



Holy Family Catholic Primary School

Lent Term

Newsletter No.19

Friday 6th February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Today began with a beautiful Class Assembly throughout which Mrs O'Reilly's Year 5 class shone very brightly. Wearing a uniform of blue jeans and white t-shirts they presented a theatre-worthy performance. Sharing their learning about the Beatitudes, Year 5 reminded us we are all children of God living in his love and mercy. They repeatedly made the point that happiness does not come from 'having more, but from loving more.' Children reinforced this by sharing the Beatitudes, singing a song about the church's social teaching and acting out what this looks like on our playground. Thank you to all the parents who celebrated with Year 5 and we hope you felt as proud of your children as staff did.

'Hearts on Fire, Feet on the Move' pupil-led clubs started well this week. Many children were very organised with equipment and had recruited friends to join them. There has been much laughter with various sports and dance clubs taking place in the hall and some more peaceful activities taking place in classrooms and shared areas. Eco Club, Board Games and Make Friends and Colour were all very calm and enjoyable. Thank you to all the staff who are helping to resource and supervise clubs at break and lunch time and the kitchen staff who are welcoming everyone who is arriving late for lunch.

I would like to recognise the contribution of three Year 6 girls who hugely support staff during wet lunchtimes. Skye Fenton, Sophie Loughman, Leyla Eiffert are incredible helpers. These young people convey messages around school often calling classes to the dining hall. They lead dance activities in the hall for up to 120 children with far more energy than any staff could. These girls show initiative, confidence and maturity beyond their years. Well done girls; I would employ you in a heartbeat!

We are pleased the new building is progressing without too much disruption to our normal routines. We aim to give parents advance notice should we need to close the path to the Nursery but please give us grace if we forget. Please observe cones across the pavement indicate a short notice closure.

Easter Holiday Camp will be run by Mr Holder and other school staff between Monday 30th March and Thursday 2nd April. Booking forms will be available immediately after half term.

We look forward to welcoming parents to our phonics information session and Nursery Stay and Play sessions next Tuesday, in addition to Y1 Dino Day and Y2 China Day, both next Thursday.

Wishing you all a good weekend.

God bless

Mrs Benn

DIARY DATES

Monday 9th February	Week 2 of the Menu
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 Nursery Book Fair Starts 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
Monday 2nd March	Week 2 of the Menu Book Fair In School This Week (School Hall) 8.40- 8.50am and 3.20-3.40pm
Tuesday 3rd March	Year 4 Visit to Milestones
Wednesday 4th March	Year 4 Swimming
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day
Friday 6th March	Year 4 (Mrs Green & Mrs Evans) 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 Amaya Raju who has progressed from Stage 2 to Stage 3 in her swimming lessons. Well done Amaya.

Attendance

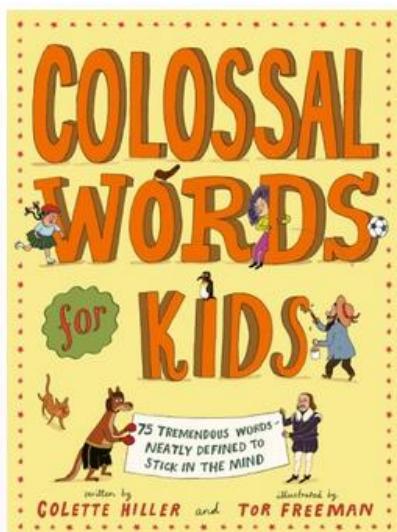
Congratulations to Mrs Hendy's Year 1 class for achieving the highest attendance this week (99.3%). Please see attached poster which shows each year group's overall attendance for this week.

Phonics Information Session for EYFS and KS1 Parents

Next Tuesday (10th February) we will be holding a refresher session for RWI. It will be the same session that we ran in September. If you were unable to attend that session, or you would just like a reminder of how to use the RWI books that come home and the way to say the sounds, then the session will be between at 8:50 – 9:30am in the school hall.

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: Colette Hiller

Illustrator: Tor Freeman

Interest Age: 6-11

Each poem in this collection explores the meaning of an intriguing word in an innovative and accessible format, accompanied by gloriously silly illustrations. Not only do these 'definition' poems build young readers' vocabulary, with Hiller's use of rhyme helping to render these definitions more memorable, they also unveil the playfulness of language, and celebrate the power of a well-chosen word.

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 "GOODNESS".

In the gospel (Matthew 5:13-16) Jesus says, "You are the salt of the earth and the light of the world". This reminds us that we are not here only for ourselves – but we are here to improve the lives of those around us with Goodness. So let us be kind and loving towards each other and make an effort to shine our light a little brighter.

May God bless us all.

Aaron Rebello – 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.

Daily School Lunches – Years 3–6

From Monday 9th February, please ensure that your child's lunch is ordered in advance via the Colham Catering portal. If a lunch has not been pre-ordered and one is ordered by school staff on the morning of the day lunch is needed, a charge of £2.65 will be added to your child's ParentPay account. This charge will be added by the school, rather than being deducted from your Colham Catering account. Parents will receive a message notifying them whenever this charge is applied. Please regularly check your child's ParentPay account and ensure any outstanding payments are made by the date shown. Thank you for your cooperation, Mrs Oakes.

Colham Catering Packed Lunches

Following a recent review of the packed lunch option previously offered by Colham Catering for school trips, this option has now been removed from the portal. Going forwards, if your child is attending a school trip that requires them to bring a packed lunch, please ensure this be provided from home. Thank you for your understanding, Mrs Oakes.

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- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/eZ9vT1fM/ytfTxZMu P- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/JbKAcANZ/iwpcQduu E- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/UAVi3rJ8/sUeCeRW8 Y- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/AOFxvD0J/ojdwq2Sh http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/I7zwsjDV/da0e3cFr http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/0FzIUGAM/M4aVi44l
Mrs Scott	Word Time	http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/kNeBmZQ7/zR4QOrNB http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/tL1B8fpI/16gMXP0b http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/3ourjQlp/k188boau http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/eW7uKz8P/A0SMmOZb
Mrs Mulrooney	Ditties	SH- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Zd8K6kMi/TDX4IxSO QU- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/OSXsoE3s/kCbp4IiO TH- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/tty12We7/orOUTiM5 NK- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Ab1DvGVe/dnsdJGIO http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/e3Wt713J/0IKbUS2N http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/p5fbJlyA/a4vRT0RI http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/9uWjTSYV/KYxzv04H http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/4nYEEaRa/XT5dDM7Q http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/GN7AZmQg/VQ TUHJeC

Mrs Keogh	Green	IGH- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/q0XfNXHI/9C0naFF9 OW- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/43rlZmnh/CnWDDjjD OO- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/VOpvgoZH/syw5DrI8 OO- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/NawQFVQZ/zYpDVmAK
Mrs Wilson Mrs Crow Mrs Hogg Mrs Hendy	Orange Yellow Blue Grey	IRE- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Nz8UIO0R/oFjaJSXD EAR- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Vkdru1Hz/30DIEijC URE- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/6IRZj6Ux/PvCyLZfA TION- http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/FCeqMObO/yWk5cYIm

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 holystfamilylangleypta@gmail.com.

OTHER

Slough Parent Carer Forum

Please see attached a leaflet inviting parents/carers in Slough to help shape a new Parent Carer Forum. Details on how to express interest and find out more are included in the leaflet.

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.