



Holy Family Catholic Primary School

Pentecost Term

Newsletter No.37

Friday 10th July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

We have had another hot week in school this week, but this has not stopped the children and staff working hard and enjoying lots of lovely opportunities and events.

On Monday, we welcomed a visitor into Nursery to talk to our youngest children about oral health and nutrition. Children enjoyed listening to how we look after our teeth and mouths and asked some lovely questions.

On Tuesday, we welcomed our new Reception cohort for September for a visit. Teachers tell us how beautifully behaved the children were, and how much they enjoyed the day. As is usual, there was a mixture of excitement and nerves. We look forward to getting to know these children next year and we welcome them and their families into our friendly community.

In the past couple of weeks, children have been engaging with people of different faiths, as part of Branch 6 of our RE Curriculum, 'Dialogue and Encounter'. This week, on Tuesday, Year 2 and Year 5 were given the opportunity to hear from Maurice Fellman, a member of our local Synagogue. Mrs O'Reilly has organised this, along with all of our other visitors, and we hope that your children have enjoyed the chance to meet with representatives from other world faiths.

School's Got Talent was a huge success this week, first showing to children in school on Wednesday and then to parents and invited guests on Thursday evening – what a talented bunch of children we have, and it was so lovely to see the courage and resilience on display. Congratulations to all the talent artists who exhibited their beautiful pictures in the Hall for our audience to view; it was wonderful to have our very own Holy Family Gallery to appreciate and enjoy. Thank you to Mrs Fox for her hard work in organising this event, Miss Macfarlane and Mrs Wilson for coming on the evening to help, and to the PTA for setting up the hall and providing drinks and treats for the audience.

Stay and Play in Reception on Wednesday was delightful, as usual. With so many parents and other visitors in attendance, the children loved showing off their classroom and playground, and engaging with their adults about their learning. Thanks to those who were able to make it; your children really do appreciate having you here.

On Thursday we also had our Year 5&6 Sports Day which, despite the heat, worked really well. Children put 100% effort in and performed brilliantly in front of parents and grandparents. Thank you to Mr Holder for organising three brilliant sports days this term.

On Thursday and Friday of this week, staff welcomed three inspectors from the Catholic Schools Inspectorate. They observed RE lessons, KS2 Celebration of the Word and Prayer and Liturgy in classrooms, as well as holding meetings with staff, governors and school leaders.

They particularly enjoyed looking through children's work and meeting with children to discuss various elements of RE within our school. As always, our children represented us incredibly well and should feel very proud of themselves. Despite the heat, the children's behaviour was exemplary and they showed the best version possible of themselves. We look forward to receiving the final report from inspectors and sharing it with parents.

Today Year 5 celebrated the end of their geography topic with 'Brazil Day', all arriving looking bright and beautiful in green and yellow. Throughout the day they engaged with a variety of activities, and immersed themselves in Brazilian culture and traditions.

At the end of the afternoon today, Year 3 welcomed their parents into school to share their art work. They thoroughly enjoyed putting their exhibition together and are delighted that so many came to celebrate their hard work and learning in art.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

God bless

Mrs Benn

DIARY DATES

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 PTA Tuck Shop After School
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

All extra-curricular activities have now finished for this term. Information regarding the extra-curricular schedule for next term will be sent out when we return to school in September.

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 Tyra Grewal who successfully climbed Mount Snowden last weekend and reached the summit! It took a whopping 6.5 hours and Tyra raised over £300 for Khalsa Aid charity in memory of her GrandMum.

Congratulations to Patrick McMahon for passing his Stage 3 swimming and also his football team (Windsor & Eton) winning the under 8s Windsor & Eton youth tournament cup without conceding a goal.

Congratulations to Evie Forrest for being presented with her gold award in her very last session at Brownies this week.

Well done Tyra, Patrick and Evie.

Attendance

Congratulations to Mrs Scott and Mrs Wilson's Reception class for achieving the highest attendance this week (98.3%).

Brazil Day – Year 5

Today, Year 5 have enjoyed an exciting journey to Brazil as part of their Geography learning. The children began by creating their own colourful Brazilian flags, learning about the meaning behind the different colours and symbols. They also explored traditional Brazilian tales, discovering how stories have been passed down through generations to teach important lessons and celebrate the country's rich culture.

To put their knowledge to the test, the classes tackled a fun 'Crack the Code' challenge, solving clues all about Brazilian cultural traditions, celebrations and famous landmarks. The children worked brilliantly together, using their problem-solving skills and teamwork to crack the final code!

To finish the day, everyone designed and decorated vibrant carnival masks inspired by the world-famous Rio Carnival. The classroom was filled with colour, creativity and excitement as the children proudly showed off their fantastic creations.

It has been wonderful to see the children's enthusiasm and curiosity as they learned about the people, traditions and culture of Brazil.

Summer Holiday Camp at HFCS – Please Return Forms By 13th 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 has been extended to Monday 13th July.

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.

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-Illustrator: Cath Howe

Interest Age: 9-14

Reading Age: 9+

The start of secondary school has been hard for Hattie. Her best friend has found someone else, and now a family friend Seren has come to stay and she feels pushed out. Follow her as she negotiates these challenges in this warm, witty and accessible illustrated book.

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!

Also, the library service offers a free activity programme for children residing in Slough over the summer as part of the Summer Reading Challenge. Please see brochure attached to this newsletter. Parents/guardians can also access the programme via the website events page <https://www.slough.gov.uk/events> or can be followed on Instagram for regular updates https://www.instagram.com/TheCurveSlough_Culture_Library/. Both digital platforms also include the dates of the workshops being delivered by the Slough Music Service.

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.

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

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>. The deadline for applications is midnight this Sunday 12th July 2026.

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/BpV3EKJ7/UvsTbSbY U- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/1CG61kVf/786dHZan I-https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/6AZZiqJc/cYnJWDrK
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Mrs Mulrooney	Ditties	QU- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/GpohkJxm/9w0HeF7I TH- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/sRXiIrqN/44NNfhs3 NG- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/5EKrio3k/rpmodD2n https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/bO6pSawM/mdsHhwET https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/xuOADkFJ/iefZXFbw https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/PxLUgZ7Q/YVCOJ2bB https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/KbiFg4Dm/Dyy6PNfT
Mrs Keogh Mrs Harris	Green Purple	OR- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/PCixRSD5/V1UXAcFB AIR- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/983zt5Od/j5V207SI IR- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/h1SH4Q1g/EbbOKZc9
Mrs Wilson Mrs Birch Mrs Hogg	Orange Blue Grey	CIOUS/TIOUS https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/E9p7ROGZ/FN8q4xXS IE- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/cFORC5fS/KcwebRXK UE- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/wK2973Qo/y86LxMWF

Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

Uniform Sales - A Thank you!

A huge thank you to all of the parents who have donated preloved school uniform throughout this year. Your generosity has made a real difference to so many families in our school community.

Our final preloved uniform sale of the school year took place on Tuesday for our new Reception parents. We were delighted to see so many families finding everything they needed, and thanks to your donations, we raised over £70 for the PTA!

We look forward to continuing our preloved uniform sales in the new school year. If you have any uniform your child has outgrown, we would be very grateful for any donations when we return in September. Please ensure that all items are clean, washed and in good condition. Thank you.

Holy Family's Got Talent - PTA thanks!

A huge thank you to everyone who helped make Holy Family's Got Talent such a fantastic evening!

To our wonderful PTA volunteers – thank you for giving up your time to organise the event, set up the hall, prepare refreshments, serve drinks and snacks, tidy up afterwards, and help everything run so smoothly. Your hard work and dedication made the evening a great success.

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to our incredible sponsors, whose generous donations of refreshments, raffle prizes and sponsorship helped make the event possible. A list of our sponsors is attached to this newsletter as a way of thanks.

It was a wonderful evening celebrating the amazing talents of our children while raising valuable funds for our school.

Along with the generous sponsorship from Bradley Tuition, Lodge Brothers and Oakwood Estates and the refreshments and raffle squares sold on the night, the PTA raised a fantastic £289!

Thank you to all involved in making it such a great evening for our children and their families.

We are busy planning events for next year! If you wish to join the PTA and help make a difference to our school community please email holyfamilylangleypa@gmail.com

PTA Tuck Shop

The PTA will be holding a Tuck Shop (selling drinks/popcorn/sweets/crisps) after school next Friday 17th July. The Tuck Shop will be cash only.

OTHER

The Curve - Curve Explorer Activity Days in July and August

Please see attached flyer for further details.