



Holy Family Catholic Primary School

Advent Term

Newsletter No.5

Friday 2nd October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

We have had another harmonious week at school. Many year groups have welcomed new children since the start of term and all seem to have settled in quickly.

This morning, it was the turn of Chrissy (mum of Leo Y2) and Halima (mum of Lyla Y2) to welcome new families to our first PTA coffee morning of the year. There was a great turn out and it was lovely to see so many parents in school enjoying refreshments and a chat. Chrissy and Halima shared the twofold aims of the PTA. Firstly, to build community and secondly to raise much needed funds for school.

We are aware many people can't make meetings during the day or during the evening, however, there are still ways you can help by attending events, offering prizes, making posters and preparation for events (some of which can be done off site). The more involved families become the greater the sense of belonging you and your children will feel. So please consider, if there is any small way in which you may be able to make a positive contribution for the common good of all associated with Holy Family. Contact details for the PTA are at the end of the newsletter. The best is yet to come!

Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) goes live on Monday 5th October.

From Monday, Slough Borough Council will switch on the cameras in the slip road during term time at the times designated as School Street. Parents who drive in the slip road at the times shown on the signs will receive fines. Mr Thercaj will no longer supervise School Street. He has done an excellent job of increasing the safety of all our children and on behalf of all our children I thank him for the cheery welcome and commitment he has shown to this role through at least two winters.

St Thomas Catholic Academies Trust produce an annual Catholic Life Newsletter to celebrate what is distinctive about Catholic schools. You will find it attached to this newsletter. Next Friday, KS2 children will be attending one of two Masses. Our Mission Team will represent us at the Diocesan Schools Mass when they will be formally commissioned in their new roles as faith leaders. The remainder of KS2 will walk to Holy Family church to mark the start of term and CAFOD Family Fast Day by celebrating Mass led by Fr Tony. Children are invited to substitute an item of their school uniform with something brightly coloured and make a donation between £1 and £10 to CAFOD via ParentPay. We understand not everyone is in a position to donate so all children are encouraged to wear something brightly coloured next Friday. If there are any parents or grandparents who would be willing to walk to church at 9.30am, stay for mass, and then walk children back to school at 10.45 am please email school.admin@hfcs.org.uk and we will allocate you to a class or year group.

Earlier in the week, the whole school practiced our lockdown and fire evacuation procedures which children and staff managed very well. Hopefully we will never need to use either in an emergency, yet all schools are expected to teach children how to stay safe and how to respond should it be necessary to evoke either procedure.

Bookings are now being taken for the October half term 3-day holiday club run by Mr Holder and other school staff. Bookings will close Monday 5th October or earlier if full.

Wishing everyone a lovely weekend.

God bless,

Mrs Benn

SCHOOL STREET - ANPR CAMERAS TO GO LIVE MONDAY 5th OCTOBER 2026

Please note that the ANPR cameras will be live from Monday 5th October 2026 during the School Street hours (8.15am-9.00am and 3.00-3.45pm). A few families may previously have been issued with paper permits – please note these will no longer be valid.

DIARY DATES

Monday 5th October	Week 3 of the Menu
Tuesday 6th October	Little Recyclers Collection & Pre Loved Uniform Collection (school drop off)
Wednesday 7th October	Flu Immunisations Rec – Year 6 (In School) Little Recyclers Collection & Pre Loved Uniform Collection (school drop off)
Thursday 8th October	Year 5 Swimming (4 of 10)
Friday 9th October	HFCS Celebrate CAFOD Family Fast Day Mission Team Attend School Mass in Northampton
Monday 12th October	Week 1 of the Menu
Wednesday 14th October	Year 5 Swimming (5 of 10)
Friday 16th October	Mrs Powell's Year 2 Class Celebration of the Word 9am Parents Welcome Pre Loved Uniform Sale from 3pm
Monday 19th October	Week 2 of the Menu
Wednesday 21st October	STAFF INSET – SCHOOL CLOSED
Thursday 22nd October	STAFF INSET – SCHOOL CLOSED
Friday 23rd October	STAFF INSET – SCHOOL CLOSED

October Half Term: Monday 26th October 2026 to Friday 30th October 2026

October Holiday Camp 2026 – Please hand in forms by Monday 5th October 2026

We will be running a three day holiday camp during October half term this year on Wednesday 21st, Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd October 2026. Please see further information attached to this newsletter.

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.

Amazing Achievements

Congratulations to Gurfatehpal Singh who has been awarded with a trophy for Best Player by his football club.

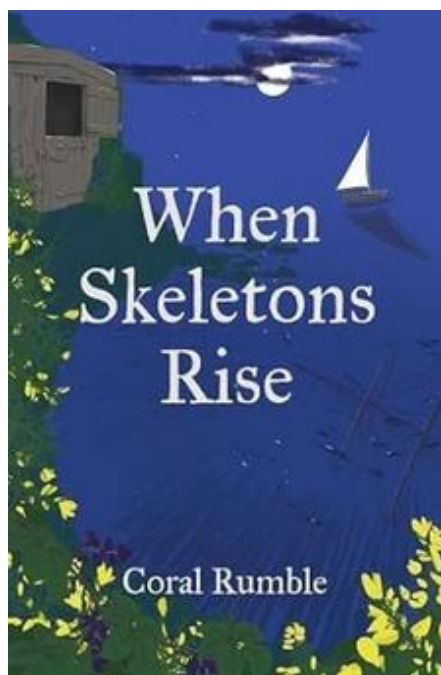
Congratulations to Aashvi Rana who was awarded a gold medal in the Tennis Orange Ball Junior Tournament.

Congratulations to Lea Rogulska for progressing to Stage 8 in her swimming lessons.

Well done to Gurfatehpal, Aashvi and Lea

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: Coral Rumble

Illustrator: Twink Addison

Interest Age: 9-11

Reading Age: 8+

Arlo has finally begun to settle into his new life in Cornwall, but everything unravels when he discovers his mum has lied about his dad's mysterious disappearance. An exciting, thought-provoking story about friendship, trust and local history.

Attendance

Congratulations to Mrs Green's Year 2 class for achieving the highest attendance this week (99.7%).

Information re. Open Evening/Mornings for Secondary Schools September 2027 Entry and How to Apply

The Langley Academy – Please see the attached information leaflet for further details.

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.

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.

Nursery and School Admission for September 2027

Admission to Reception September 2027

The above admission round opened on the 1st September 2026 and closes on 15th January 2027. You must apply via your local authority website completing a Common Application Form (CAF) for a place in a Reception class to start September 2027.

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 2027. Reception Supplementary Forms can be obtained from the school website or the school office.

Admission to 2 or 3 Year Old Nurseries September 2027

The Nursery 2027 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 2027.

Flu Immunisation for Children in Reception – Year 6

The date currently scheduled for your child to receive the flu immunisation in school is 7th October 2026. 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 6th October 2026. Please see the letter you will be emailed for further information and details regarding how to give your consent. Thank you.

STCAT Newsletter Celebrating the Catholic Life of Our Schools over the Last Year

Please see newsletter attached. The newsletter is also available on the STCAT website here <https://www.stcat.co.uk/about-us/catholicity-and-inclusion/celebrating-catholic-life-newsletter/>

Supporting CAFOD's Harvest Family Fast Day – Friday 9th October

On Friday 9th October, Holy Family School will support CAFOD's Harvest Family Fast Day appeal. This year's focus is on helping children in Zimbabwe access safe water and nutritious food so they can attend school, learn and flourish.

Children are invited to wear something bright alongside their usual school uniform. Catholic Social Teaching calls us to uphold the dignity of every person, work for the common good and support our global neighbours. If possible, please consider making a **£1 donation via ParentPay** to support CAFOD's work. All children are welcome to wear something bright, regardless of whether a donation is made.

Years 4–6 will walk to church to join the parish Mass, while EYFS, KS1 and Year 3 will walk around the school playground, coming together in solidarity with communities supported by CAFOD.

We would once again be grateful for **parents and carers of children in Years 4–6 to volunteer to accompany the walk to church.** If you are able to help, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support as we put our faith into action together.

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 to pray the Rosary again this October. For further information, please see the following link: <https://www.teachingcatholickids.com/the-rosary-mysteries/>

Thank you, Mrs O'Reilly – RE Lead

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.

If you are unsure how to pronounce the sounds please the following link which goes through all the Set 1, 2 and 3 sounds and how to pronounce them.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KUbrJPA65g>

Miss Macfarlane Mrs Harris	Set 1	U- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/VMSEbYWU/y5rslcZp B- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/am45TiWI/v033Vk4V F- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/o0TL7dsl/ILYnDUNe E- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/BHA4OLJA/fhQSgyR1 https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/KSVsX8qV/iuE3C7qm https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/s9Eo05KE/lzqujSN6
-------------------------------	-------	--

Mrs Crow	Ditties	CH- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Mr90Z1KA/WbMuTYuC NK- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/5zP2mGzL/SswYXNo0 CK- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/tUacJP3X/s7vm5cP4 SH- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/eRogQqCB/qfzHb2c https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/URf71xyU/osL8GDwY https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Lm8qmb4I/kYyA1MI4 https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/8mbXMc6i/LVixReRS
Mrs Hendy Mrs Hogg	Green Pink	AY- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/bAyB2XcQ/FE50P8gV EE- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/VxLAGoDE/wsaIU7AL IGH – https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/9KELYOXF/NcgEvIsd OW- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/rMRZBLjd/TbUrmoMU https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/5UhzJkMb/V9Nx06v5
Mrs Wilson Mrs Green	Orange Grey	OA- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/0xOZbmzL/9nHoJ8QD EW- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/CQg5HjJU/kFRECaAH IRE- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/DbEIMXus/yb1hWZCi EAR- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/taYVaZ3U/bWjYa9TT https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/U4lm1aVU/aOEqohNM

Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

PTA Coffee Morning

Thank you to everyone who attended the PTA Coffee Morning. It was great to talk about the role of the PTA, share ideas and plan upcoming events. If you were unable to attend and would like to get involved, please speak to Halima, Chrissy or Becca (Y2 Parents) or email holyfamilylangleyppta@gmail.com Please see the flyer attached for more information about the PTA.

Tuesday 6th & Wednesday 7th October - Morning - Little Recyclers and Preloved Uniform Collection

Are you having a declutter of your wardrobe? Or do you have clothes that your children have grown out of? We are excited to have organised another clothing collection through Little Recyclers!

There will be a collection point at the front of the school on the morning of the 6th and 7th of October.

We will also be collecting any preloved uniform on the same day. Please put these in a separate bag - these will be for the PTA Preloved Sale. Please see the flyer for more information.

Friday 16th October - After School - Preloved Uniform Sale

Our PTA will be holding a Pre-Loved Uniform Sale after school on Friday 16th October.

We will be selling branded jumpers, cardigans and PE jumpers for £3. Branded polo t-shirts and PE t-shirts will be £2.

There are plenty of white shirts, grey trousers, pinafores and other items that are all free. So come and grab yourself a bargain!

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. An amount from every item purchased is given back to the school so it raises vital funds. Within the next couple of weeks, your child will come home with a design which has already been completed or 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 Monday 12th October. 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. School cannot accept any designs handed in later than this date. Thank you from the PTA for your support.

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 **Jack and The Beanstalk at 7pm on Wednesday 2nd December** <https://theatreroyalwindsor.co.uk/beanstalk-26/> 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 16th 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 £44.50 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**