



## **Holy Family Catholic Primary School**

**Lent Term**

**Newsletter No.23**

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

Dear Parents and Carers

This morning, Year 4 inspired the whole school to be Pilgrims of Hope today, on CAFOD Family Fast Day, and throughout the Jubilee Year of 2025. They confidently presented a beautiful assembly. Children spread joy and happiness with their colourful attire, smiling faces and messages of positivity and hope as they explained the role of CAFOD and urged us all to play our part. We were reminded all the words and actions we share with each other we share with Jesus. Well done Mrs Green/Mrs Evan's class.

Year 3 welcomed parents into their classrooms for an art exhibition on Wednesday afternoon. Children have been inspired by the artist Caravaggio and his use of light and shade. They have practised drawing from observation and creating tone with different media. Children then used Modroc to form a fruit or vegetable to be part a group piece. They had to work together to decide on composition and lighting for their group piece. Thank you to all Year 3 parents who took the time to celebrate their child's art work.

Year 4 have had a very exciting week welcoming 9 baby chicks! They have loved watching the eggs crack and seeing the chicks hatch one at a time. Children have been extra quiet to make sure they don't scare our new visitors! They're looking forward to being able to hold them next week.

This week was also nominated as a Trust wide Science Week. Mrs Hendy launched a child led enquiry around the question, 'Can a plane fly without an engine?' This resulted in the whole school making and flying a paper aeroplane.

We thank Mrs Oakes for all her great work in leading the PTA over the last 5 years. She has presided over a very successful period and co-ordinated many successful events but as her role in school has increased it is now time for her to hand over this role to its next guardian. Mrs Oakes is preparing to order some new basket ball protection, playground games, picnic

benches and retractable barriers with monies raised by the PTA. Your children and your PTA need you! Please read the information in the newsletter and consider if you currently have capacity to help.

Congratulations to many of our Year 3 children who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time last Saturday. Miss Wheeler reported to school staff this was a lovely celebration with children saying their sorry prayer and the Our Father together, in addition to parents accompanying children as they approached Father Kevin and stepping away as they individually confessed. Well done Year 3.

You might like to say this sorry prayer:

Jesus, I know that sometimes I don't love others the way I can or the way you teach me. I'm sorry. Thank you for coming to help me start again with them and with myself.

Wishing you all a sunny weekend

God bless,

Mrs Benn

## **DIARY DATES**

<b>Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Week 2 of the Menu EYFS Saint's Day – St Patrick (EYFS to Wear Green)
<b>Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Year 3 Class (Ms Iqbal) Visit to Langley Library
<b>Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Year 4 Swimming
<b>Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Optional Parents' Evening 2-6pm
<b>Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March</b>	HFCS Feast Day Mass (At School)
<b>Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Final Week of Extra Curricular Activities Week 1 of the Menu
<b>Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Year 4 Roman Day Year 1 Class (Mrs Hume) Visit to Langley Library
<b>Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Year 4 Swimming Year 5 Class (Mrs Fox) Visit to Langley Library Year 6 Easter Cracked at Langley Free Church
<b>Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Mothers' Day Celebration for Nursery Parents
<b>Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March</b>	Week 2 of the Menu Y3/4 Boys football v Cippenham (at HFCS)
<b>Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April</b>	Y3 Visit to Hampton Court Palace Stations of the Cross Parents Invited 9.15am

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**

MHST Coffee Morning for Parents – Supporting Anxiety  
9-10am

Fashion Workshop for Year 6

Year 4 Swimming – Not This Week

Netball Match at Marish 3.15-4.30

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April**

EYFS & KS1 East Bonnet

Term Finishes For Nursery (Usual Time)

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April**

Term Ends for Reception – Year 6 12.15pm

**Easter Holidays: Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2025 – Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2025****Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April**

Pentecost Term Starts for Nursery and School

**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](mailto:bethany.chandler@hfcs.org.uk) for notification. Your child will receive recognition for their achievement from their class teacher, who will award them a marble for the class jar, and Mrs Benn, who will issue a 'Head teacher's Award' certificate. If you send a photo of your child's achievement it will be posted on Mrs Chandler's 'Wall of Fame.'

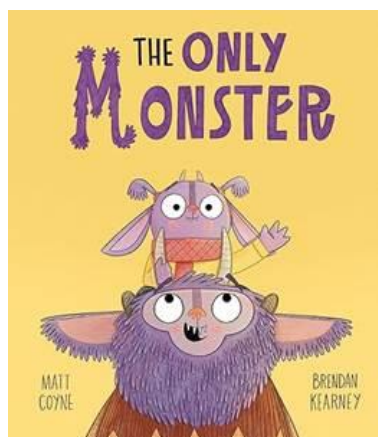
**Amazing Achievements**

Congratulations to Logan Strachan for being awarded Performer of the Week at the Pauline Quirk Academy of Performing Arts. Well done Logan.

Congratulations to Saran Atwal for progressing to Stage 5 in her swimming lessons. Well done Saran.

**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:** Matt Coyne

**Illustrator:** Brendan Kearney

**Interest age:** 4-5

A little monster gets sad that she doesn't have any siblings until Dad reassures her that families are measured by love and not numbers.

### **Wednesday Word**

Kian Robinson, Year 6 Faith Ambassador, writes for us this week:

*This week's Wednesday word is encouragement. This Sunday's gospel, from Luke 9:28-36, recounts the time when Peter, James and John accompanied Jesus to a secluded mountain for prayer.*

*After sharing the Wednesday word with each class, we select one child from each class to place the Wednesday word on the prayer table.*

### **Attendance**

As previously mentioned, for half a term (from now until the Easter holidays) we are trialling an incentive whereby the class with the best attendance will receive some extra playtime. Well done to Miss Macfarlane's Year 2 class for achieving the highest percentage (99.6%) attendance this week. Please see attached poster which shows each year group's overall attendance for this week.

### **Easter Bonnet Parade for Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 – Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April**

This year, our Easter Bonnet Parade for children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will take place on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April. Children are asked to come in to school on that day wearing their Easter Bonnet that they have made at home. Children will get the opportunity to parade round school to show off their wonderful creations. Thank you for your support.

### **Lenten Fundraising**

As Pilgrims of hope on our Jubilee Journey, we are encouraged to support our local community as well as supporting others globally.

At Holy Family, each year group has decided on a fundraiser to support our local charity - Thames Hospice. The global charity we will be supporting is CAFOD by taking part in The Big Lent Walk.

If you wish to make a donation to our fundraisers, you can do so on Parent Pay.

#### Local

Year group fundraisers to support Thames Hospice. To find out more about this organisation, please visit their website.

<https://www.thameshospice.org.uk/>

#### Global

##### **The Big Lent Walk**

We are going to be walking to raise money for CAFOD to help fight global poverty.

When planning our pilgrimage around school to take part in The Big Lent Walk, we noticed that the number 7 featured regularly.

The number 7 is mentioned over 700 times in the bible and is seen in nature through the 7 colours of the rainbow, 7 continents, 7 days of the week and God created the world in 7 days.

During each of the 7 pilgrimages, the 7 year groups will lap the school 7 times, stopping for 7 moments of reflection and consider our 7 areas of Catholic Social Teaching. The walks will take place during the last 2 weeks of the Lent Term.

CAFOD suggest the children getting sponsored for their walk. However, we are a cashless school so are suggesting a donation made on Parent Pay between £1 and £10 which will be donated to CAFOD.

During the pilgrimage, the children will learn more about the work CAFOD do to help those suffering from poverty. Please take a look at the CAFOD website to find out more.

<https://walk.cafod.org.uk/about>

Thank you for your support.

### **Temporary School Street Cover**

You may notice a temporary caretaker covering School Street for the next two weeks. His name is Rattan, please be sure to give him a big Holy Family welcome. He was trained by Mr Thercaj (Eddie) yesterday and has a great deal of experience as a caretaker. We look forward to working with him albeit on a short-term basis.

### **Easter Camp**

Please note Mr Holder will be running our popular Easter Camp during the first week of the Easter holiday. Booking forms will come out to parents next Thursday and places will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Club will run from 7<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> April and is open to children from Reception to Year 6.

### **Parent Teacher Association (PTA)**

After several years as the Chair of the Parents and Teachers Association, Mrs Oakes is stepping down and will no longer be organising events such as the annual Easter Egg Tombola, Easter Egg Hunt, Summer or Christmas Fairs. Certain PTA events will still continue thanks to the generosity of parents who have agreed to co-ordinate individual events they have taken full responsibility for over the last few years.

The annual panto trip – Mel, mum of Jude Year 6

Discounted Legoland tickets on certain INSET days – Emma, mum of Aidan Year 5

Christmas Cards – Clare, mum of Hollie and Evie Year 6 and Year 3

Easter Egg Hunt – Marta, mum of Victoria Year 6

If anyone is keen to keep the PTA Summer and Christmas fair traditions going and take on the role of Chair of the PTA and/or committee members please do let Mrs Benn know and we will arrange a hand over meeting followed by a PTA meeting. Such events do really help foster a thriving school and build community. This role would suit someone who possibly works part time or is between jobs and has time to manage communication with school staff, parents and external events companies/individuals.

We do have willing parental volunteers who have been involved in the past who will support you, as will school staff. However, ideally some new, fresh faces, with good organisation and communication skills would volunteer to take on this role. We would welcome Co-Chairs if you can persuade a friend to join you.

You might notice the parents above have children in Year 5 and Year 6 and most have them have been involved in PTA events over many years. We are looking to the parents of our

younger children, who are likely to be with us for the next five plus years, who may be interested in enlisting the support of other parents in this joint endeavour. We hope you understand that with ever increasing expectations and tighter school budgets school staff do not have capacity to lead the Summer or Christmas Fair planning and delivery. Thank you for considering our plea and your understanding.

### **For the Parents of Nursery Children Only**

We would like to invite all the Mums (or other close family member) to come and see Nursery children perform a very short song for Mother's Day on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March in Nursery at 11.30am or 2.30pm. We appreciate not everyone will be able to make it, but, if you are able to, we would love to see you! It would only last 5 mins at the most. Thank you, Mrs Forrest and Ms Herring.

### **Exciting Author Visit: Dr. Fuzz, Author of Poppy the Pea!**

We are thrilled to announce an exciting upcoming visit from Dr. Fuzz (Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April), the talented author of Poppy the Pea! Dr. Fuzz is passionate about sharing the heart-warming story of Poppy and the important themes of courage, resilience, and following your dreams. During the visit, Dr. Fuzz will lead engaging assemblies and workshops where students will explore these themes through interactive discussions and fun activities.

This is a fantastic opportunity for students to be inspired by Dr. Fuzz's journey as an author and to discover how they can apply these positive values in their own lives.

For parents who wish to purchase a copy of Poppy the Pea, the book will be available for just £7.08 through ParentPay. To make it even more special, if you pre-order your book by Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April (one week before the event), your child will receive a signed copy from Dr. Fuzz during the visit!

Children will have the opportunity to collect their signed copies at the book signing event, which will take place from 3:20 to 3:50 PM in the school library, The Whispering Pages. This is a wonderful chance for young readers to meet Dr. Fuzz, get their books signed, and share in the excitement of the visit.

We look forward to a memorable and inspiring visit!

### **New System for Reporting Absences Coming Soon**

Following a successful trial of Studybugs with Year 6 reporting absences, we are happy to confirm that this will continue as the way forward when reporting an absence. We will hopefully roll this out to all year groups in the coming weeks. Please look out for a letter in your child's book bag. Thank you for your support with this trial.

### **Optional Parents' Evening**

Teachers will be available to speak to parents from 2pm-6pm on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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.

### **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.

### **School Class Photographs – Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March**

Thank you to all parents and carers for ensuring your child wore the correct uniform and looked smart for their class photographs on Thursday.

This year, we enlisted the help of different photographers, and, as such, there is a different format to the class photographs, with the photographs having a more modern/fun layout.

Parents will be contacted with regards to how to order the photographs.

We hope you like them.

### **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	R- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/QMDUpZvT/eaCJIBjG">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/QMDUpZvT/eaCJIBjG</a> J- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/JSIjUuab/pF4yhiiQ">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/JSIjUuab/pF4yhiiQ</a> V- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/yaEOLe04/vm5py3Yu">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/yaEOLe04/vm5py3Yu</a> Y- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/BpVNJj74/qysSWggQ">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/BpVNJj74/qysSWggQ</a>
Mrs Scott Mrs Crow	Ditties	NK- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Tc9N75O3/kjOREdtn">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Tc9N75O3/kjOREdtn</a> CK- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/NBNVpalg/qZKJ25lf">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/NBNVpalg/qZKJ25lf</a> SH- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/7slglkxv/ezDmyIYX">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/7slglkxv/ezDmyIYX</a> TH- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/7jFcl7Wp/fNL4LObK">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/7jFcl7Wp/fNL4LObK</a>
Mrs Mulrooney Mrs Keogh	Green Purple	OO- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/WF4UtxoG/xddu1DuM">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/WF4UtxoG/xddu1DuM</a> AR- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/9sGEFiO2/9zai1SMu">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/9sGEFiO2/9zai1SMu</a> OR- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/sxra2pCF/cUUF3LDa">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/sxra2pCF/cUUF3LDa</a> AIR- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/QRpNJT8y/qD1SBqQh">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/QRpNJT8y/qD1SBqQh</a>
Mrs Wilson Mrs Birch Mrs Hendy Mrs Hogg	Orange Yellow Blue Grey	U-E <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/q16uHn0T/WG8zAacW">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/q16uHn0T/WG8zAacW</a> AW- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/CtgIejhf/Uqagi3Dp">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/CtgIejhf/Uqagi3Dp</a> ARE- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Q0371N8f/vguXL3fP">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Q0371N8f/vguXL3fP</a> UR - <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/zrDvxNJZ/Y9JwaF1D">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/zrDvxNJZ/Y9JwaF1D</a>

### **OTHER**

#### **MHST Coffee Morning – Supporting Your Child With Anxiety**

We are hosting a coffee morning and informative workshop at our school on Wednesday 2nd April from 9-10am. The topic is supporting your child with anxiety. Please see the attached poster for further information.

**Oral Health Support Virtual Session**

Please find attached a flyer with information regarding a GEMS Oral Health Support Virtual session which is taking place on Friday 16th May 2025 10am to 11:15am.

**Fr Kevin writes ...**

Dear Parishioners and Friends

Today (Friday) is Family Fast Day and we will have a second collection for CAFOD at all Masses this weekend.

We have Stations of the Cross today (Friday) at 12 noon (with a soup and roll lunch afterwards in support of CAFOD) and at 7pm.

Tomorrow (Saturday) we welcome the charity "Stories of Hope and Home" to speak to our Confirmation candidates and their parents

and to anybody from the parish who would like to attend. We will be joined by Mr. Tan Dhesi, the Member of Parliament for Slough.

The day begins at 11am and ends about 4pm (perhaps a little earlier). Please do not forget to bring a packed lunch. Fr Kevin