

Holy Family Catholic Primary School

Lent Term

Newsletter No.21

Friday 27th February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope everyone had an enjoyable half term.

We have had a busy and exciting week in school, and moods were lifted mid-week with the appearance of some sunshine!

On Tuesday many of classes had the opportunity to meet with Fr Tony and our two visiting missionary priests, who came into school to deliver an assembly about their role. They were really engaging and the children had the chance to ask some questions about what they did, the countries they had been to and what they enjoyed about their job. It was both informative and fun.

Thursday was a particularly busy day for our school. Mrs Fox's Year 5 class visited Langley Grammar School to attend a workshop at their Digital Schoolhouse. The children programmed BBC Micro-bits in a range of ways to the theme of Alice in Wonderland. They even involved circuits in their programming to unlock doors. Well done to Year 5 for representing Holy Family so well, and engaging in this tricky task. Thank you to Langley Grammar and those parents who accompanied our children on this trip.

Also on Thursday, a group of children from across Key Stage 2 took part in a Multi-Sports event at Hershel Grammar School, which they thoroughly enjoyed. Thanks to the group of TAs who assisted them for the day, ensuring the day ran smoothly.

On Thursday after school, the Year 5 and 6 Girls' Football team played Langley Heritage and enjoyed a 2-1 victory, made even more special as it was their first win of the season. Well done to this group of resilient girls for remaining focused and continuing to enjoy the game, despite some tricky past results. Losing is part of life and sports help children learn how to bounce back and persevere when things feel difficult. Well done to all involved.

This morning, we were treated to Mrs Hume's Year 1 class assembly. The children shared with the audience the story of the call of the disciples, and reminded us that we are all called to be a disciple of Jesus. The Year 1 children shared how they – as followers of Jesus – have a mission to make the world a better place, particularly during Lent, and they challenged all of us to find a way that we, too, could make better choices and help make the world a better place. Thanks you Mrs Hume's class for giving us all food for thought, for speaking so clearly and loudly, and for learning your words.

A gentle reminder that we will have World Book Day in school next Thursday.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

God bless

Mrs Doyle

Lent

Please see below some Lent resources which your family may enjoy:

[CELEBRATE Family Activity Pack for Lent](#): this includes creative ways to help families grow close to God during this season. There are engaging ways to count down the days in Lent, reflective prayer and discussion, craft, games, books and movies to help families draw close to God.

CELEBRATE has also created a **Lent game** this year - **[Journey to Easter Joy](#)**: this encourages children to focus on prayer, fasting and almsgiving, in fun and interactive ways this Lent.

DIARY DATES

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 (no morning session on Monday)

EYFS to Wear Yellow – St David’s Day

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 9am
Parents Welcome

Monday 9th March

Week 1 of the Menu

Wednesday 11th March

Year 4 Swimming

Thursday 12th March

School Photographs

Year 5 (Mrs O’Reilly) Class Visiting Langley Grammar School for ICT Experience

Optional Parents’ Evening 2-6pm

Friday 13th March

Year 3 (Mrs Martinez & Mrs Kukla) Class Assembly

Nursery (3 Year Olds) Mother’s Day Celebration
11.30am and 2.30pm

Monday 16th March

Final Week of Extra Curricular Activities

Author Visit

Tuesday 17th March

EYFS to Wear Green – St Patrick’s Day

Wednesday 18th March

Year 4 Swimming

Thursday 19th March

HFCS Feast Day

Easter Camp

Mr Holder will be running our popular Easter Camp for four days during the first week of the Easter holiday (30th March – 2nd April). A booking form is attached to this newsletter and places will be allocated on a first come first served basis. The Easter Camp is open to children from Reception to Year 6. We reserve the right not to go ahead with this club if we do not receive sufficient bookings by Friday 13th March.

NSPCC Sessions

We are pleased to share that we will be participating in the NSPCC's 'Speak out. Stay Safe.' programme this term. This is a programme for those aged 5-11 which aims to help children understand abuse in all its forms and to recognise the signs of abuse. Please see the letter attached to this newsletter which goes into further detail. Included in the attached letter is an option to 'opt out' of completing the survey.

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 Harper Dixon who passed her recent ballet exam with a Distinction. Well done Harper.

Congratulations to Elsie Davies who attended the Richmond and Bracknell dance festivals during the recent half term. These festivals are All England Qualifiers (AED). Elsie qualified with honours for All England Dance in her musical theatre solo and her musical theatre duet with her dance partner. Elsie will now compete in the regionals in May half term, where she will dance up against all those who qualified in the region. Well done Elsie.

Weekly Sports Update

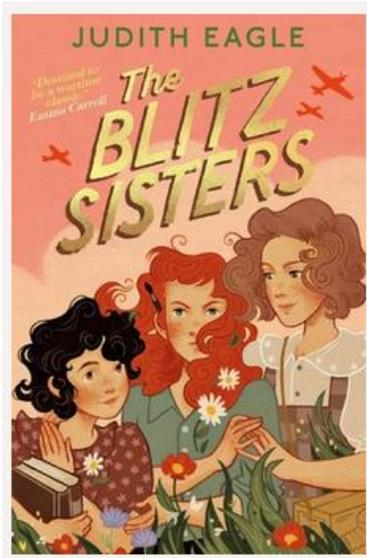
This week, our Year 5 and 6 Girls team played an impressive game against league finalists Langley Heritage, in which we came out winning 2-1, with Julia Szulc scoring 2 great goals. The girls did fantastically well, despite them all playing in new positions. Semi-final next! Well done girls!

Attendance

Congratulations to Mrs Martinez and Mrs Kukla's Year 3 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.

Book of the Week

Each week, I will recommend a lovely new book, which will hopefully inspire our children to broaden their reading tastes.



Author: Judith Eagle

Interest Age: 9+

Reading Age: 9+

A wonderful family saga set in World War II. The book tells the story of three sisters Lydia, Peggy and Teddy in three distinct sections.

World Book Day – Thursday 5th March

World Book Day is always a lively event in school; the theme this year is 'Reading for Fun'. Children usually enjoy coming into school dressed up as a favourite book character – there are plenty of simple ideas online for dress up without the need to spend money on a shop-bought costume; a simple prop depicting a character is enough. Children will spend the day engaged in a variety of activities based on a Waterstone's Child's Laureate. The work that is produced by the children will be displayed in classroom windows or doors. We invite you to enjoy the author trail after school by walking around the outside of the school building looking at classroom windows/doors, celebrating the work that the children have produced on World Book Day.

We will also have the Book Fair in school for the week of World Book Day. All children will be issued with a voucher which entitles them to £1 off their chosen book. The book fair is open to parents and children before and after school and is a fantastic way to browse some books and raise money for books for our school too. The book fair is now cashless, and can be paid for by using our card reader (contactless options available – Apple Pay or Google Pay) or through our online QR code.

'Reading in Random Places' February Half-term Reading Challenge

Children are encouraged to read in an unusual, surprising, or imaginative place over the half term.

What counts as a 'strange place'?

- Under a table or desk
- In a blanket fort or den
- On the stairs
- In the garden / park
- On a picnic blanket
- Wearing a silly hat or costume
- Upside down (safely!)

- By torchlight

The **5** children who read in the most random places will be given a £5 voucher to spend at the Book Fair. Please send in a photograph of your child reading in their random place by 4th March to this email: Librarian@8715202.onmicrosoft.com, for their chance to win.

If your child is awarded a £5 voucher they will be able to use it at our Book Fair on either 5th or 6th March in the school hall.

CAFOD's Big Lent Walk!

I have some exciting news! I've just walked a lap around the edge of our playground — from the prayer bench to the shed, to the gazebo, past the adventure playground, to the dining hall and straight back to the prayer bench. This walk measures 177 metres.

Now here's the amazing part... If every child walks just one lap each week, that's 30 children × 177m = 5,310 metres! That means each class would smash their weekly target of 3km — just by doing one lap a week each!



During Lent, we are called to pray more, grow closer to God, and make small sacrifices. Walking a lap each week is a wonderful way to do something extra — to walk the “hard path,” just as Jesus asks as us to, while raising money for charity and helping others.

As we walk **reverently and silently** around the playground, every step we take will remind us to talk to God and pray for those in need.

Our Mission Team will start collecting the total number of steps after Wednesday Word next week. They will update our special display (coming very soon!), and I will share a running total of steps walked in the newsletter.

We have chosen to support CAFOD as a way for our pupils to put their faith into action. By raising money together, we will be supporting our brothers and sisters around the world and living out our school mission to make the world a better place.

We are inviting parents and carers to **sponsor their child's walk** with a donation, supporting them in this positive Lenten challenge. In doing so, you are encouraging them to do something extra during Lent while helping us raise money for charity.

Please make donations via ParentPay. Any contribution, big or small, is greatly appreciated and will help us make a real difference.

Let's see how far we can walk together this Lent — in faith, in kindness, and in love.

Thank you

Mrs O'Reilly

Parish Mass – Parent/Carer Volunteers

Years 3-6 will be attending the Parish Mass on the following dates:

- Tuesday 24th February: Year 6

- Wednesday 4th March: Year 5
- Tuesday 10th March: Year 3
- Friday 20th March: Year 4

If there are any parents or carers that may be able to accompany the children, please speak to your child's class teacher. Thank you for your support.

Optional Parents' Evening

Teachers will be available to speak to parents from 2pm-6pm on Thursday 12th March. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you wish to make an appointment. If you do not have the opportunity to speak to your child's class teacher and would like to make an appointment, please email carole.gonoud@hfcs.org.uk indicating your preferred time (we will try to allocate a time close to your preferred time but cannot guarantee this). Thank you.

School Class Photographs – Thursday 12th March

The school photographer will be in school on Thursday 12th March for school class photographs. Please ensure your child is wearing smart winter school uniform. Thank you.

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.

Multiplication Tables

Year 4 parents may already know that there will be a Multiplication Tables Check for all Year 4 children in June. There will be 25 questions of mixed times tables up to 12 x 12. All schools will be taking part in the check each year as it is now part of the standard testing for schools. All Key Stage 2 children should be practising their times tables weekly as part of their homework and can use Times Tables Rockstars to do so. This is especially important for Years 3 and 4. We recommend using <https://www.timestables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check/> as it is similar to how the Times Tables Check will look. Please encourage your children to practise regularly.

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- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/WvunYduu/LraHgdgB A- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Fs0xspD0/j0BIAYp9 S- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Nzp48Pa8/i2OLjKUN https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/NzMm4iin/7A7VKPAw https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/J0jZElw5/EoUfSZCI https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/OzB7RgvM/0BpACjwf
Mrs Scott	Word Time	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/V0ybicvY/fvNKC914 https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/5RWR4Ecc/2Kw1ilrL https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/35RBIugV/afgNzvGJ https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/x6X5G9AT/q5OH00Yd

Mrs Mulrooney	Ditties	SH- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/DQ1YHACF/s5A5Yjbf QU- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/nreNbA80/EcfzZ6Ve TH- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/l2kBJT6K/ikLC3H94 CH- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/k6XpJfTS/Omby0mSR https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/3n9Sk4P6/oLdNVdX9 https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/m4k0RTOV/ji0hdprf https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/vnqJzMMn/K9Tmu2zn https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/X5tQAMUN/iT616LBw
Mrs Keogh Mrs Hendy	Green Pink	AY- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/wrFIH4xC/ZreUvUyL EE- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ZJGnkB0J/5z6J5R4h IGH- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/J5Bh3YRv/TsZotbks OW- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/HnLCi8gw/H2gWfhMg
Mrs Wilson Mrs Crow Mrs Hogg	Orange Yellow Blue	EA- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/xYUOZvhd/0NV3dnZx OI- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/aBmo5o7X/wKxeGesr A-E https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/emfJAHn2/8mzDpwic I-E https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/J33DrFmN/XuWXqQUB

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.