



Holy Family Catholic Primary School

Pentecost Term

Newsletter No.26

Friday 17th April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to our final term of the year!

On Monday, school staff spent the day with the whole of St Thomas Catholic Academy Trust staff. There were over one thousand education professionals working together for the day and we were treated to some excellent speakers over the course of the day, as well as networking with new and existing colleagues.

Children arrived back in school on Tuesday looking well rested and ready for the hard work and excitement that is to come between now and July. Within a very short time, children and adults were settled back into the routine of the school day, and school has been calm and focused all week.

This week, we have been discussing the Catholicity of our school and our unique mission. Children spoke confidently about their mission: to become a better version of themselves, to make the world a better place and to build God's Kingdom on Earth. We're nothing if not ambitious!

We welcomed our 2-year-old Nursery children into their brand new, purpose-built accommodation. Miss Herring and her team have been busy during the holidays and on the INSET day getting the classroom ready and they have done a fantastic job. Our school site is now free of builders and our car park is more accessible for staff and visitors. Thank you for your patience during the build.

On Wednesday of this week, we were visited by the NSPCC. Children were reminded of the importance of keeping themselves as safe as possible. In many cases, the way children can do this is by speaking to a trusted adult when they feel unsafe or unsure of something. They have many adults in school who they are able to speak openly to, alongside their family members, and they were reminded of the importance of sharing a problem and getting the help they need as quickly as possible.

Also on Wednesday, we had a visit from the headteacher of Our Lady of Peace school in Burnham (a serving RE inspector), and Seenu Mathew, one of our school governors. They spent the morning looking at teaching by going into lessons, speaking to children and looking in books and folders, giving them a good idea of how we teach RE in school. The feedback we were given was extremely positive and our children impressed our visitors; they described a 'tangible buzz' and witnessed all children engaged in their learning, which is lovely to hear.

Today our Year 3 children have been visiting the home of Henry VIII, Hampton Court Palace, in order to support their learning in History. We hope they have had a wonderful day in the sunshine; many thanks to the volunteer parents who accompanied the children for the day.

Wishing everyone a wonderful weekend.

God bless
Mrs Benn

DIARY DATES

Monday 20th April	Week 2 of the Menu Extra Curricular Activities Start Again This Week
Wednesday 22nd April	Year 3 Swimming
Thursday 23rd April	St George's Day – EYFS to Wear Red/White
Monday 27th April	Week 3 of the Menu
Wednesday 29th April	Year 3 Swimming
Friday 1st May	Year 4 (Miss Dardis/Mrs Remfeld) Class Assembly 9am
Tuesday 5th May	Week 1 of the Menu Year 1 Visit to the lookout Centre
Wednesday 6th May	May Procession – <i>Children Invited to Bring One Flower to School</i> Year 3 Swimming

Extra Curricular Activities

Please note that extra-curricular activities will start again from next Monday 20th April. If you have confirmed your child's place via ParentPay, please note that this will be the only confirmation you receive. 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 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 Amreen Kaur who competed in the NGA (National Gymnastics Association) Easter Eggstravaganza competition last weekend. Amreen came 2nd for her vault, 3rd for her beam routine and 4th for her floor routine. Amreen received a Bronze medal for her overall average. Well done Amreen.

Congratulations to Daniel Shah who progressed to Stage 6 in his swimming lessons during the Easter break. Well done Daniel.

Congratulations to Seren Yarrow who recently passed her Grade 1 ballet exam with a Distinction. Well done Seren.

Congratulations to Zoe Rogulska who moved up to Stage 5 in her swimming lessons and also passed her first ballet and tap exam during the Easter holidays. Well done Zoe.

Weekly Sports Update

This week, our Year 5/6 girls team played against Cippenham. It was a very close game, with Skye Fenton excellently finishing off a great pass by Margot Doyle to score our goal. The girls showed fantastic sportsmanship and worked fantastically as a team. Our Year 3/4 boys team also played against Cippenham in their first game of the year. They showed great team work and communication. With Daniel Jerry scoring a shot from outside the box, the game finished 1-1. Well done both teams.

Attendance

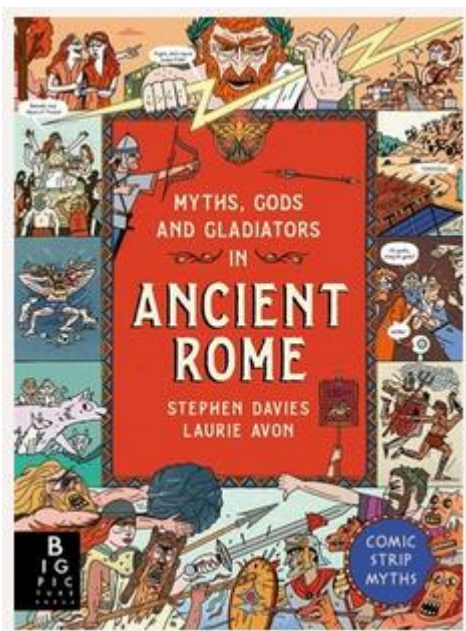
Congratulations to Mrs Forrest and Miss Dardis' 3 Year Old Nursery (AM) class, Mrs Green and Mrs Evans Year 4 class and Mrs Doyle and Miss Caswell's Year 6 class for achieving the highest attendance this week (100%).

Anyone whose attendance is recorded as less than 90% between 3 September 2025 and 27 March 2026 and anyone that has seven or more lates between 23 February 2026 and 27 March 2026 should expect to receive an attendance letter from our attendance officer, Mrs Oakes, over the next few weeks. Anyone whose attendance is between 90-96% will be spoken to by the class teacher. For anyone that has previously completed an attendance contract, please note that these will also be reviewed and updated letters will be sent.

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

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: Stephen Davies

Illustrator: Laurie Avon

Interest Age: 7-11

Reading Age: 7+

Immerse yourself in the history and mythology of the Ancient Romans in this wonderfully funny and informative comic-strip format non-fiction book.

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.

May Half Term RE Homework

Branch 6: Dialogue and Encounter

"No one should be afraid that God has allowed there to be different religions in the world," Pope Francis said. "But we should be frightened if we are not walking together in life as brothers and sisters of one human family."

Dear Parents and Carers,

As part of our new curriculum for RE, we will begin Branch 6: Dialogue and Encounter after the May half term. Children will learn about the importance of respecting, understanding and engaging with people of different faiths, beliefs and views. We will reflect on the question '**Who is my neighbour?**' in our lives and talk to each other about sacred texts that matter to others and why they matter.

To support this learning, we are creating a new whole-school display that celebrates the rich diversity of world views within our community and shows how, as a Catholic school, we value and respect the dignity of all.

We would love your support in helping your child create a fact file about your family's faith, beliefs, or worldview.

Children can present this in any creative way (poster, booklet, or PC produced document).

Format for your fact file:

Name (first name only if preferred)

Faith / belief / worldview

When did your faith or belief begin?

Who is an important leader or figure in your faith?

How and where do you worship?

What are your key beliefs?

How do your beliefs influence your daily life?

What is similar or different compared to the Catholic faith?

How does it feel to be part of our Catholic school community?

If you are happy to, please also include a photograph or image linked to your faith (e.g. place of worship, celebration, and symbol). We will take great care and can make copies if needed.

This project will help our pupils to:

- Develop respect and understanding of others
- Recognise both similarities and differences between faiths

- Live out our Catholic values of welcome, dignity, and love
- Experience faith as something that is lived, not just learned

Deadline - please return your child's work after the May half term.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us to build a community where everyone is valued and respected.

With kind regards
Mrs O'Reilly

Slough Borough Council – Residents Survey

Please see attached flyer for further information.

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	F- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/afw565g7/wUyiT5hh E- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/gCGv1sI2/wqWVoJS8 L- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/pA4wL6B4/li1VGQJP
Mrs Scott	Ditties	SH- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/69Iqz80q/rbETSUuf CH- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/JapIeyOP/sbgMRs0R QU- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/mDRF5hD0/6fsPFPqw
Mrs Mulrooney	Red	TH- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ftNUrsMC/XoKI0Di5 CH- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/JapIeyOP/sbgMRs0R QU- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/mDRF5hD0/6fsPFPqw
Mrs Keogh Mrs Hendy	Green Purple	AY- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/qZNe9LA2/QoQzY8b2 EE- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Tz4B5D1e/T5GDU0YJ IGH- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/MTRx3Pqx/vQHepKPc
Mrs Wilson	Orange	EA- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/0KiwVXEZ/mVdZKYdC OI- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/hMFn42nz/GrX1gzy3 A-E https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/zHGJsSzj/GbvJkqRU
Mrs Hogg	Blue	EA- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/0KiwVXEZ/mVdZKYdC OI- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/hMFn42nz/GrX1gzy3 A-E https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/zHGJsSzj/GbvJkqRU

		O-E https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/SwFRFLJ4/7SRIHG0I I-E https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/1a2B5fIV/iHkq5JCO U-E https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/97UGPKb4/WcfiwwSO
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Slough Consortium of Grammar Schools – Information for Year 5 Parents

Please note that registration for the Slough Consortium 11+ examination will open on Friday 1st May 2026 and will close at 10am on Friday 5th June 2026.

There will be a Slough Consortium online 11+ information event on Tuesday 28th April 2026– please see following link for further details and how to register <https://www.lgs.slough.sch.uk/page/?title=Admission+to+Year+7+%2D+September+2027&pid=410>.

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

HomeStart Berkshire East – Parenting Course

Please see attached leaflet for further details.

Join Taplow Choir this September!

Taplow Choir is excited to welcome new members this September! Whether you're a seasoned singer or just love to sing for fun, the choir offers a friendly and supportive environment. Open rehearsals are being held for each group they require, where you can meet the choir, try out a few songs, and see if it's the right fit for you.

All details about the open rehearsal and how to join can be found in the attachment.

Don't miss this opportunity to be part of a vibrant community of singers!

Miss Caswell

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

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!!