



Holy Family Catholic Primary School

Pentecost Term

Newsletter No.34

Friday 20th June 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We've had a very busy week in school and children have behaved admirably despite the very hot weather.

Well done to Mrs Harris and Miss Herring's Reception class who presented their first ever whole school assembly this morning. Their teachers were very impressed that all our 4- and 5-year-olds were brave enough to stand centre stage in front of a huge audience. Their singing and artwork were brilliant and some of them were able to use their biggest playground voices and project their voices to the back of the hall. Reception children thanked us for being their friend, reminded us that we are all unique and that the message from the disciples was we are all loved by God. We hope our reception parents were uplifted by their performance.

It was lovely to see children come to school in National Dress or in the colours of their national flag on Tuesday for our annual Diversity Day. Our diversity is a strength of our school and to see children express their individuality through clothing was a joy. (Hopefully delicate and decorated shoes and clothing survived the 'rough and tumble' of the playground.)

On Wednesday, Year 4 had a wonderful time immersing themselves in the past during their Victorian day! Dressed in period-style clothing, they took part in a variety of engaging activities, including writing with chalk, playing traditional games and creating silhouette portraits. The children really embraced stepping back in time, many even swapping their modern lunches for a Victorian alternative. Thank you to all the parents for their support in bringing History to life.

Nursery had a great ladybird themed day on Thursday to celebrate their learning on ladybirds. The Nursery children came to school dressed in ladybird colours and costumes. They decorated ladybird biscuits, made antennae hats, had a ladybird painted on their arm and learnt lots of interesting facts about ladybirds including its life cycle and labelling its body parts.

Mrs Hume's Year 1 class also found some time to visit Langley Library this week. Many thanks to those parents who accompanied the children to the library.

Our popular Summer Camp is running again this year from Thursday 24th July until Wednesday 6th August. Please see details in this newsletter. Please also see the details in this newsletter regarding the RSE Programme that will be running next week for children in Nursery – Year 3.

We wish our school choir well for Monday when they will perform with Slough Music Service 'A Night at The Movies' at The Hexagon Theatre, Reading.

Wishing everyone a lovely weekend in the sunshine and congratulations to all our children who received the Eucharist for the first time last weekend.

God Bless,

Mrs Benn

DIARY DATES

Monday 23rd June

Week 1 of the Menu

Year 6 Retreat Day at St Bernard's

Choir Performing at Hexagon Theatre

Tuesday 24th June

Reception Class (Mrs Scott & Miss Herring) Visit to Langley Library

Wednesday 25th June

Year 3 Swimming

Year 2 Class (Miss Macfarlane) Visit to Langley library

Meeting for New Reception Parents 7pm

Friday 27th June

Year 1 (Mrs Hendy) Class Assembly Parents Welcome 9am

Monday 30th June

Week 2 of the Menu

Tuesday 1st July

Year 5 Visit to Longridge Activity Centre

Year 6 Class (Mrs Doyle & Miss Caswell) Visit to Langley Library

Wednesday 2nd July

PTA Coffee Morning (AOC) 9-9.30am

EYFS/KS1 Sports Day 9.30-11.30am Parents Welcome

Year 3 Swimming

Thursday 3rd July

Year 3 & Year 4 Sports Day 9.30-11.30am Parents Welcome

Monday 7th July

Week 1 of the Menu

Tuesday 8th July

Nursery Stay and Play 11.15-11.45am and 2.15-2.45pm Parents Welcome

Year 6 Class (Mrs Ragg) Visit to Langley Library

Wednesday 9th July

Year 3 Swimming

Reception Stay and Play 2.15-2.45pm Parents Welcome

Thursday 10th July

Year 5 & Year 6 Sports Day 9.30-11.30am Parents Welcome

Optional Parents' Evening 2-6pm

Friday 11th July

Jubilee Pledge Day

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, 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 Patrick McMahon who won Manager's Player of the Year at his team Windsor & Eton's recent annual awards ceremony. He also won player of the tournament at the recent Manorcroft event and player of the week at his football academy training. Well done Patrick on a 'hat-trick' of awards.

Parent Teacher Association - Join The PTA Coffee Morning

Wednesday 2nd July 9am-9.30am - PTA Coffee Morning, AOC (room opposite Dining Hall). An informal coffee morning to meet with other parents interested in reviving the Holy Family Parent Teacher Association. For more information contact Halima goshhalima@gmail.com.

Wednesday Word

Sara writes for us this week:

Hi everyone I hope you have had a lovely week.

The Wednesday word this week is Nourish, because we celebrate the great feast of Corpus Christi (Latin for the Body of Christ).

From the gospel we learn that Jesus fed over 5000 people with five loaves and two fishes. He looked up to heaven and blessed them, broke them, and gave it to his disciples to hand out to the crowd. They all ate as much as they wanted and the leftovers filled 12 baskets. This wasn't just a huge miracle, it was the start of communion. Jesus makes the same offering he made to the crowd today. As we eat the bread to nourish our bodies Jesus nourishes our soul, especially when we receive our Holy Communion, a sacred moment which brings Jesus closer to our hearts. And now as we end our Gospel time together we will say a prayer.

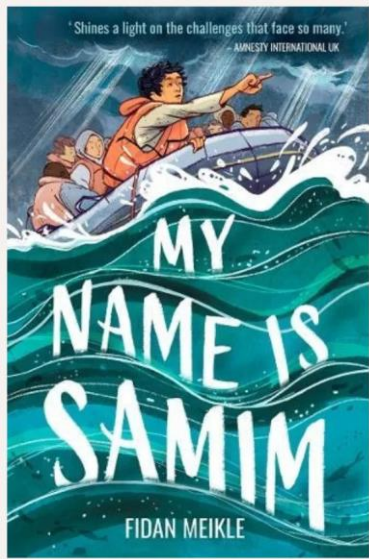
Thank you, Lord, for this Friday and the blessings of the week. Guide my steps this weekend and fill me with your peace.

Amen

Sara Saravanan - Year 6 Faith ambassador

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: Fidan Meikle

Interest Age: 9-11

Reading Age: 9+

Told in the first person, changing chapter by chapter between Samim's journey and his new life in the UK, this is an incredibly moving story. There are some tough scenes that reflect the reality of the challenges faced by these lonely children, including death at sea. That said, there is much hope and even lightness in this narrative.

Two-Year-Old Nursery Provision

We are now receiving applications for our 2-year-old provision which opens in September 2025. So far, we have completed two rounds of allocations. We will allocate on a weekly basis until we are full.

Please visit the [Admissions Section](#) of our school website for all necessary information and documentation should you wish to apply.

Are you eligible for 15 hours funded 2-year-old childcare?

In England, there are three government-funded early education schemes that offer free childcare for children aged two, three and four:

- 15 hours free education and childcare for 2-year-olds (families on certain low-income benefits or children with additional needs)
- 15 hours free childcare for all 3 and 4-year-olds (universal entitlement)
- 15/30 hours free childcare for eligible children between 9-months to 4 years-old (working parents)

Each of the free childcare schemes has different eligibility rules so it's important to check which of the schemes is right for you. Please look at the Terms and Conditions documents on our website for the links to check eligibility.

Relationships Education Nursery – Year 3

Next week, during science lessons, the children from Nursery to Year 3 will be learning about Relationships Education. This covers three strands Created and Loved by God, Created to Love Others and Created to Live in Community. The content of each lesson is guided by the Ten:Ten teaching resources Live Life to the Full Plus. Life to the Full is a Relationships and Health

Education (RHE) curriculum programme underpinned by a Christian faith understanding that our deepest identity is as a child of God – created, chosen and loved by God.

Year 6 Retreat Day

On Monday 23rd June, Year 6 will be attending a retreat day at St Bernard's Grammar School. We will be walking from Holy Family to St Bernard's, arriving for a 10am start. We will spend the day with some of the older students and Siobhan, the chaplain. **All pupils will need to bring a packed lunch.** We will walk back from St Bernard's in the afternoon and will be back at school for usual collection time at the end of the day.

Parent Survey - Religious Education

Mrs O'Reilly would be grateful if all parents could complete our survey on Prayer and Liturgy at Holy Family. It is common practice to gather feedback to inform future planning for teaching and learning in RE. Our survey aims to understand parents' perspectives on how prayer and liturgy are integrated into school life.

Mrs O'Reilly would very much appreciate parents responding to this short Google survey (https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe048B5IfXYMxGW8ySHHYasFvL5H2iKIMZeA7PAxzNRqli_Qg/viewform?usp=header) which should only take a few moments to complete. Please respond before Friday 27th June.

Thank you

Choir Students to Perform at The Hexagon – Monday 23rd June 2025

We are thrilled to announce that some members of our school choir will be taking part in a very special event at *The Hexagon* in Reading on Monday 23rd June 2025.

"Welcome to a Night at the Movies" is set to be an unforgettable celebration of music from the big screen! This exciting performance brings together choirs from across Slough schools and the Slough Youth Orchestra in a vibrant musical journey through film. From timeless classics to modern favourites, the evening promises rich harmonies, powerful orchestral arrangements, and a showcase of exceptional young talent from our local community.

Book your tickets now via the link <https://whatsonreading.com/venues/hexagon/whats-on/slough-music-service-night-movies>, by scanning the QR code on the flyer attached to a previous newsletter, or by calling the Hexagon Box Office.

Come and support our amazing young singers in what promises to be a magical evening of music!

Miss Caswell and Mrs Green.

Living Streets - WOW Programme Launch



School Council introduced the WOW – walking to school - programme in years 2 to 5 this week. WOW is a pupil-led initiative where, at school, children self-report how they get to school each week using WOW Travel Tracker. If they travel sustainably at least once a week for a month, they are rewarded with a WOW badge. It's that easy!

WOW schools see 59% fewer car journeys to the school gates and 18% more journeys walking and wheeling all the way to school. WOW also promotes healthy mental wellbeing by improving behaviour and concentration levels in class.

If you usually drive to school, you can 'park and stride' i.e. park a 10-minute walk away and this counts as walking to school on the WOW programme. You can also cycle or scooter. So get those walking shoes ready and WOW your way to the school gates until the end of term! Thank you, Mrs Fox.

Hot weather

All children, but especially our younger children, should bring a sun hat to school daily. Sun cream should be applied in the mornings before school.

Sports Days

All children have been given a letter stating which colour team they will be in for their forthcoming Sports Day. If children happen to have a T-shirt in the colour specified at the top of the letter they bring home, please can they wear that colour top on their respective Sports Days. However, please do not go to the expense of buying any new tops – usual PE kit is absolutely fine. Also, after dropping children to school, please can parents wait outside the school premises until 9.20am (when the main gate by the school car park will be open) on their child's Sports Day. Thank you.

Internet Safety

Are your children safe online and accessing appropriate content?

Over the last couple of weeks, staff have dealt with a few incidents where children have accessed inappropriate content from devices at home. We will be speaking to the children in school regarding what is appropriate and what is not but it is important that the messaging is consistent from families also. With the exponential rise in online content, it is important that we take our role in protecting children and educating them seriously; this means proactively

limiting access and monitoring the content viewed and shared by our children. To support with this, we would strongly advise watching the short Internet Matters video linked below and reading the Youtube guide that is attached to this newsletter. Should you have any more specific queries there are lots of organisations available to help you.

Internet matters https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=caX_wpyGnwQ

Exploring YouTube Confidently: A family guide to supervised experiences

<https://www.youtube.com/myfamily/parentguide/>

NSPCC - 6 top tips for safety settings and features on YouTube are:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/how-to-keep-your-child-safe-on-youtube/>

School Reports and Optional Parents' Evening –Thursday 10th July 2pm-6pm

The Optional Parents' Evening for all classes from Nursery – Year 6 will take place on Thursday 10th July from 2pm-6pm.

Teachers have put a lot of effort into collating accurate and informative reports and these will be sent home with all children in Nursery – Year 5 on the 4th of July. Year 6 results will arrive in school on Tuesday 8th July so we will release Year 6 reports on 9th July when we will be in a position to include test results. We kindly request that parents wait to read their child's report before making an appointment with the teacher, and then only make an appointment if there are issues that need to be addressed. If, after reading your child's report, you would like to make an appointment to speak to your child's teacher to address a concern, please email carole.gonoud@hfcs.org.uk to request an appointment. Please clearly state your child's name, year group and teacher. Appointments will be in person and take place in the school hall.

Attendance

Well done to Mrs Hume's Year 1 class and Mrs Ragg's Year 6 class for achieving the highest attendance this week (99.6%). Please see attached poster which shows each year group's overall attendance for this week.

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	Z- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/muZrxnXD/Vr9JxOfz J- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/6QRHMLyi/BX8CK5HF R- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/sfwIuqEM/pzGh6Y7c https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/4GUU6Iks/HDIm81z8 https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/KRhUnXha/I8D0a9U0 https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/1tWssu0X/6X2kixV4
Mrs Scott	Ditties	SH- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/IP7gmVQd/mxNuD48m CH- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/4gSS1AiI/0GsS9bNP TH- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/jyuxDck1/zYwOkHIK

Mrs Birch Mrs Keogh	Green Purple	OR- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/sjTBfv9O/0om393SM AIR- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/eQxyf5sK/nWES4EGL IR- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/yEbO06hV/9aTQA1Ow
Mrs Wilson Mrs Crow Mrs Hogg	Orange Blue Grey	UR- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/l2V9Dqth/JF30vkwq ER- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/KEfKvnsr/giguDkmM OW- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/xYHVHm9I/ohK71HPC
Mrs Hendy		AI- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/DrHlqCOu/rbY3GCWA OA- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/rV0oHMqh/AAZlij9B EW- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/SHVQxhbT/RoBrtsTs

OTHER

Royal Life Saving Society UK – Water Safety Advice

Please see attached water safety advice.

Parent Carer Forum for families of children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND)

Please see attached leaflet.