



Holy Family Catholic Primary School

Pentecost Term

Newsletter No.28

Friday 1st May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

We were invited this morning to celebrate Miss Dardis' class liturgy, which was led beautifully by her class. They shared with the whole school and their parents the key messages that they have been learning in their RE lessons this half term. We heard readings from scripture, listened to choral poetry and songs and were led through prayer and reflection. We were given key messages to take away too: that, just like St Peter, we can fail and make mistakes but that, when we show remorse, we are forgiven and given a second chance. God's love for us ensures we are shown grace and forgiveness. We were reminded we are the children of God and we show His love everyday through our actions and prayers. Thank you to Miss Dardis and her class for reminding us of these blessings.

Today, we begin the special Marian month that May is. Catholics honour Mary because she responded yes to becoming the Mother of God. She is a role model of discipleship, grace and trust in God. Family life is full of ups and downs and we all experience different stress factors at different times. I invite you to say a Hail Mary in front of Our Lady's statue, requesting her intercession for your own personal intentions, before the month of May passes us by.

Thank you to all the parents who have donated pre-loved uniform for the sales that will take place after school on the Wednesday 13th and Friday 15th May. If you have any uniform your child has grown out of it's not too late to donate, even on the day of each sale.

It has been delightful to watch the children playing so happily in the sunshine this week! We have been blessed with the weather – here's hoping it continues into the long, Bank Holiday weekend and you all have an opportunity to enjoy some time with your families.

Wishing you all an enjoyable Bank Holiday weekend.

God bless

Mrs Benn

Prayer

God of life, you have given joy to the world
by the resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.
Through the prayers of his mother, the Virgin Mary,
bring us to the happiness of eternal life.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

DIARY DATES

Monday 4th May	Bank Holiday – School Closed
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
Thursday 7th May	PTA Garden Project – Front of School 9am
Monday 11th May	Week 2 of the Menu KS2 SATS Taking Place This Week
Wednesday 13th May	Year 3 Swimming Pre-loved Uniform Sale After School
Thursday 14th May	Feast of the Ascension Reception Bug Ball
Friday 15th May	Reception (Mrs Scott) Class Assembly Parents Welcome 9am Pre-loved Uniform Sale After School
Monday 18th May	Week 3 of the Menu Y6 PGL Trip Departs
Wednesday 20th May	Year 3 Swimming
Friday 22nd May	Y6 PGL Trip Returns

May Half Term: Monday 25th – Friday 29th May 2026

Extra-Curricular Activities

Please note that a space has become available in the Years 3 – 6 ICON Football Academy club. If interested, please confirm your child's place (subject to availability) via ParentPay. 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.

Attendance

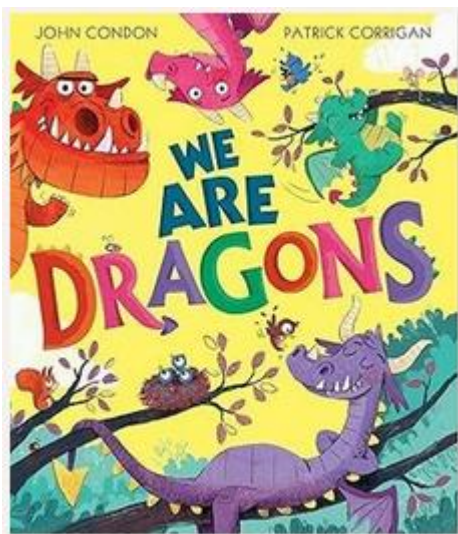
Congratulations to Mrs Hendy's Year 1 class and Mrs Green and Mrs Evans Year 4 class for achieving the highest attendance this week (99.7%).

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



Author: John Condon

Illustrator: Patrick Corrigan

Interest Age: 3-5

A charming picture book with a fun, bouncy rhyme to read out loud, which references a number of well-known fairy tales.

Book Amnesty

We are currently reviewing our reading scheme book stock in school and have noticed that we have a shortage of books from stages 12-18.

If you have any school reading books at home, particularly from the Oxford Reading Tree scheme, we kindly ask that these are returned to school as soon as possible. We also ask that children return any previously borrowed books before taking out a new one. This will help ensure that all children have access to the correct books as they progress through the scheme.

Thank you for your support in helping us keep our reading resources well-organised and available for everyone.

Wednesday Word

Reese Singh from our Year 6 Mission Team writes for us this week:

Our Wednesday Word this week is – TRUST

This week, our Wednesday Word is adapted from John 14:1-12.

On the night before Jesus was crucified, He spoke to all of his friends and disciples, and He said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled, do not be worried. Trust in God and trust in me". In this Sunday's gospel, Jesus prepared His disciples for His departure from earth to Heaven, to begin his spiritual life with his father. He tells His disciples to trust Him and we too are called to trust Jesus. This week, our mission is to spread the word of God in the world around us by sharing His love into our lives and the lives of everyone we meet. This year, Pope Leo XIV has dedicated this year to St Francis of Assisi, to help us be kind and welcoming and help us become peacemakers where we all live a happy, but simple life.

Month of Mary – May Procession

As it is the month of May, we devote time to focus on Our Mother, Mary, and the incredible person she was.

In previous years, we have held a May Procession to honour Mary, and we will be doing the same this year, on Wednesday 6th May. Children are invited to bring **one** flower to school to honour Our Lady. We will gather together for prayer and procession to our shrine.

Thank you, Mrs O'Reilly.

May Half Term RE Homework

Religious Education Directory: 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

Playground Behaviour After School

Please can we kindly ask all parents and carers of children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 to remind their children that school rules and behaviour expectations still apply at the end of the school day whilst they are waiting to collect older siblings on either the little Year 1 / 2 covered area or the main playground. Please remind children that they must not play on the adventure playground and trim trail. We will also remind children in school. Thank you for your support and cooperation with this.

PARENT AND CARER SURVEY

We would be grateful if parents and carers could complete the following survey by Monday 18th May 2026: [PARENT AND CARER SURVEY - HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL 2025-26 \(PRIMARY SCHOOL\) – Fill out form](#)

Thank you for your support with this.

3-Year-Old Nursery

If anyone has a small (portable) bookshelf that they would be happy to donate to our 3-year-old nursery for use in the reading area in the nursery playground, we would be very grateful. Many thanks from the Nursery Team.

Polite reminder to ensure Emotional Safety for all children

Generally, children feel emotionally safe when they know what to expect and when life is somewhat predictable. School, work and home-life provide fairly predictable routines for most of us. It is very important that all children feel safe during the school day. That is not to say every day passes without children being upset, but that they know who to go to in order to seek comfort from and, that an adult will help them should they have a problem.

It is also very important that children feel safe on their journeys to and from school, whether alone or accompanied by adults. As they progress to Year 5 and Year 6, children increasingly travel alone, or with friends, as they prepare to make the transition to secondary school.

This term, I am aware of a few instances when parents have approached other children directly about friendship issues that have occurred in school. This will always be inappropriate and intimidating for a child. When children have friendship issues, please be reassured that class teachers will deal with anything they are made aware of. Should your child have any concerns please ask them to tell their teacher and should it not be resolved satisfactorily, please raise this directly with your child's class teacher.

Similarly, I strongly advise parents not to approach other parents about children's friendship issues. Lots of children fall in and out of friendships as they move through school which is considered normal, and builds resilience needed in later life. In my experience, when parents fall out, they fall out permanently.

Thank you for your cooperation in ensuring everyone experiences emotional safety travelling to and from school and that we all make an effort to build and strengthen our school community.

Mrs Benn

Change to our Behaviour Steps September 2026

Our aim at Holy Family Catholic School is to ensure that all pupils are treated with dignity and respect. Our Behaviour Steps are being adapted to hopefully prevent, or if necessary, effectively address discriminatory behaviour in line with the protected characteristics as outlined in the equality act 2010. Moving forward, the following change will be implemented under Step 3 sanctions point d). This currently says: 'Comments that are racist, homophobic, relate to physical disabilities or cause deep emotional hurt'. From September it will read: 'Comments that are disrespectful towards a protected characteristic or cause deep emotional hurt.'

There is an expectation that we teach children about protected characteristics in primary schools. If we embed the term protected characteristic within our Behaviour Steps it will naturally become a term that is more frequently used in school should any discrimination occur.

Between now and September if we hear any comments that are disrespectful in relation to protected characteristics staff will warn children that from September such behaviour would be a Step 3. Please be reassured that anything staff may say about protected characteristics would be age appropriate. Thank you for your support and understanding.

Protected Characteristics

The Equality Act became law in 2010 to protect everyone in Britain from discrimination, harassment and victimisation in work, education and services due to the protected characteristics we all have. Under the Equality Act, it is against the law to discriminate against anyone because of the 9 protected characteristics, as follows:



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	I - https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/IvcdxH8n/1aWKcyv2 N- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/KhUMreIQ/iTQ7i7HS B- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/IvsofpCK/WhtcDcOq O- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/V57sXJIU/VashXSyr https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/bC6KuMTV/wbWxXFWe https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/fAhBUJIR/KZDH5z3t https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Gug2LerS/I1PvCwKN https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/wFDCqDvL/EqofpAJJ
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Mrs Scott Mrs Mulrooney	Ditties Red	CK- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/H7BZyqAW/78kTUfi5 SH- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/fHfr6rxS/pgRGOT6k QU- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/oEaayrdD/q0l3S6zR NG- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/nA3S7Y4U/QzzqSr1V https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/3h79BeP5/JKUYHegI https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/yjPBVzIE/Xjv4cqmH https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/YsVLJFp7/X49WDRtE
Mrs Keogh Mrs Hendy	Green Purple	OR- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/IBD2AWIy/Sjttk4pC AIR- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/DMfpeLRk/vSehbyj3 IR- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/wO0NJ6U3/uMww7aiC OU- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Z8kUB3hC/btIEcX54
Mrs Wilson	Orange	EW- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/7X1lw0RZ/PVZHU8U AU- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/9Smn0WC2/BLGoa3n0 ARE- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/wJIlekQ5/p5woy3ts OW- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/GeyRRpic/hJhIDEPz
Mrs Hogg	Blue	OA- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/8xty25VI/xb5Q1Pe2 EW- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/7X1lw0RZ/PVZHU8U IRE- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/6IWGopCM/eA4eAtlQ EAR- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/z9l613cd/Qy1St6v8 URE- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/COTXeIOO/LS8ACiuR TION- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/oOgcKHF1/OJNvAO5I TIOUS https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/8ipCAJft/rnwdKYcI AU- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/9Smn0WC2/BLGoa3n0

Slough Consortium of Grammar Schools – Information for Year 5 Parents

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

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.

PTA Gardening Group – Green Fingers Needed!

Our school gardens are ready for some attention and we're looking for volunteers to help weed, cut back and plant. It's a small but lovely way to care for the natural world on our doorstep, and to show our children that tending the earth is something worth doing together. We're hoping to run a weekly session after morning drop-off, so if you can spare a little time, we'd love to hear from you. Indeed, if you could spare a hour or so on Thursday 7th May, after school drop off at 9am, we will focus on tidying the area at the front of the school in preparation to make it a beautiful and spiritual place for all to enjoy. Please bring your own gardening gloves and any tools (small hand tools, secateurs to cut back).

Email holyfamilylangleyPTA@gmail.com with your name, mobile number and availability and we'll be in touch (and probably add you to a WhatsApp group!). Alternatively, please speak to Halima or Chrissy.

PTA Pre-Loved Uniform Sale – 13th & 15th May

Our PTA will be holding a Pre-Loved Uniform Sale after school on Wednesday 13th and Friday 15th May. This is a great opportunity to pick up quality uniform items at reduced prices, and to pass on outgrown pieces to other families in the school community.

We need your donations!

If you have any school uniform items your child has grown out of, we'd love to give them a new home. Please donate washed items in good, sellable condition by dropping them off next week. PTA volunteers will be collecting donations at drop-off and pick-up, by the benches near the main school gate. Please look out for them and hand your items over.

Every donation helps keep uniform costs manageable for our families and reduces waste, so thank you in advance for your generosity.

For any questions, please contact the PTA on holyfamilylangleypta@gmail.com

OTHER**Slough Town Football Club – May Half Term Holiday Camp**

Please see attached flyer for further details. The Early Bird discount is only valid until 13th May 2026.