



Holy Family Catholic Primary School

Lent Term

Newsletter No.17

Friday 23rd January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

There has been much excitement – and some minor disruption – caused by our new building starting this week! Ground works have begun, which has meant that we have had to ask staff and families to make some adjustments to the way that they arrive and leave school each day. Next week, there will be a pause in the build, so we should be able to move more freely; after that, restrictions will be in place for a number of weeks to ensure everyone can be kept safe – thanks in advance for your patience and flexibility as we create a welcoming and more appropriate space for our youngest children.

On Monday, school was closed to children, and all staff met to work on preparation for upcoming inspections, as we are due visits from both Ofsted and CSI (Catholic Schools Inspectorate). Staff worked on familiarising themselves with changing frameworks, to ensure we feel as ready as possible to show inspectors the great things that happen here every day.

As part of our day, staff also welcomed Fr Tony, who led us in a reflective liturgy, reminding staff of the importance of the work they do, not only with children's academics but also in their lives, helping children and families to lessen their burdens in one way or another. Fr Tony also spoke to staff about the Parish Mission, which runs from 23rd-27th February. Our parish is delighted to welcome Fr Elias Gweme and Fr Royston Price, who will work with parishioners in helping to deepen faith and search for greater meaning in life. You will find the leaflet explaining more about the mission attached to this newsletter, and we join Fr Tony in encouraging you all to come along and take part.

There is increasing excitement in school this week as groups of Key Stage 2 children prepare to launch their child-led 'Hearts on Fire, Feet on the Move' clubs. These clubs are an introduction to children in leadership and designing and seeing through a project. The children who don't lead clubs this term will have an array of clubs on offer to choose to attend in break and lunch times, which they will hear all about in assemblies next week. If your child is running a club, please encourage and support them to plan well and come prepared to present their ideas to the rest of the school. Thank you.

This week children in Key Stage 2 have been considering how they can be stewards of God's creation by preparing for Eco Council elections. Mrs Powell met with the newly-appointed team at lunchtime today, where they shared why they had put themselves forward to be an Eco Council rep and what ideas they had for future projects. The Eco Council will meet weekly going forward. Thanks to all children who were brave enough to stand for election, and a big well done to those who were elected – we look forward to hearing what you have planned.

Wishing you all a good weekend

Kind regards

Mrs Benn

DIARY DATES

Monday 26th January	Week 2 of the Menu
Wednesday 28th January	Year 4 Swimming Reception Stay and Play 2.30-3pm
Thursday 29th January	Gymnastics Team Competition
Friday 30th January	Year 3 (Ms Iqbal) Class Assembly Parents Welcome 9am Year 2 Visit to Windsor Castle
Monday 2nd February	Week 1 of the Menu Building Work Resumes in Car Park
Wednesday 4th February	Year 4 Swimming
Friday 6th February	Year 5 (Mrs O'Reilly) Class Assembly Parents Welcome 9am
Monday 9th February	Week 2 of the Menu Nursery Book Fair Arrives
Tuesday 10th February	Phonics Information Session for Reception & Year 1 Parents (School Hall) 8.50-9.30am
Wednesday 11th February	Year 4 Swimming
Thursday 12th February	Y1 Dinosaur Day (In School) Y2 China Day (In School)
Friday 13th February	Last Day of Lent Term 1 – Children Finish Usual Time

February Half Term: 16th – 20th February 2026**Celebrate Success!**

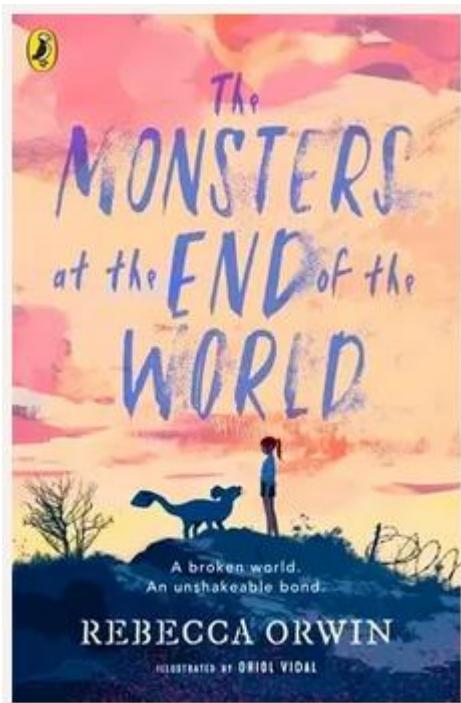
To link in with our Vision statement, 'To value, inspire and challenge all', we invite parents/carers to notify us of special achievements (outside of school e.g. music, sports, positive contribution) your child has achieved so they can be recorded on their school record and shared with children and 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.

Attendance

Congratulations to Mrs O'Reilly's Year 5 class for achieving the highest attendance this week (98.8%). 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: Rebecca Orwin

Interest Age: 9-11

Reading Age: 9+

In a poisoned world, monsters are seen as the enemy but when a young girl rescues an injured monster, she discovers that not everything she has been taught about them is true.

Wednesday Word

Leyla-Rose Eiffert writes for us this week. Our Wednesday Word is COMMUNITY. We shared the Gospel from St Matthew and we heard how Jesus began his ministry. He called Peter, Andrew, James and John to follow Him. They did and by doing were of the first members of the first Christian community on Earth.

We all live happier lives when we feel part of a community – working together and helping others. Our school and parish community is like a big family – a place where we are loved, cared for and supported. Our mission this week is to continue Jesus' work and develop the loving community of our school. Let's make an extra special effort to look out for those who need help – remember we are peacemakers – so we try to resolve any arguments on the playground. And we respect the dignity of each other – so let's try to stand up for those who are feeling left out or excluded.

Lord Jesus, we have listened carefully to your words.
Please help us to share the Good News of this week's Gospel
with our families, through our actions and our words.

Amen

Mission Team Empty Tubs Collection 2026!
We have collected just over 200 tubs so far!
Thank you

Our Mission Team would love your help! We want to collect as many empty plastic chocolate, biscuit and cracker tubs to support Macmillan Cancer and to recycle plastic. We have found a simple way to follow Jesus' teaching to care for others and to look after our beautiful planet. Please bring in any empty tubs. By taking part, our school community is living out Catholic Social Teaching, especially our call to care for God's creation and to stand in solidarity with those in need. This simple act of recycling and charity reflects our mission to make the world a better place and teaches our children that even small choices can make a big difference.

LAST COLLECTION DAY Friday 13th February

Thank you for helping!



Year 5

A gentle reminder to please return reply slips for the PGL residential in May 2027 before 31st January. Please complete the reply slip and return even if your child will not be attending. 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 Harris	Set 1	<u>N- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/KdvorwBC/AXJnt0OK</u> <u>D- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/g6d4KT9B/WTwHCNnG</u> <u>R- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/pyt1bt0t/PthgXsXC</u> <u>V- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/BzU6p2tz/aJvVkJDW</u>
Mrs Scott	Word Time	<u>http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ytDiV6BP/T8RZzAqf</u> <u>http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/c2uEScXm/zsgFwJPf</u> <u>http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/R90F43fF/PSjEhZNi</u> <u>http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/aw2PpiGW/QJbdw8Oa</u>
Mrs Mulrooney	Ditties	<u>CH- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/XOaMCVv/emFLEUE8</u> <u>QU- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/XYggglbp/9nYIHCnI</u> <u>TH- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/DP5Eav4q/tOtPaRWZ</u> <u>NG- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/HHvgVPwh/LI1ISddC</u>
Mrs Keogh	Green	<u>OR- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/GVJUBz0p/Y4s29ey4</u> <u>AIR- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/S0ValT0N/ed4vJRLK</u> <u>IR- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/LdbYyZyg/vCChT02Z</u> <u>OU- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/1eyuyjmz/LcLcPqA7</u>
Mrs Wilson Mrs Crow Mrs Hogg	Orange Yellow Blue	<u>ARE- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/XYRjo8wd/T35KmY41</u> <u>UR- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/18kfHB9A/tQFnCaG</u>

Mrs Hendy	Grey	ER- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/BnxmDacZ/8Pgq9W0 OW- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Fgf4i2Yn/dpGK1ow
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PTA (Parent Teacher Association) NEWS

If you want to be involved in the PTA in any way, 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 holyfamilyanglepta@gmail.com.