



Holy Family Catholic Primary School

Advent Term

Newsletter No.9

Friday 14th November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Well done to Mrs Powell's Year 2 class for a beautiful 'Celebration of the Word' this morning. Hope and resilience featured a great deal in their messaging. Children shared the Learning Character Optimism with us and reminded us that, although we all experience life's struggles, we are called and chosen by God to be Prophets of Hope. Children explained spreading hope is as simple as caring for God's creatures, being helpful at home and looking after their environment. The whole school sung a rousing version of the Jubilee Song of Hope which raised the roof! Thank you to Year 2 for making us all smile this morning.

Year 3 look amazing in their Greek costumes. The highlight of their day was tasting olives, grapes, feta cheese and honey. They learnt about gods and goddesses as well as creating name cards using the Greek alphabet.

Earlier in the week, many children came to school wearing odd socks to mark Anti-Bullying Week. There's a serious message behind the odd socks. Wearing odd socks represents the fact we are all unique and different, and that everyone will be happier if we are kind to each other and respect each other's individuality.

Thank you to all the parents who joined their Nursery or Reception children for 'Stay and Play' sessions. Sessions were really well attended and parents were very engaged in play with children, taking care to include children whose parents were not at the session. Nursery children loved showing their parents around, reading with them and some parents even enjoyed the playdough activity.

This week, our youngest children, 2-year-olds, have been learning about different forms of transport. They have been acting out 'The Wheels on the Bus' and made a bus with shapes.

Some classes have already held their Remembrance Worship with many children expressing mixed emotions. Sadness because loved ones have passed yet at the same time feeling calm and peaceful because they know their loved ones are happy in heaven, their eternal resting place. If any children still have leaves at home, please remind them to return them to school. Our Remembrance Tree is slowly transforming as more coloured leaves are added with each class worship.

Next week, we look forward to welcoming all parents to our only compulsory Parents' Evening of the year. Today, you should have received allocated appointments from class teachers. Please contact class teachers on Monday if you do not yet have an appointment.

Over the next few weeks we will be introducing Playleaders to the playground at lunchtimes. This is a trial scheme where some Year 6 children will be leading and teaching the younger children traditional and new playground games.

We invite all our families to join school staff at the 11.30am Feast of Christ The King Holy Family Parish Mass on Sunday 23rd November, also known as Youth Sunday. Current school staff will welcome you and present you with a commemorative Holy Family Catholic School enamel badge, and refreshments will be provided after Mass. Our aim is simple: to stay connected, so that past pupils and staff will always feel a sense of belonging to Holy Family Catholic School and Parish community.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend

God bless

Mrs Benn
Headteacher

DIARY DATES

Monday 17th November	Week 1 of the Menu Parents' Evening for Year 5 Mrs Fox Class Only 3.45-7pm
Tuesday 18th November	3 Year Old Nursery When I Grow Up Day Year 1 & Year 4 Art & DT Exhibition (School Hall) 8.40-8.50am and 3.20-3.40pm Parents' Evening for 3 Year Old Nursery – Year 6 3.45-7pm
Wednesday 19th November	Year 5 Swimming
Thursday 20th November	Parents' Evening for 3 Year Old Nursery – Year 6 3.45-7pm (Not Year 5 Mrs Fox Class)
Friday 21st November	Jubilee Celebration Day Year 2 Class (Mrs Powell) Visit to Langley Library
Sunday 23rd November	Feast of Christ the King Mass at Holy Family Catholic Church 11.30am
Monday 24th November	Week 2 of the Menu
Tuesday 25th November	Year 6 World War II Day (At School) Year 1 Class (Mrs Hendy) Visit to Langley Library
Wednesday 26th November	Year 5 Swimming Year 1 Class (Mrs Hume) Visit to Langley Library
Monday 1st December	Week 1 of the Menu
Tuesday 2nd December	Reception Class (Mrs Scott) Visit to Langley Library
Wednesday 3rd December	Year 5 Swimming

Year 6 Class (Mrs Doyle & Miss Caswell) Visit to
Langley Library

PTA Pantomime at The Theatre Royal Windsor 7pm

Friday 5th December

PTA Christmas Fair 3.30pm

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

Well done to Nick & Daniel Brumby for carrying the Beavers & Cubs flags for the Iver 1st Scout Group at the Iver Remembrance Parade last weekend.

Congratulations to Margot Doyle for winning all four of her races (front crawl, back crawl, breaststroke and butterfly) at the Windsor swimming gala last weekend.

Congratulations to Emrys Yarrow for winning Man of the Match in his football game in which he plays for the Hurricanes last weekend. They won their match and Emrys played extremely well and scored a goal.

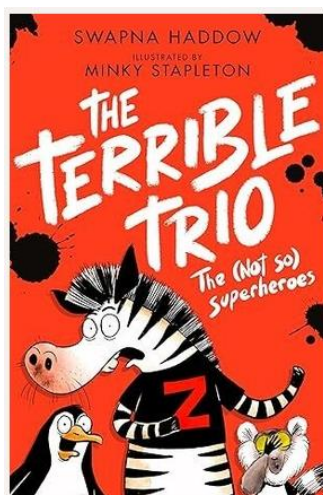
Congratulations to Seren Yarrow for being selected to play for the Slough Schools' FA U11 Girls District Team. She played her first game last Saturday against Cardiff and the score was a draw.

Attendance

Well done to Mrs Scott's Reception class and Mrs Hume's Year 1 class for achieving the highest attendance this week (99.7%). Please see attached poster which shows each year group's overall attendance for this week.

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: Swapna Haddow

Illustrator: Minky Stapleton

Interest Age: 6-9

Reading Age: 7+

Despite having rubbish superpowers, Zeb, Marge and Barry have a plan to become heroes. A very funny story with black-and-white comic book style illustrations.

Wednesday Word

Oluwanifemi Tijani in Year 6 writes for us this week:

This week our Wednesday Word is faithfulness. Faithfulness is a gift from God to us and we are encouraged by Jesus to show it to everyone. Our Gospel this week is found in Luke 21:5-19.

Some of the followers were talking about the temple and how it was decorated with beautiful and attractive stones and the generous gifts offered to God. But Jesus said, "The time will come when all that you see here will be destroyed, not one stone will be on top of another!". The disciple asked when will this happen and Jesus replied saying this, "Before the world ends many things will occur, many people will say I am Christ but don't be fooled or follow them, and when you hear about war and earthquakes do not be afraid, stay faithful to me.

Jesus is talking about his death and how he will be judged but it is important to stay faithful for he will save.

So how are you going to stay faithful in times of trouble and in your daily ways of life?

Parents' Evening - Tuesday 18th and Thursday 20th November

We will be holding Parents' Evening on Tuesday 18th and Thursday 20th November for all classes except Mrs Fox's Year 5 class (Mrs Fox's class Parents' Evenings will take place on Monday 17th and Tuesday 18th November). Please can you check school bags for confirmation of your appointment time. 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 18th 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 23rd 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

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.

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	N- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/9jI9f284/c5oAeITD T- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/4IdKGg9n/JpgIg5jN I http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/eHrjgGEx/gOPgk3ZK http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/kHDq1IJO/ZexfcZNf http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/NsfGiQxV/58XDkwbe
Mrs Scott	Set 1	W- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/vVVlrAzF/mkOkIT5o B- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/xt2ht7Q/0RD00epV U- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/6u3A9yod/KsjFffsE http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/kHDq1IJO/ZexfcZNf http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/NsfGiQxV/58XDkwbe
Mrs Mulrooney / Mrs Birch	Word Time	http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/FszoikIb/oWSa1qDM http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/a9y7wUXi/UMMOLS6K http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/lepGPZvQ/zyWGHqa4 http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/OOfEI0I0/3cJVVeus
Mrs Crow	Ditties	QU- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/PObfmeXr/X0HU7Wrt NG- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/3FLGmapD/hGxqikdE NK- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ZUgriTaJ/jnHFeKFQ
Mrs Keogh Mrs Hendy	Green Pink	OW- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/anEeY6AM/AoxWakC4 OO- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/RSJAinrT/XUWwa8FD OO- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/q3Au4IJo/Y9imDqGi
Mrs Wilson Mrs Hogg Miss MacFarlane	Orange Blue Grey	I-E- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Of9HPfmo/29AX9GCq O-E- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/XyRf73nG/iXproMke U-E- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/GK0JDVLK/IUw8kv5u

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 holyfamilylangleyppta@gmail.com.

PTA Christmas Fair – 5th December

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

Please get in touch with holyfamilylangleyppta@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.

PTA Mufti Day Friday 28th November

We would like donations of the following for the Winter Fayre in return for a Mufti Day.

- Bag of wrapped sweets or lollies
- Chocolate bars - large and small

New, small party bag type toys - fidget toys, yo yos, puzzles, crayons, stickers etc. (For use as small prizes on our games stalls).

Christmas Food items such as mince pies, wine, festive snacks and treats - for use in our hampers.

Fill a Bag of Surprises - please fill a bag of surprises for our Winter Fayre stall. The bag could contain sweets, chocolates or small toys. A bag will be sent home with your child and please return no later than Wednesday 3rd December.

We kindly remind you to check any best before dates. Thank you.

PTA – Pantomime update – Tickets will be in book bags week after next

Thank you to EVERYONE who bought tickets for the pantomime at The Theatre Royal Windsor, which will be a performance of Cinderella on Wednesday 3rd December at 7pm <https://theatreroyalwindsor.co.uk/cinderella-25/>. Your tickets will be sent home in your children's book bags the week after next, so please keep an eye out for them.

Thanks for your support – Holy Family PTA

OTHER

East Berkshire Immunisation Team

Please find attached a leaflet detailing drop-in clinics for your child's flu vaccination.

Slough Foodbank 15 Year Anniversary

Please see attached letter regarding Slough Foodbank's plans mark the 15 year anniversary and how the local community and businesses can get involved over the coming year.

Slough Borough Council – SEND Family Fun Day 15th 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

If you would like to book an audition, please:

- Email Nicole at 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.