



## **Holy Family Catholic Primary School**

**Advent Term**

**Newsletter No. 8**

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our school community have come back to school following an extended half term; I hope you felt the benefit of a longer break and children are refreshed and ready to engage in their learning for the next six weeks – it will fly by!

We ended another calm and focused week in school with Mrs Fox's Year 5 class liturgy. Thank you to the large number of parents who were able to come along and share the beautiful reflection that the children shared with us. Year 5 created a wonderful calm atmosphere – which isn't always easy in a school hall full of almost 500 wriggling bodies! They presented the audience with all they have learnt about All Souls Day, as well as giving us the opportunity to remember and be thankful for the times spent with loved ones who we have lost. We were reminded that, despite our sadness, our loved ones are being looked after by God and are waiting for us. Thank you to Year 5 children and the adult team.

This weekend, we mark Remembrance Sunday across the country. Well done to those children who will be taking part in parades or marking this occasion within their communities. Thank you to Mrs Fox and the school council for arranging the selling of poppies and other Remembrance items in our playground before and after school each day. Please see information further in the newsletter regarding our Remembrance Tree in school.

Before half term, we asked for any altar servers within school to nominate themselves to take on a larger role in our collective worship. I am delighted to announce that Daniel Brumby (Year 5), Bryan Rodrigues (Year 4) and Clara Chipuriro (Year 4) have volunteered, with Daniel taking the lead role. We look forward to working with them, and thank them for being brave in putting themselves forward.

Another thank you to all those Key Stage 2 children who completed the half term creative homework last week, where they were asked to design a liturgy that they could lead in their classrooms. The first few have happened this week, and have been absolutely wonderful to be part of! Everyone else who has designed a liturgy will get to lead theirs too, over the coming weeks and months.

Thank you to Maria Teresa Kiran (Year 3) who responded to our plea for more crucifixes by donating two; these were much-needed and will be hung in school.

Our children all came into school yesterday looking wonderfully smart for their annual school photographs; you will receive more information on how to order them shortly, as well as a proof of the photos taken. Today, children were very brave when meeting the school nurse team, who came to give immunisations to any child whose parent had signed up.

On Monday of next week (10<sup>th</sup> November), we encourage all children to wear odd socks to school along with their usual school uniform. This is an initiative led by the Anti-Bullying

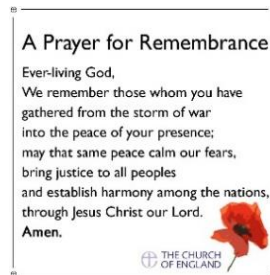
Alliance, and marks the beginning of anti-bullying week in schools across the country. The theme this year is Power for Good, and is an opportunity for children to further consider the importance of inclusivity and individuality.

A gentle reminder to return Parent Evening reply slips by Monday (there is more information regarding Parents' Evening in this newsletter).

Wishing you all a good weekend

God bless,

Mrs Benn



## DIARY DATES

|                                           |                                                                                                             |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> November</b>     | Remembrance Sunday                                                                                          |
| <b>Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November</b>    | Week 2 of the Menu                                                                                          |
| <b>Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November</b>   | Nursery Stay and Play 11.15-11.45am and 2.15-2.45pm<br>Year 6 Class (Mrs Ragg) Visit to Langley Library     |
| <b>Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November</b> | Year 5 Swimming<br>Year 5 Class (Mrs O'Reilly) Visit to Langley Library<br>Reception Stay and Play 2.30-3pm |
| <b>Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November</b>    | Year 2 (Mrs Powel) Class Assembly Parents Welcome 9am<br>Year 3 Ancient Greek Day                           |
| <b>Monday 17<sup>th</sup> November</b>    | Week 1 of the Menu<br>Parents' Evening for Year 5 Mrs Fox Class Only 3.45-7pm                               |
| <b>Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November</b>   | 3 Year Old Nursery When I Grow Up Day<br>Parents' Evening for 3 Year Old Nursery – Year 6 3.45-7pm          |
| <b>Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November</b> | Year 5 Swimming                                                                                             |
| <b>Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November</b>  | Parents' Evening for 3 Year Old Nursery – Year 6 3.45-7pm (Not Year 5 Mrs Fox Class)                        |

|                                           |                                                                                          |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November</b>    | Jubilee Celebration Day<br>Year 2 Class (Mrs Powell) Visit to Langley Library            |
| <b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> November</b>    | Feast of Christ the King Mass at Holy Family Catholic Church 11.30am                     |
| <b>Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November</b>    | Week 2 of the Menu                                                                       |
| <b>Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November</b>   | Year 6 World War II Day (At School)<br>Year 1 Class (Mrs Hendy) Visit to Langley Library |
| <b>Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November</b> | Year 5 Swimming<br>Year 1 Class (Mrs Hume) 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](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.

### **Achievements**

Congratulations to Luka Liutkeviciute who entered a jockey silk designing competition at the QIPCO British Champions Day at Ascot Racecourse recently, with Luka winning the best design. Well done Luka.

Congratulations to Adikrit Singh for receiving the Most Improved Player of the Year award for the Under 9s by Slough Cricket Club as part of annual awards ceremony. Well done Adikrit.

Congratulations to Hiranya Siripurapu who recently passed her ancient Classical Indian dance form named "Bharatnatyam" pre-grade examination with Distinction. Well done Hiranya.

Congratulations to Abigail Thekkekara who last weekend participated in an Indian semi classical dance performance at a party for Father Kevin's retirement which the Kerala community of Holy Family Church in Langley had organised. Well done Abigail.

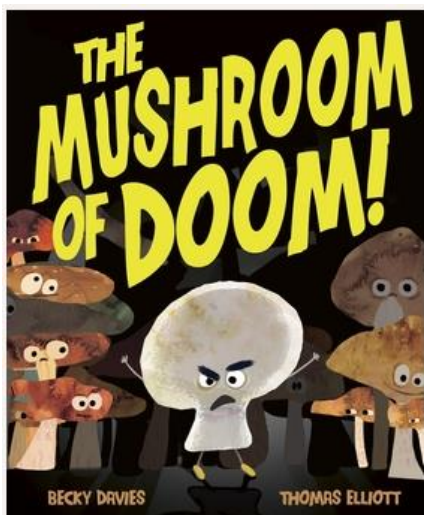
### **Attendance**

Well done to Mrs Powel's Year 2 class for achieving the highest attendance this week (100%). Please see attached poster which shows each year group's overall attendance for this week.

Next week, anyone whose attendance is recorded as less than 90% since September should expect to receive an attendance letter from our attendance officer, Mrs Oakes. Our school 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.

### **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:** Becky Davies

**Illustrator:** Thomas Elliott

**Interest Age:** 3-7

**Reading Age:** 7+

When a mushroom is rejected as a pizza topping and thrown in the compost bin, he raises a mushroom army to take revenge! A totally hilarious picture book perfect for fans of Supertato.

### **Wednesday Word**

Luscious Nxumalo in Year 6 writes for us this week:

*Our Wednesday Word this week was enthusiasm. Enthusiasm comes from the Greek word "entheos" meaning God filled. Our gospel this week is from the book of John 2:13-22.*

*Jesus went to Jerusalem to celebrate the Jewish Passover. Inside the temple, he saw merchants everywhere and among them sat money changers. Jesus became so angry that he made a whip out of cords and chased the people out of the temple. He then went to overturn the tables with money on them. He then said to the people "take this out of here and stop turning my father's house into a marketplace!"*

*Although Jesus was angry, he still showed enthusiasm and faithfulness.*

*How can you show enthusiasm in your subject at school?*

### **Remembrance Leaves**

November is a time for remembering our loved ones that have died and we mark this time of year at Holy Family by creating a special remembrance tree in our hall. This month, your child will be given a leaf to take home and we invite you to record the names of any family members or friends that you would like us to remember and pray for. Leaves will then be placed on our remembrance tree. Thank you, Mrs O'Reilly.

### **Parents' Evening - Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November**

We will be holding Parents' Evening on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November. A letter regarding this was sent home with your child yesterday. Please can you return the reply slip by Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November. Parents will be notified of their confirmed appointment time by Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November. Please note that children from Year 2 – Year 6 should attend with their parent/s. Our Attendance Officer, Mrs Oakes, will be available to meet with parents on both evenings. Thank you.

### **Year 1 & Year 4 Art & DT Exhibition**

On Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November, Year 1 and Year 4 will be jointly holding a pop-up art and DT exhibition. Parents will be able to view the work in the school hall between 8:40 - 8:50am and 3:20 - 3:40pm on that day. Entrance will be via the main school reception. Thank you.

### **Feast of Christ the King – Youth Mass**

On Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> November, all pupils (past and present) are invited to attend the 11.30am Mass at Holy Family Catholic Church for a youth Mass to celebrate the Feast of Christ the King on the last Sunday of our liturgical year. This is our annual reunion Mass which we have started to hold each year. An opportunity for pupils and staff, past and present to re-connect and strengthen our sense of belonging to the Holy Family School Community as lifelong.

### **Foundation Governor Vacancy**

We still have one vacancy for a Foundation Governor on our Local Academy Committee. As Foundation Governors are appointed by the Bishop of Northampton, we welcome any Catholic parent who may be interested in serving our school in this way. Please either speak with Mrs Benn or email our clerk to Local Academy Committee, Mrs M Gilmartin if you are interested. [Mgilmartin@stcat.co.uk](mailto:Mgilmartin@stcat.co.uk)

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

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

The above admission round opened 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.

### **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 | M- <a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/wyXvGU5T/2SrSAA6L">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/wyXvGU5T/2SrSAA6L</a><br>A- <a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Y8AHP8iM/isYeHPyR">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Y8AHP8iM/isYeHPyR</a><br>S- <a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/eXyUDUFT/AvdCrYzI">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/eXyUDUFT/AvdCrYzI</a><br><a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/sl9Uu6NM/VZYiS51p">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/sl9Uu6NM/VZYiS51p</a><br><a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/5oea4eH7/rI9f43kD">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/5oea4eH7/rI9f43kD</a> |
| Mrs Scott  | Set 1 | J- <a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/8bKggav4/7Drw5Yb3">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/8bKggav4/7Drw5Yb3</a><br>Z- <a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/y5EYHHj0/mXxe6K5K">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/y5EYHHj0/mXxe6K5K</a><br>Y- <a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/BHJgxnN/5Upl2vIZ">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/BHJgxnN/5Upl2vIZ</a><br><a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/sl9Uu6NM/VZYiS51p">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/sl9Uu6NM/VZYiS51p</a>                                                                                                                                                |

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|----------------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                              |                        | <a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/5oea4eH7/rI9f43kD">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/5oea4eH7/rI9f43kD</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Mrs Mulrooney<br>/ Mrs Birch                 | Word<br>Time           | <a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/NehuOpjD/qwf9wN6i">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/NehuOpjD/qwf9wN6i</a><br><a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ypEGInFJ/3WW8AHvN">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ypEGInFJ/3WW8AHvN</a><br><a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Bv1lJojE/Fgb8fvBv">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Bv1lJojE/Fgb8fvBv</a><br><a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/vlFjHKYQ/cAa6XAx7">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/vlFjHKYQ/cAa6XAx7</a> |
| Mrs Crow                                     | Ditties                | SH- <a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ZejBiqHR/jLpWHIzr">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ZejBiqHR/jLpWHIzr</a><br>TH- <a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/AG2Q6yrg/4Qg4OQw8">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/AG2Q6yrg/4Qg4OQw8</a><br>CH- <a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/wicYzCc3/u5jCdoqQ">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/wicYzCc3/u5jCdoqQ</a>                                                                                                                                  |
| Mrs Keogh<br>Mrs Hendy                       | Green<br>Pink          | AY- <a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/HZsK65nJ/RNU24T2m">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/HZsK65nJ/RNU24T2m</a><br>EE- <a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/qxVTI2LJ/tJmudw15">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/qxVTI2LJ/tJmudw15</a><br>IGH- <a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/bXG1bemG/g6dBwPDG">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/bXG1bemG/g6dBwPDG</a>                                                                                                                                 |
| Mrs Wilson<br>Mrs Hogg<br>Miss<br>MacFarlane | Orange<br>Blue<br>Grey | EA- <a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/fdmknuYE/BofPofpf">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/fdmknuYE/BofPofpf</a><br>OI- <a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/w89pPtza/96SGrzCz">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/w89pPtza/96SGrzCz</a><br>A-E- <a href="http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/MtZDKCWn/qsCttUNI">http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/MtZDKCWn/qsCttUNI</a>                                                                                                                                 |

### Eligibility for a Free School Meal – Information for Parents

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Please use this link to check your eligibility [Free school meals application | Instructions – Slough Borough Council](#) or contact [helen.mynett@hfcs.org.uk](mailto:helen.mynett@hfcs.org.uk) for further information.

### 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](mailto:holyfamilylangleypta@gmail.com).

### PTA Christmas Fair – 5<sup>th</sup> December

The PTA are delighted to announce the Winter Fayre will take place on Friday 5th December after school.

Please get in touch with [holyfamilylangleypta@gmail.com](mailto:holyfamilylangleypta@gmail.com) if you can support by running a stall, making food items or volunteering in anyway.

We are looking for toys, books and cuddly toy donations in preparation for our Winter Fayre. We ask that toys are in good and complete condition (e.g. no missing pieces etc).

Please bring any items to the Green PTA store (near Nursery outdoor area) after school on Wednesdays or Fridays where a member of the PTA will be available to receive them. Please do not open the container as it can be difficult to close and we don't want items inside the container to be damaged or get wet. Thank you.

### **Christmas Cards**

If you have already submitted artwork with your child's Christmas design on and received an email to order merchandise, please note that the date for ordering merchandise has been extended and will now close on Monday 10th November 2025. Any merchandise that you order will be sent to school and children will bring them home. Thank you.

### **OTHER**

#### **Slough Borough Council – SEND Family Fun Day 15<sup>th</sup> Nov 2025**

Please see attached leaflet for further information.

#### **The National Children's Choir of Great Britain Audition Day**

Slough Music Service are delighted to announce an exciting new partnership with The National Children's Choir of Great Britain (NCCGB) to offer further opportunities for our talented young singers in Slough. If your child loves to sing and would enjoy being part of an inclusive, supportive, and nurturing choir, this could be the perfect opportunity for them!

Audition Details:

Date: Saturday, 29th November 2025

Location: Grove Academy School

Auditions are strictly by booking only and places are limited, allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

Auditions are free and NCCGB provide bursaries for those who are successful, depending on household income.

For more information about the National Children's Choir of Great Britain, please visit [www.nccgb.com](http://www.nccgb.com)

If you would like to book an audition, please:

- Email Nicole at [info@nccgb.com](mailto:info@nccgb.com), or
- Complete the online application form [here](#) Auditions Application November 2025 - The National Children's Choir

#### **Free Weekly Cricket Sessions**

If your child is interested in attending free weekly cricket sessions, please see attached flyer for further information.