



Holy Family Catholic Primary School

Lent Term

Newsletter No.18

Friday 30th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

This morning, Miss Iqbal's class led a beautiful class liturgy and shared their learning about the Presentation of the Lord and Candlemas. Children spoke and sang confidently; their timing was perfect and their messages uplifting. Children made the point every time we forgive or help someone our 'light' shines brighter and we live out our school mission statement making the world a better place. Well done to Year 3 and thank you to all our parents who made time to join us and celebrate with their children.

Our Year 2 children enjoyed a visit to Windsor Castle today, and represented our school beautifully. They had a good look around the grounds of the castle, and enjoyed looking closely at Queen Victoria's doll's house. Thank you to all parent volunteers who accompanied them.

On Wednesday, our Reception classes hosted a Stay & Play for parents, where children welcomed their parents or grandparents into their classrooms to give them an insight into their school day. It means so much to the children to have people they care about in school, and we are grateful that so many were able to attend. Thank you to Reception staff for organising and facilitating these events.

Our talented gymnasts went off-site on Thursday, representing our school at a Slough schools' competition. Mr Holder came back to school feeling so proud of you all; very well done to all the children who took part.

On Monday and Thursday of this week, children who are leading our 'Hearts on Fire, Feet on the Move' initiative stood up and presented their proposals for their clubs in front of Key Stage 1 and 2. They did a great job of speaking confidently in front of a sizeable audience, as well as sharing posters to show what their club is offering – these posters were then displayed in the dining hall, allowing the rest of the children to sign up to those they are interested in. It was delightful to listen to so many children talking about the Catholic Social Teaching principle of recognising the dignity of each person, as they described how welcoming they would be and how important it was to be inclusive to all who wished to attend. From Monday, we will have four weeks of organised chaos as we hand the reins over to the children and they execute their plans; we currently have 31 new clubs running during break and lunchtimes!

After a week's pause in our building work, work will resume on Monday and is expected to continue until Easter. Please be reminded that access through the car park will be restricted again, and all parents and children are asked to walk to their classrooms via the playground at the beginning and end of the day. Thank you for your co-operation.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

God bless

Mrs Benn

DIARY DATES

Monday 2nd February

Week 1 of the Menu
Building Work Resumes in Car Park
Pupil Led Clubs Start
Y5 Visit from Fire Service (In School)

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
Nursery Stay & Play 11.15-11.45am and 2.15-2.45pm

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

Monday 23rd February

Lent Term 2 Starts
Week 1 of the Menu
PGL Meeting for Year 6 Parents/Carers 6.30pm

Wednesday 25th February

Year 5 Circuits Workshop (In School)
Year 4 Swimming

Thursday 26th February

Year 5 (Mrs Fox) Class Visiting Langley Grammar
School for ICT Experience

Friday 27th February

CAFOD Family Fast Day
Year 1 (Mrs Hume) Class Assembly

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 Adikrit Singh for progressing to Stage 6 in his swimming lessons. Well done Adikrit!

Congratulations to Mason Harry for achieving Stage 4 in his swimming lessons. Well done Mason!

Weekly Sports Update

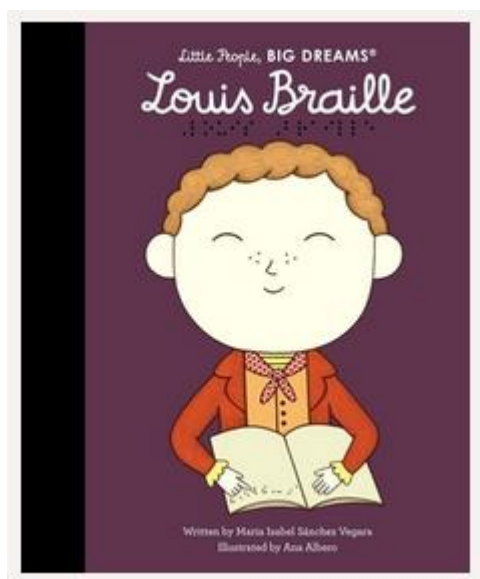
This week our gymnasts from Years 3,4,5 and 6 attended a gymnastics competition in Slough. They have worked so hard, giving up their lunch times to learn their routines, and have made the school incredibly proud. Well done to: Poppy-Lea, Margot, Maria, Alicia, Jayden, Tejveer, Maja, Nifemi, Kamila, Gabriella, Jackson and Luscious. You all did so well.

Attendance

Congratulations to Mrs Hendy's Year 1 class for achieving the highest attendance this week (98.7%). 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: Maria Isabel Sánchez Vegara

Illustrator: Ana Alberó

Interest Age: 7-11

Reading Age: 7+

Learn about the remarkable life of Louis Braille, who invented the tactile communication system still used by millions today.

Exciting Author Visit: Colette Hiller, Author of 'Colossal Words for Kids', 'The Elephant and the Piano' and 'The B on your Thumb'!

To celebrate World Book Week, on Monday 16th March 2026, we are thrilled to be welcoming the CLIPPA award winning children's author Colette Hiller who will lead inspirational, enthusiastic and engaging workshops for Reception, KS1 and KS2. Colette Hiller is the talented author of 'Colossal Words for Kids', 'The Elephant and the Piano' and 'The B on your Thumb'!

This is a fantastic opportunity for students to be inspired by Colette's journey as an author. Books, provided by Richmond bookshop The Alligator's Mouth, will be available to pre order on ParentPay. Colette will be doing a book signing during the school day, where children who have pre-ordered books can meet her and receive a signed copy.

Children in **Reception and Year 1** will spend time with Colette exploring her books 'The Elephant and the Piano' and 'The B on your Thumb'. For parents who wish to purchase a copy of 'The Elephant and the Piano', the book is available for just £7.99 through ParentPay. There won't be the opportunity to buy the books on the day. In order for your child to be part of the book signing, you must pre-order your book by **Friday 27th February**.

Children in **Year 2 and KS2** will spend time with Colette exploring her book 'Colossal Words for Kids'. For parents who wish to purchase a copy of 'Colossal Words for Kids', the book is available for just £9.99 through ParentPay. There won't be the opportunity to buy the books on the day. In order for your child to be part of the book signing, you must pre-order your book by **Friday 27th February**.

If you have any further questions please ask Miss Macfarlane. We look forward to a memorable and inspiring visit!

Wednesday Word

The Wednesday word for this week is "HAPPINESS".

In the gospel (Matthew 5:1-12) Jesus says, "Happy are people who know they need God for the kingdom of Heaven belongs to them". This is saying that people who know they need God will be HAPPY in Heaven and if you do any of the things God says to do you will be happy in heaven!

God bless

Teya Stacey, Year 6 Mission Team

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 – Parent/Carer Volunteers

Year 5 classes will be visiting Langley Grammar School to participate in an ICT workshop on the following dates:

- Mrs Fox's class - Thursday 26th February
- Mrs O'Reilly's class - Thursday 12th March

One each of the day's above, we will leave school at 10am and walk to/from Langley Grammar, returning to school by approximately 1pm.

If there are any Year 5 parents or carers that may be able to accompany the children on these visits, please can they send an email to school.admin@hfcs.org.uk, FAO Mrs Martinez. Thank you for your support.

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	W- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/P9BkVgTY/aqtG4gbr F- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/aobOSTVkJ/YHZhPQWm I- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/iQYl1r7/o53G9icj http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/qhpfXzWs/wO0ecRpi http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/nhfjUje6/YJ9ZuNvP
Mrs Scott	Word Time	http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/GnMaTydS/J1x4NGXf http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/9pBfoLtb/tC6uihzZ http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/psHMMe0j/vjDnEB1g http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/fkLMxyTN/1EArgj6H
Mrs Mulrooney	Ditties	NG- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/3gE7r415/nbuZgxSg NK- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/X8FdupIS/obUXhZcW CK- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/jFH0I4F4/FclZCk1A http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/1RM6CfTb/TqTvFZgy http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/YBP7r8RC/6xqA6vDL http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/1WMS33v3/OtcFXD0d
Mrs Keogh	Green	OI- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/qax581ep/tmyNPOiE AY- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Drgfys8r/g7WbkxtM EE- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Zifxh5OB/2bwBmtay
Mrs Wilson Mrs Crow Mrs Hogg Mrs Hendy	Orange Yellow Blue Grey	AI- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/wU1ViIcE/1ZcPVQmi OA- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/z7NRY5An/A5A9B6TX EW- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/6UHE9zAw/5EjloUWw

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 holyfamilylangleypta@gmail.com.

OTHER

Health Talk

There is a Hormonal Balance and Wellbeing talk for women at Iver Village Hall on 8th February.
Please see attached flyer if interested.