

# LENT

A SEASON OF REFLECTION,  
RENEWAL, AND PREPARATION



## Holy Family Catholic Primary School

**Lent Term**

**Newsletter No.25**

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

Dear Parents and Carers,

The end of term has arrived really quickly following a short five week half term. We seem to have fit rather a lot in to five weeks and we are all looking forward to a well-deserved Easter holiday.

This week began with Fr Tony introducing Year 4, 5 and 6 to Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. He reminded us that as Catholics we believe that, in the most sacred part of the Mass, the host is consecrated, transforming it into the Body of Christ through the mystery of transubstantiation. Fr Tony led us in prayer and reflection in the presence of Jesus, then offered the sacrament of reconciliation to anyone who wanted to ask for grace. Fr Tony has become a frequent and energetic visitor to our school and we are well blessed to have him as our parish priest and spiritual leader.

On Tuesday I was surprised that Year 4 stood up whenever I entered their classroom! They took their Victorian Day very seriously and had a wonderful day celebrating their learning by taking part in playing Victorian sports and games, as well as practising their Victorian style handwriting. They were also able to make a Victorian silhouette self portrait! Year 4 thoroughly enjoyed themselves and loved going back in time to the Victorian era. Also on Tuesday, I saw lots of different pairs of pyjamas as Year 3 and Year 5 chose to fundraise for Cafod. Wednesday's Easter bonnet parade was an explosion of colour and celebration. Our younger children walked proudly through every classroom with beaming smiles to praise and applause from KS2 children.

Yesterday Year 5 enthralled parents with a moving dramatisation of the Passion of Christ. Reverently, narrators told the story of Good Friday as other children acted out the Stations of the Cross. Devante, as Jesus, carried his cross before being crucified between two criminals. Feedback from parents and grandparents was uplifting. Thank you.

Our girls football team looked amazing in their new kits and delighted Mr Holder by playing a well-fought match despite neither team scoring. Our footballers eventually won 4-1 on penalties which sees them move forward to the final. Well done girls.

Today, we appreciated our PTA organising a great Easter Egg Hunt on the field. 450 children searching for 20 gold stones all at the same time is always a sight to behold. Every child received a small chocolate egg and 20 pairs of children were lucky enough to find the winning golden stones, which they exchanged for Easter Eggs. This was followed by a prayer and 450 children concluding our Big Lent Walk with one final lap of the field.

I hope your children have enjoyed the events of this week as much as I have.

We are delighted with the construction of our purpose built 2-year-old Nursery which our youngest children will be welcomed back to after the Easter holiday. Despite having no background in project management, Bethany Chandler, our Operations Manager, has co-ordinated this project and the multitude of contractors involved exceptionally well. The project has absolutely gone to plan. I am hugely grateful to Mrs Chandler for her attention to detail and the delivery of this new building.

The first day of the new term, Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April, is an INSET day when staff from all 17 schools in St Thomas Multi-Academy Trust will come together for a 'One Hope' conference. As this happens bi-annually this will be the first time our staff have attended a Trust conference.

On behalf of all staff, I thank you for your support with homework, learning spellings, listening to children read, supporting the vulnerable through donating to our designated charities, remembering the many shows, fixtures and dress-up days and for arriving in time for school every day. Staff could not achieve such an exciting curriculum for your children without your support.

Wishing you all a wonderful Easter and we look forward to welcoming you back on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April.

God bless

Mrs Benn

### **Easter Prayer**

Risen Lord,

shed your light on those who live in the shadow of death and warm the hearts of those who have lost hope,

that they who daily bear the cross of hunger may find your Promised Land,  
and move from slavery to freedom.

Amen

### **DIARY DATES**

**Easter Holidays: Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April**

STAFF INSET – SCHOOL CLOSED

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April**

Week 1 of the Menu

Pentecost Term Starts for Nursery and School

<b>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Y2 and Y6 NSPCC Workshops
<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Year 3 Visit to Hampton Court Palace
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Week 2 of the Menu
<b>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April</b>	Year 3 Swimming
<b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Week 3 of the Menu
<b>Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Year 3 Swimming
<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May</b>	Year 4 (Miss Dardis/Mrs Remfeld) Class Assembly 9am

### **Extra Curricular Activities**

Please see attached the extra curricular activities schedule for the Pentecost term 2025. Places will be offered on a first come first served basis so please do review booking information. Thank you.

### **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, and Mrs Benn, who will issue a 'Head teacher's Award' certificate.

### **Achievements**

Congratulations to Alicia Zdanowska for passing her Stage 3 swimming lessons.

Congratulations to Devante Romney for passing his black belt last weekend.

Congratulations to Mickey-Ray Davies who has made it through to the Slough U11 District Boys team for 2026/2027.

### **Weekly Sports Update**

Yesterday, the Year 5 & 6 girls team played in a semi-final against Khalsa Primary. After a hard-fought game, no one was able to break the deadlock, with the game ending 0-0. The penalty shootout was fantastic, with Nifemi Tijani saving 4 of their penalties! Holy Family came out as 4-0 winners and are heading to the final! Well done girls. Mr Holder.

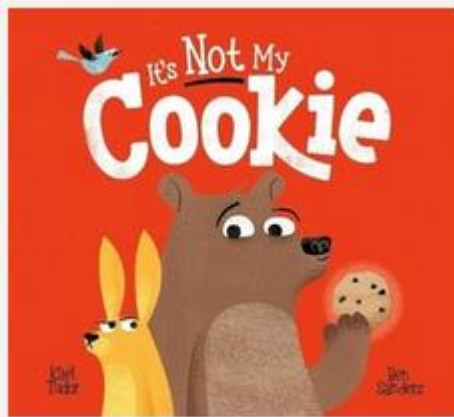
### **Attendance**

Congratulations to Mrs Harris' Reception class for achieving the highest attendance this week (100%).

If your child needs to attend an appointment during school time, please can you continue to notify school via [attendance@hfcs.org.uk](mailto:attendance@hfcs.org.uk) and also send in proof of the appointment. Thank you.

### **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:** Kael Tudor

**Illustrator:** Ben Sanders

**Interest Age:** 2-7

Bear finds a delicious-looking cookie lying on the ground. The poor cookie, all alone... surely it deserves to be eaten? A lovely book about honesty, cookies and cute bears.

### **Wednesday Word**

Sophie Loughman in the Year 6 Mission Team is writing this week's Wednesday Word.

This week's Wednesday Word is Holy Week.

The scripture this week is Matthew 21:1-11. As he set off, great crowds of people spread their cloaks on the road while others were spreading palm branches on the path in front of him. The crowds were all shouting, "Hosanna". Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest of heavens! When Jesus entered Jerusalem, everyone was excited and some asked, "Who is this?". "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee" was the reply.

This coming Sunday is known as Palm Sunday. It is the start of Holy Week – the week when the church reflects on Jesus' final days in Jerusalem. Holy Week is a very special time when we remember the Last Supper, the washing of the disciples' feet by Jesus, the agony in the garden, Jesus arrested, his crucifixion and resurrection.

If you do go to church on Sunday, you will be invited to take a Palm blessed by the priest, home with you.

During Holy Week, our mission is to walk with Jesus by showing love, kindness, sacrifice and hope – just as He did. Do something kind to make someone feel loved – smile and greet someone warmly, maybe invite your sibling to play, help a younger child or if your siblings are struggling then help them. You can even say something encouraging and be grateful to your teachers and adults.

Hope you all have a great half term.

### **The Year of St Francis**

This year marks a very special occasion in the life of the Church: the Franciscan Jubilee Year, proclaimed by Pope Leo XIV, running from January 10, 2026 to January 10, 2027. This celebrates the 800th anniversary of the death of St Francis of Assisi and we are all invited to follow his example through prayer, care for creation, and service to others.

As part of this, our Mission Team has created a beautiful school prayer for our classrooms, which has been submitted to the Trust. Prayers from across our Trust will be taken to Assisi,

the home of St Francis. Our prayer will be part of this special pilgrimage, connecting our school to this global celebration of faith.

Copies of our prayer will be displayed in prayer corners and we encourage families to join us in praying it with the children at home (copy attached). This is a wonderful opportunity to reflect together on St Francis' message of peace, compassion, and care for the world around us.

**Big Lent Walk**

As we reach the end of our Lenten term, I am delighted to announce an incredible achievement by our school community. Together, we didn't just meet our Big Lent Walk target—we *smashed* it, walking an amazing 200km and beyond! This is a wonderful testament to the enthusiasm, determination and generosity of our pupils, families and staff. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who took part in our walk, wore pyjamas, supported, and donated our almsgiving this year. Your kindness has helped raise vital funds for CAFOD and Thames Valley Hospice, supporting people in need both locally and globally. We are incredibly proud of what we have achieved together.



**Slough Borough Council – Residents Survey**

Please see attached flyer for further information.

**ParentPay**

As we end this term, please can we kindly ask that you check your child's ParentPay account and clear any outstanding fees. 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.

**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.

Nursery Mrs Forest		<a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/911xWbQU/hnJJpP7Q">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/911xWbQU/hnJJpP7Q</a>
Mrs Harris	Set 1	O- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/mLT3x8E5/LZbd6OL2">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/mLT3x8E5/LZbd6OL2</a> C- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/yu6YnWMf/xEbp8m20">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/yu6YnWMf/xEbp8m20</a> K- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/25xlcXm/ox01y4pw">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/25xlcXm/ox01y4pw</a> U- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/LvvRQo1B/VWXvPawi">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/LvvRQo1B/VWXvPawi</a> <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/RYdWczZ8/eiEiGPDM">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/RYdWczZ8/eiEiGPDM</a>

		<a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Smp4JtwD/i1Hu51Fg">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Smp4JtwD/i1Hu51Fg</a>
Mrs Scott	Word Time	<a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/iqMKOnwR/PZ0SGzdR">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/iqMKOnwR/PZ0SGzdR</a> <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/aNJw7q7t/SHEEvVt3">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/aNJw7q7t/SHEEvVt3</a> <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/djgwYhvd/uEJwRZd4">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/djgwYhvd/uEJwRZd4</a> <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/j8ybwfY6/lrUme31M">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/j8ybwfY6/lrUme31M</a> <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Pvb4SE75/XEHZGYBp">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Pvb4SE75/XEHZGYBp</a> <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/WePYCPme/JgKZu10s">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/WePYCPme/JgKZu10s</a> <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/HGTpMpQO/8DqFl3il">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/HGTpMpQO/8DqFl3il</a>
Mrs Mulrooney	Ditties	TH- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/KoAURzS0/j8FK7IG9">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/KoAURzS0/j8FK7IG9</a> NG- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/BKAZfzBq/xe7yaKPA">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/BKAZfzBq/xe7yaKPA</a> CH- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/7BC6G16B/AfU4W7pt">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/7BC6G16B/AfU4W7pt</a> NK- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/CIZVf7qe/xjlKxyfR">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/CIZVf7qe/xjlKxyfR</a> <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Js2eSJFb/VDK3FkhI">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Js2eSJFb/VDK3FkhI</a> <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/uAyVcDBp/kV7qX5Pw">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/uAyVcDBp/kV7qX5Pw</a> <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/qCOMklZL/YkMKB6KH">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/qCOMklZL/YkMKB6KH</a>
Mrs Keogh Mrs Hendy	Green Pink	AY- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/20dDXNhi/aRjz9BZl">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/20dDXNhi/aRjz9BZl</a> EE- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ysnKtHLj/ECFQONts">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ysnKtHLj/ECFQONts</a> IGH- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/LuoXZ46i/KMD3Bj1z">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/LuoXZ46i/KMD3Bj1z</a> OW- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/TmVOOTaj/zgWJn74x">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/TmVOOTaj/zgWJn74x</a>
Mrs Wilson	Orange	OA- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/9VX6rZvq/XhEuDhqK">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/9VX6rZvq/XhEuDhqK</a> EW- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/0wgARBkb/rrcjQ2Jp">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/0wgARBkb/rrcjQ2Jp</a> IRE- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/zGiPg6XZ/qOLXJFOo">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/zGiPg6XZ/qOLXJFOo</a> EAR- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/NuKW0kU0/coiJi09n">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/NuKW0kU0/coiJi09n</a>
Mrs Crow	Yellow	ARE- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/B1vDQt9/OIXIWsbC">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/B1vDQt9/OIXIWsbC</a> U-E <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/dnDrcFKN/Fm7FsTOD">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/dnDrcFKN/Fm7FsTOD</a> EAR- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/jIH0PIHF/t6Xzdu7z">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/jIH0PIHF/t6Xzdu7z</a> TIOUS / CIOUS- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/cGNQnNo3/KasdpGDd">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/cGNQnNo3/KasdpGDd</a>
Mrs Hogg	Blue	TIOUS / CIOUS- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/cGNQnNo3/KasdpGDd">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/cGNQnNo3/KasdpGDd</a> TION- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/a1P7uNXn/9zipDGpX">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/a1P7uNXn/9zipDGpX</a> AW- <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/t5GgKofi/FuA34jmh">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/t5GgKofi/FuA34jmh</a> ER - <a href="https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/t39JS9L3/OcEpGruF">https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/t39JS9L3/OcEpGruF</a>

### 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](mailto:holyfamilylangleypta@gmail.com).

### OTHER

#### St Thomas Catholic Academies Trust Newsletter

Please find attached St Thomas Trust half termly newsletter.

#### HomeStart Berkshire East – Parenting Course

Please see attached leaflet for further details.

### **The Curve Venue**

Please see the attached flyer which details children's shows and activities taking place at the Curve Venue during the Easter holidays.

### **Music Opportunity for Year 6**

Pupils in Year 6 (11-year-olds) with an interest in **songwriting, composing or music production** are invited to enter **The Dani Award 2026**, a composition and songwriting competition organised by Slough Music Service in memory of local musician and teacher **Dani Richardson**.

This competition encourages young people to explore their creativity, develop their musical voice and share original work.

#### **Students can submit:**

- An **original song or musical composition** (MP3 recording)
- **Lyrics sheet** if the entry is a song (PDF)
- A **short description** of the piece if it is instrumental
- **Name, school and year group**
- A **supporting statement** about themselves and their piece (max 500 words)

**Who can enter:** Students aged **11–16**

**Submission deadline:** Friday **8th May 2026**

**Entries should be emailed to:** [sloughmusicservice1@gmail.com](mailto:sloughmusicservice1@gmail.com)

Entries will be judged on creativity, originality, musical understanding and emotional impact.

The winners will enjoy an evening celebrating their music as well as great prizes!!