nurse, this morning. She was talking to them about some of the big changes that are coming their way in the next year, as well as the importance of personal hygiene and keeping healthy - through sleep, eating and on their digital devices.

Our youngest children in our 2-year-old nursery provision have proved themselves to be a very creative bunch and have enjoyed the activities Miss Herring and her team have set up for them - painting and chalks have proved very popular as they learn to explore; they're not so keen on cleaning up the mess though! Our Reception children have spent time outside learning about God's world and how they can help look after it. They all seem very keen on learning about different animals, and dinosaurs are a particular hit!

We are still looking for new governors to join our local academy committee. Parents who are practicing Catholics may be interested in being Foundation Governors appointed by the Bishop of Northampton. Their role is ensuring all decisions reflect the school's Catholic designation. Parents of all faiths or none may wish to put themselves forward for the role of parent governor. Parent governors are representative parents rather than representatives of parents. We currently have 2 vacancies for Foundation governors and 2 vacancies for parent governors. Please complete the forms circulated last week or speak to me for more information if you are interested. Thank you.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend

God bless

Mrs Benn

DIARY DATES

Monday 29th September

Week 1 of the Menu

Tuesday 30th September

Year 6 STIXX Workshop (In School)

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

Wednesday 1st October

Year 5 Swimming (3 of 10)

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

Friday 3rd October

CAFOD Harvest Family Fast Day

Monday 6th October

Week 2 of the Menu

Tuesday 7th October

Year 4 Visit to Kew Gardens

Year 3 (Ms Iqbal) Class Visit to Langley Library

Wednesday 8th October

Year 5 Swimming (4 of 10)

Year 4 (Mrs Green & Mrs Evans) Class Visit to Langley Library

Monday 13th October

Week 1 of the Menu

Tuesday 14th October

Reception (Mrs Harris) Class Visit to Langley library

Wednesday 15th October

Year 5 Swimming (5 of 10)

Year 2 (Miss Macfarlane) Class Visit to Langley library

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

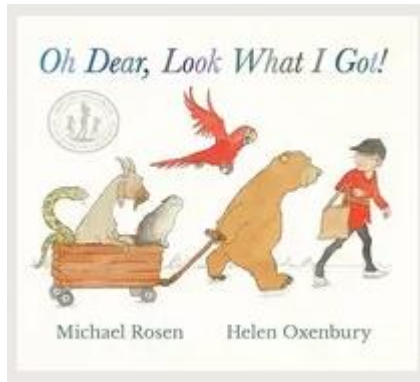
Achievements

Congratulations to Avia Alphonz Dijo for recently progressing to Level 9 in her swimming lessons. Well done Avia.

Congratulations to Patrick McMahon for being awarded a trophy for being Goalkeeper of the Week at his football training. Well done Patrick.

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: Michael Rosen

Illustrator: Helen Oxenbury

Interest Age: 2-5

A child goes to the shops to get a carrot, but things don't really go to plan when they get a parrot instead. An utterly delightful picture book about making the best of things when they don't quite go your way.

Reading Challenge

Congratulations to the following children who completed the Summer Reading Challenge:
Alice Brumby, William Chandler, Zoe Rogulska, Maini Atwal Torcal, Maria Teresa Kiran, Nicholas Brumby, Saran Atwal Torcal, Lyon Kuruppu, Abigail D'Souza, Zyana Masih, Daniel Brumby, Charlotte Chandler, Lea Rogulska, Teya Stacey

October Holiday Camp 2025

We will be running a three-day holiday camp during October half term this year on Wednesday 22nd, Thursday 23rd and Friday 24th October 2025. Please see further information attached to this newsletter. Please return completed forms by Tuesday 30th September. Thank you.

CAFOD Family Fast Day - Friday 3rd October

The theme for the 2024-2025 CAFOD Family Fast Days are related to the Jubilee Year, which has the overarching theme of Pilgrims of Hope, encouraging peacebuilding and supporting those in hardship. Specifically, Family Fast Day on Friday 3rd October 2025, will focus on Life-Saving Water in a Changing Climate. Children can wear something bright to school (in addition to their usual school uniform). Catholic Social Teaching calls us all to work for the common good, uphold the dignity of human life and work for justice, and so, if possible, please consider making a £1 donation via ParentPay to help Holy Family School in our intention to make the world a better place; all children may wear something bright regardless of whether a donation is made. On the morning of Friday (3rd October), Years 3–6 will walk to church to join the parish Mass and EYFS/KS1 will walk around the school playground. We would be grateful if there are any parents (of children in Years 3-6) who would be happy to volunteer to walk to the church with the children; please can you speak to your child's class teacher if you are able to help. Thank you for your support.

Marian Month

October is the month of the Holy Rosary and children in KS2 (Year 3 – Year 6) will be invited to pray a decade of this wonderful prayer on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday's in school. We invite you to maintain this month of dedication on Saturdays and Sundays at home.

A decade of the Holy Rosary is:

1 x Our Father

10 x Hail Mary

1 x Glory Be

During each decade you can pray with a Mystery of the Rosary. Mysteries are moments in the life of Jesus and Mary. Please see the link below to help imagine them in your mind. There are four sets of five Mysteries:

The Joyful Mysteries

The Glorious Mysteries

The Luminous Mysteries

The Sorrowful Mysteries

We do hope that you can join us for the Rosary Challenge this October. For further information, please see the following link: <https://www.teachingcatholickids.com/the-rosary-mysteries/>

Thank you, Mrs O'Reilly – RE Lead

Birthday Treats

Just a reminder that school staff will not distribute cakes, chocolates or party bags that parents bring in for their child's birthday. A small bag of Haribos (or similar sweets) are suffice to celebrate a child's birthday should parents wish to send something in for classmates. With the increase in children's allergies and food intolerances this is a health and safety decision. Thank you for your support in managing children's expectations.

KS2 Hot School Meals

Please note that the cost of the optional hot school meals for children in KS2 (Years 3 – 6) will increase to £2.65 at some point this term. Please note the prices are set by the external provider and not by HFCS. Thank you.

Toby Carvery Polite Parking Reminder

We are very lucky that the management at the Toby Carvery allow parents to park free of charge for a designated short time either end of the school day, if they have provided their registration number. This privilege can be removed for individuals who are not parking or acting respectfully and may be withdrawn for all parents should issues arise. Please only park in the main car park and away from the entrance.

Year 6 Secondary Transfer and School Visits

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

Nursery and School Admission for September 2026

Admission to Reception September 2026

The above admission round opened on the 15th of September 2025 and closes on 15th 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 15th 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 15th 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 7th November 2025. An online consent form from the NHS Berkshire Immunisation Team has been emailed to parents of children in Reception-Year 6. Consent needs to be given before 9am on 6th November 2025. Please see the letter you have been 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 Mrs Harris	Set 1	O- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/9HUwRuez/2sZFGAKo C- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/qak4iabx/J1pcIMg5 K- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/tcNukYmB/E6Ui4HzI U- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/yChJqli9/PT1NO3Z9
Mrs Crow	Ditties	SH- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/L99eXFom/3Xd97CkU TH- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/NHSWxeR4/zkIq81jd CH- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Y8c3ZtNW/CTKwiuTG QU- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ghYE2kDO/Hy9X6H1J
Mrs Keogh Mrs Hendy	Green Purple	OR- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/uhapr2Gt/NBiURXiy AIR- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/BPm7gFOc/cW4XTpym IR- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/AnBVKnZx/CYMUOoCg OU- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/UMVp9KGP/xRRdLLKu
Mrs Wilson Mrs Hogg	Orange Blue	ER- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/C1i5uBq1/DOYnAF5I OW- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/JwP95B44/eG3z5Wln UR- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/pVhsJJ2v/isLraX49 ARE- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/fhZNvYys/RNarfBRE
Miss MacFarlane	Grey	ER- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/C1i5uBq1/DOYnAF5I OW- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/JwP95B44/eG3z5Wln AI- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/aP0gA4g7/hygPCGrc ARE- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/fhZNvYys/RNarfBRE

PTA (Parent Teacher Association) NEWS

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 holyfamilylangleypta@gmail.com.

PTA Pantomime

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 Cinderella at 7pm on Wednesday 3rd December <https://theatreroyalwindsor.co.uk/cinderella-25/> Once again, our favourites Kevin Cruise and Steven Blakely will entertain us all and get us in the festive mood.

Tickets will be going on sale in two weeks time on Friday 10th 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! Please look out for the school newsletter next Friday for further details of how to buy your tickets Thank you for your support, from the Holy Family PTA

Christmas Cards

This year, the PTA are offering the opportunity for parents to order merchandise, including Christmas cards, with your child's design on them. £1 from every item purchased is given back to the school so it raises vital funds. Your child has been sent home with a design for them to colour at home. If you would like to place an order, please return the completed art work to your child's class teacher by the date stated on the form. Please fill in the details on the back of the form. These will be sent off to the company who runs it and once they have received it they will provide you with details of how you can order online. Thank you from the PTA for your support.

PARISH NEWS

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.