



Holy Family Catholic Primary School

Pentecost Term

Newsletter No.36

Friday 3rd July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

We have had a beautifully busy week in school this week, and children have had some wonderful experiences and opportunities.

On Monday, Year 3 children walked to Mass at Holy Family Church, in order to celebrate the Feast Day of St Peter and St Paul with members of our local parish. This is the first school Mass that our children have attended since receiving the sacrament of the Eucharist a couple of weeks ago, so it felt very special indeed. They enjoyed celebrating Mass with Father Tony, praying and responding respectfully and with maturity at all times.

On Tuesday, children celebrated the wide and wonderful diversity that our school community represents. They arrived in school dressed in a mixture of national dress, clothes representing their nation's flag colours, and a wide array of international football shirts; it really brings it home how many different nationalities are brought together in our school, and how much richer we are for it. The children spent the day learning about other world faiths, which is particularly relevant due to Branch 6 of our RE curriculum, entitled 'Dialogue and Encounter'. In school we have been talking about how important it is to enter into conversation and positive action with those of other faiths, and how it is possible to keep our own Catholic faith close to our hearts whilst, at the same time, holding open, respectful conversations with others' about their beliefs and practices, and we saw this come to life in classrooms throughout school.

As part of our 'Dialogue and Encounter' topic, Years 2 and 6 welcomed Mr Mandeep Singh to school on Tuesday, and listened beautifully as he spoke to them about Sikhi, his personal faith, and how it guides his life. They impressed him with their thoughtful questions and made links to their own faith, beliefs and practices. Nursery and Year 3 were treated to a session with our very own Miss Amina, as she spoke to them about her Muslim faith, again asking lots of questions and showing genuine interest in the differences and many similarities between her religion and their own. Reception and Year 4 welcomed Mr Siripurapu, dad of Hiranya, who shared details of his own Hindu faith. We look forward to welcoming Ngawang Yonten Gyatso from the Buddhist Community Centre UK and a representative of the Jewish faith from the Maidenhead Synagogue into school next week to share information about Buddhism and Judaism. We are very fortunate to have so many adults in our local community who are willing to teach our children about their own faith and beliefs, and we are grateful to them all for giving up their time to help our children expand their knowledge and understanding of other world faiths.

This week we have seen two brilliant Sports Days for EYFS and KS1, and Years 3 and 4. The children looked brilliant in their colourful tops representing their teams, and enjoyed the array of races and activities that Mr Holder had planned for them. Many thanks to parents and grandparents who turned out in great numbers to support their children; your children love

to see you and having you there to cheer them on and offer congratulations. We look forward to Year 5 and 6 Sports Day, which is scheduled for Thursday 9th July at 9:30am.

A group of children have been busy this week, preparing to share with school and an audience of parents their God-given talents, as we hold our first 'School's Got Talent' this coming week. We will show children in school on Wednesday, and look forward to welcoming parents and other guests on Thursday evening – please see further in the newsletter for how to obtain tickets for what looks to be an exciting event for our children.

We will be sending annual written reports for children in Nursery-Year 5 home today. We hope you are pleased with the progress your children have made and to hear how they are developing academically and socially in school. They should all feel very proud of themselves.

We look forward to welcoming any parents/carers of our Nursery children on Monday 6th July – children love to share their classroom and learning with those who they love and we would be delighted to see as many of you as possible. We also look forward to Year 3's art exhibition, which will be held on Friday 10th July after school in their classrooms.

Lastly, we were delighted to hear on Monday that Mrs Scott delivered a beautiful baby girl, Ivy Grace, born just 3 days after Mrs Scott left to start her maternity leave. Congratulations to Mrs and Mr Scott and big brother, Harry. Please keep Mrs Scott and baby Ivy in your prayers.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

God Bless

Mrs Benn

DIARY DATES

Monday 6th July	Week 3 of the Menu
Tuesday 7th July	Year 6 Transition Day Reception Induction for September 2026 Intake
Wednesday 8th July	Reception Stay and Play 2.30-3pm
Thursday 9th July	Year 5 & Year 6 Sports Day 9.30-11.30am Optional Parents' Evening 2-6pm School's Got Talent 6.30pm
Friday 10th July	Year 3 Art Exhibition (In Classrooms) 3.20-3.45pm
Monday 13th July	Week 1 of the Menu
Tuesday 14th July	Year 4 Roman Day EYFS Ark Farm to visit Holy Family
Wednesday 15th July	Year 1 UK Day Year 5 trip to Longridge

Thursday 16th July 3-Year-Old Nursery Teddy Bears Picnic Parents Welcome
11.30-12.30pm

Friday 17th July Year 6 Leavers' Mass at Holy Family Catholic School
Parents Welcome 10am

Monday 20th July Week 2 of the Menu

Tuesday 21st July Year 6 Production to Parents 9am

Last Day of Term for 2 & 3-Year-Old Nurseries

Year 6 Leavers' Party 7 - 9:30pm

Wednesday 22nd July **Term Finishes Reception – Year 6 12.15pm**

(Summer Holidays: Thursday 23rd July – Monday 31st August 2026)

Holy Family Summer Camp: Thursday 23rd July – Wednesday 5th August 2026

Tuesday 1st September **SCHOOL CLOSED – INSET DAY**

Wednesday 2nd September **Start of Advent Term for Reception – Year 6**

Extra-Curricular Activities

Except for StreetDance and the ICON Football session on a Thursday, all extra-curricular activities have now finished for this term.

Streetdance – Wednesday 8th July

Alan Cunningham will run an extra Streetdance session at the usual time on Wednesday 8th July due to the cancelled session on 24th June.

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 Philip Roginski and Dominik Mazurkiewicz who were both selected to represent their Slough 4 Future Pro Football Club at the International Football Tournament held at the professional football stadium by the coastline in Gdynia, Poland on 19-21 June. It was a prestigious event bringing together national and international teams, providing a platform for young players to showcase their talent and compete against other teams in a series of matches. The boys had a fantastic opportunity to test their skills, build confidence and experience the thrill of competitive football all away from home and their families for the entire weekend. Congratulations to the boys on their courage to make the most of this fantastic opportunity.



Congratulations to Harper Dixon for completing her 100m swimming challenge and being awarded a medal for her swimming. Harper has now moved up to the next stage in her swimming lessons.

Congratulations to Hiranya Siripurapu who took part in an event organized by Zoological Society of London (ZSL) to mark their 200th anniversary; Hiranya along with many others helped ZSL achieve a new Guinness World Records title for Most contributions to a painting by numbers (multiple venues), with 14,024 people taking part across London Zoo and Whipsnade Zoo. Hiranya participated in this at Whipsnade Zoo to mark this record.

Congratulations to Devante Romney for receiving an effort award and being nominated the Man of the Match for his outstanding performance in the football summer league last weekend.

Well done to Philip, Dominik, Harper, Hiranya and Devante.

Attendance

Congratulations to Mrs Martinez and Mrs Kukla's Year 3 class for achieving the highest attendance this week (99.7%).

Summer Holiday Camp at HFCS – Please Return Forms By 8th July

For anyone who would like to book a place for their child on the Summer Holiday Camp taking place here at school in the first two weeks of the holiday, please see attached letter and booking form. Please be aware that the deadline for returning forms is Wednesday 8th July.

School's Got Talent – Thursday 9th July, 6.30pm

Thank you so much to everyone who came to show Mrs Fox their talent, and congratulations to those children who have been selected to perform in the show. We are also delighted to be able to showcase the work of our school choir on this evening and some of the children's artwork.

For those who have been invited to perform, there will be 3 tickets allocated per child and these will be on Parent Pay (at no charge) on Thursday 2nd July.

Today, children who are having their art work displayed on the evening have received a letter inviting them to attend on the evening and tickets will be allocated for them on Parent Pay also.

After these tickets have been allocated, the remaining tickets will be opened up to anyone who wants to come along and celebrate with us on the evening of 9th of July at 6.30pm.

We are so grateful to the PTA who have kindly agreed to support us on the night by providing a backdrop and support with the art exhibition. They will also be selling snacks and drinks at the show and payment can be accepted in cash only.

We look forward to an evening of superb entertainment! Mrs Fox

Gate Closure Trail

Since 29th June, we have been closing the small pedestrian gate at 8:51am each morning and will be continuing this until the end of this term. This is to ensure that, if pupils are running late in the mornings, they come through the main gate by the car park, and go straight to reception to be signed in, rather than walk round to their classroom/cloakroom doors which are already closed. If the trial is successful, we will adopt these timings from September 2026. Your feedback during the trial period is welcome.

Civil Enforcement Officers and Parking

Please be aware that, since having the slip road repainted with yellow lines and other markings, traffic wardens are expected to be patrolling the area outside school for the coming weeks, particularly during school pick up and drop off times. Please ensure safe parking at all times to ensure the safety of our school community and our neighbours.

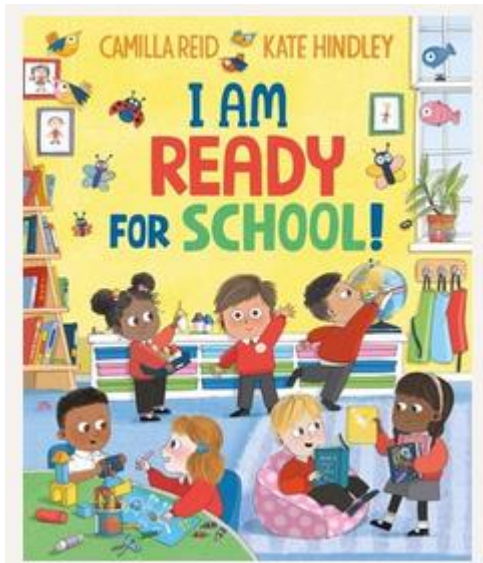
School Reports and Optional Parents' Evening –Thursday 9th July 2pm-6pm

The Optional Parents' Evening for all classes from Nursery – Year 5 will take place on Thursday 9th 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 today. There has been a delay in Year 6 SATs results, and these will now arrive in school on Thursday 16th July; our plan is to release Year 6 reports on 16th July when we will be in 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 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 AOC Suite which is opposite our Dining Room. An extra session will be held on Friday 17th July 1:30-3:30, if there are any Year 6 parents who would like to meet their child's class teacher, following their school report.

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: Camilla Reid

Illustrator: Kate Hindley

Interest Age: 3-5

Reading Age: 7+

Approved by an Early Years consultant and teacher, and complete with school readiness tips for parents and carers, this picture book is a perfect read for children in the run to starting Reception class at school.

Junior Librarians Wanted!

In their role as Junior Librarians, the children aim to:

- Look after the library and ensure it is tidy (helping to put resources back in their correct location)
- Encourage others to treat the library and resources with respect
- Help others to find the books they want and make recommendations
- Be role models during class library sessions, encouraging quiet reading time
- Inspire others to develop a love of books and reading

Please return your completed form to Miss Macfarlane by **Wednesday 22nd July**.

You will find out if you have been successful when you come back in **September**.

Summer Reading Challenge

This year's popular Summer Reading Challenge begins on Tuesday 30th June until Saturday 12th September, and the theme this year is Read to the Beat. The Challenge will harness the universal appeal of music to inspire the next generation of readers in the UK. The link between music and storytelling runs deep. Think rhythm, self-expression and creativity. We will be promoting this challenge as a way of encouraging all of our children to keep up their reading habits over the long summer holiday. Please find more information about how to sign up and what's involved by visiting <http://www.slough.gov.uk/libraries> or by visiting your local library. Once they have finished the Summer Reading Challenge, please encourage your child to let their teachers know. If you would like your child recognised for their efforts, please email Librarian@8715202.onmicrosoft.com. Thank you!

Read to the Beat

The Summer Reading Challenge 2026 has been launched and theme this year is 'Read to the Beat.' Slough Music Service have sought a wonderful opportunity to collaborate with our local libraries. Please see attached flyer for the schedule of workshops that they we will be running across the Slough libraries this summer. The first workshop starts this Saturday at Cippenham Library.

There is no need to book on, just turn up (first come first serve) and the workshops are free!

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. Please also ensure that children have a water bottle in school with them each day.

Sports Days – Year 5 & Year 6

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.

Year 6 Leavers' Events

On Friday 17th July, Year 6 children and staff will be attending Holy Family Church to join parish Mass at 10am, as a celebration of their time at Holy Family School. We invite all parents to join us for this special occasion. On Tuesday 21st July, parents are invited to watch the children's end of year production at 9am in school. Later on Tuesday, we will host the Year 6 Leavers' Party, from 7-9:30pm, in our school hall.

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:



Staffing Update

Children will spend one lesson with their new teacher in the final week of term. Please see below for information regarding which teachers will be leading each year group in 2026/2027:

2-year-old Nursery	Miss Herring	
3-year-old Nursery	Mrs Forrest (4 days) and Mrs Wilson (1 day)	
Reception	Miss Macfarlane	Mrs Harris (4 days) and Mrs Wilson (1 day)
Year 1	Mrs Hume	Mrs Hendy
Year 2	Mrs Powell	Mrs Green (4 days) and Mrs Wilson (1 day)
Year 3	Mrs Evans (2 days) Mrs Martinez (3 days)	Ms Iqbal
Year 4	Miss Dardis	Mrs O'Reilly
Year 5	Mrs Fox	Miss Caswell
Year 6	Mrs Ragg	Mrs Doyle (4 days) Mrs Williams (1 day)

Sadly, we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Keogh and Mrs Gonoud, both of whom are retiring at the end of this academic year. Needless to say, these two long-standing members of staff will be greatly missed by our school community, both of them regularly going above and beyond to help our children, staff and families. We will ensure they receive a full send-off before the end of term, and we encourage you to stop and wish them well when you see them over their last remaining weeks with us.

We also say farewell to Mrs Kukla, who has been a fantastic teacher with us since she first qualified. Mrs Kukla leaves for a different job entirely, which is nearer to home and will give her more time with her family. We wish her all the best in her new role.

Vacancies

We have 3 vacancies for Lunchtime Controllers (working 12.30-1.30pm Monday – Friday term time only). If you are interested in this role, please see further details and apply via MyNewTerm <https://mynewterm.com/jobs/151043/EDV-2026-HFCPS-94267>.

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 Scott / Mrs Crow	Set 1	E- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/C1SzFH7b/LtmSGFq3 F- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/xJco1xJU/fugNFjHS https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/9pDHdnJG/aijWCFOg https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/bXxdHG2I/bCLt8b1G https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/VP0OsKIz/NvGKi8Fy https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/sgkN6L6H/QwmoKJ9E
Mrs Mulrooney	Ditties	CK- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/6day1fDQ/J1zsNFS7 NK- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/43ArvdnP/uk1bcrg8 SH- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/XwTh4fvh/wBqka75I https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Htn5PjVk/ImgBhZEP https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/x6u7hIQz/ognvA8gk https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/10hhVFgV/a9jV6K01
Mrs Keogh Mrs Harris	Green Purple	OO- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/jozbl46w/hJURZcHo OO- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/pJ98Oqnr/rX2Cnc4y AR- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/K1GQzasZ/6NFQ12F0
Mrs Wilson Mrs Birch Mrs Hogg	Orange Blue Grey	URE- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/3w61CktL/SYMBxFnQ AU – https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/pkLJdprp/A4LEtYrw TION- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/NdHTKQcS/Bx88yXtq

OTHER

Slough Music Service – Slough Youth Orchestra

The Slough Youth Orchestra Weekly group will be running an Open Invite session next week on Wednesday 8th July, for any potential interested newcomers for the 2026-27 academic year.

The session is open to: Young Musicians who play Brass, Woodwind, Strings, Drums/Percussion instruments, are able to read music on their instrument to approx. Grade 3 level and above. The session will run from 4:00 - 5:15pm, at St. Bernard’s Catholic Grammar School.

Slough Music Service are encouraging new students to join, who may not be sure if orchestra is for them yet, to meet the current group of players from multiple Slough schools and try out

some music, in a fun, friendly and welcoming environment! Further details are on the attached letter.