



New Nursery Provision
for eligible 2 year olds at
Holy Family Catholic School
OPENS SEPTEMBER 2025
Extended hours available
hfes.org.uk 01753 541442



Holy Family Catholic Primary School

Pentecost Term

Newsletter No.37

Friday 11th July 2025

Dear Parents

We have had another busy and enjoyable week in school.

Well done to Maja, Noah M, Luscious and Kim from Year 5 who proudly represented Holy Family School at the finals of the Big Science Event, held at St Edward's School in Aylesbury. They presented their investigation, 'Can a plane fly without an engine?' in front of an audience from other schools and impressed everyone with their scientific knowledge and curiosity. As reward for their amazing efforts, they joined other children from St Thomas's Trust to enjoy a special show called *The Magic of Science*. Congratulations to our young scientists - watch out for these stars of the future!

This week, we had our last sports day of the year. Our Year 5 & 6 children had so much fun participating in their events, and despite the heat, they all did incredibly well. Well done to all of the children including Year 4 who helped with the organisation.

We hope you were pleased with your child's school report. The optional Parents' Evening took place yesterday and I hope gave parents the chance to clarify any queries they had.

We are very proud of how hard your children work and the high standards they achieve. Children definitely benefit when parents support their learning and they are willing participants. Please see the attached headline data which will soon be added to our website alongside national averages.

Thank you so much for your generosity in bringing in donations for Slough Foodbank as part of our Jubilee Pledge Day. Your donations are gratefully received. Our Catholic Social Teaching principles guide us to create a fairer world by thinking of the common good. Today's collection for Slough Foodbank is a wonderful example of children putting their faith into action.

Next week is Year 6's last full week at primary school! We wish them all a good week and we are looking forward to watching their production next Thursday.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

God bless

Mrs Benn

DIARY DATES

Monday 14th July

Week 1 of the Menu

Tuesday 15th July

Reception Children (New Sept 2025) Induction Morning

Wednesday 16th July

Year 1 UK Day

Thursday 17th July

Year 6 Production to Parents 9.15am

Friday 18th July

Y4 Visit to Milestones

Y5 Brazil Day (In School)

Nursery Teddy Bear's Picnic Parents Welcome 11.30-12.30pm

Monday 21st July

Week 2 of the Menu

Tuesday 22nd July

Last Day of Term for Nursery

End of Year Mass at Holy Family Church 10-11am (Year 6 Parents Welcome) *Winter uniform please*

Year 6 Leavers' Party at Richings Park Sports Club 7-9.30pm

Wednesday 23rd July

END OF TERM FOR RECEPTION – YEAR 6 - SCHOOL CLOSSES TODAY AT 12.15PM

(Summer Holidays: Thursday 24th July – Tuesday 2nd September 2025)

Holy Family Summer Camp: Thursday 24th July – Wednesday 6th August 2025

Wednesday 3rd September

SCHOOL CLOSED – INSET DAY

Thursday 4th September

Start of Advent Term for Reception – Year 6

Extra Curricular Activities

Please see attached, the leaflet for the Advent Term's (September – December 2025) Extra Curricular Activities.

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 Martin and Megan Stanczuk who have progressed to 7th Kyu in Karate.

Congratulations to Charlotte Chandler for progressing to the next level in her swimming lessons.

Congratulations to William Chandler for learning to ride his bike by himself without stabilizers.

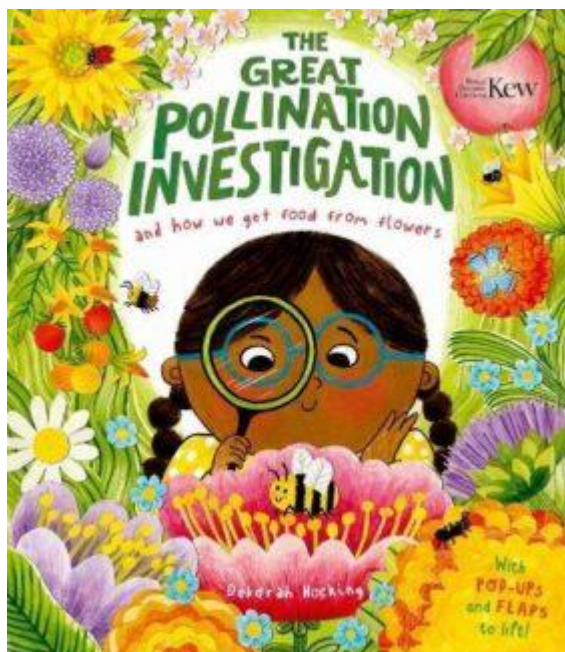
Hollie Forest (Year 6) has been recognised for her role as Faith Ambassador both at school and church. Through Hollie's compassion and support a young parishioner who struggled to attend children's liturgy is now confident enough to participate even when Hollie isn't there to support him. Well done, Hollie.

Attendance

Well done to Miss Dardis' Year 4 class and Mrs Fox's Year 5 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.

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: Deborah Hocking

Interest Age: 6-8

Reading Age: 6+

Why are flowers so bright and beautiful? Why do insects buzz around them? Is it true that flowers help make food, thanks to pollination? Let's investigate! Join in by lifting the flaps and discovering all about the parts of flowers, and about the insects they rely on. From flowers that turn into fruit, to the plants that animals eat to produce milk and eggs for us, there is a lot to discover about the links between flowers and food.

Summer Reading Challenge

This year's popular Summer Reading Challenges began on the 1st July and runs until 13th September, and the theme this year is Story Garden – Adventures in Nature and the Great Outdoors! 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 <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/> or by visiting your local library.

Year 5 Brazil Day

Friday 18th July will be Brazil Day for Year 5. On this day, Year 5 can come to school wearing brightly coloured clothing - preferably in green or yellow. However, please do not go to the expense of buying any new items of clothing for this day. Thank you.

Year 2 – Miss Macfarlane's Class

From Friday 18th July Miss Macfarlane's class will be operating from the AOC. This is in order to accommodate our new 2-year-old Nursery provision that, until we have our purpose-built new building, is best placed next to our 3-year-old Nursery for access to their small toilets and outdoor area. Thank you

PGL Residential May 2026 – Message for Current Year 5 Parents and Carers

Please can reply slips for the PGL Residential trip next May 2026 (when your child will be in Year 6) be returned asap. Thank you.

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 2025/2026:

2-year-old Nursery	Miss Herring	
3-year-old Nursery	Mrs Forrest (Mon-Thurs) and Miss Dardis(Fri)	
Reception	Mrs Scott (Tues-Fri) and Mrs Wilson (Mon)	Mrs Harris (Mon-Thurs) and Mrs Wilson (Fri)
Year 1	Mrs Hume	Mrs Hendy
Year 2	Mrs Powell	Miss Macfarlane
Year 3	Mrs Martinez (Mon/Tues) Mrs Kukla (Wed/Thurs/Fri)	Ms Iqbal
Year 4	Miss Dardis (Mon-Thurs) and Mrs Remfeld (Fri)	Mrs Green (Mon/Tues/Wed) Mrs Evans (Thurs/Fri)
Year 5	Mrs Fox	Mrs O'Reilly
Year 6	Mrs Ragg	Mrs Doyle (Mon/Tues) Miss Caswell (Wed/Thurs/Fri)

Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Uniform Sale - After School Wednesday 16th July & Friday 18th July

We will be selling jumpers, cardigans and PE jumpers for £3. Polo t-shirts and PE T-shirts will be £2.

There are plenty of white shirts, grey trousers, PE jogging bottoms, pinafores and summer dresses that are all free. So come and grab yourself a bargain and get ready for September!

Please bring cash (coins ideally!) whilst we arrange a contactless way to pay at future events.

KS2 Hot School Meals from September 2025

Please note that the cost of the optional hot school meals for children in KS2 (Years 3 – 6) will increase to £2.65 from September 2025. Please note the prices are set by the external provider and not by HFCS. Thank you.

Safety Reminders

Please ensure children who are cycling to school wear a bicycle helmet at all times.

This week, Mrs Fox delivered a Safety assembly to KS2 and this will be repeated with KS1 in an age-appropriate way next week. Every time I have seen KS2 children waiting in a line this week I have asked them what tips they know to help them stay safe. Children readily talked about Stranger Danger and Trusted Adults, never meeting anyone in person who they meet online and the importance of knowing what the different lifeguard flags indicate about safe and unsafe swimming areas on beaches. Assembly slides are attached to this newsletter. Please take a look and have conversations about keeping safe.

Next week, we will share some more detailed social media and online safety notices.

Thank you for reminding children of their role in keeping themselves safe.

Jubilee Pledge Day – Walking in Hope and Kindness

Thank you for your generous donations for Slough Foodbank. Today, every class completed an activity and made a pledge of the action they will take to demonstrate they are Pilgrims of Hope. You might like to ask them what their class agreed.

Thank you for your generosity and support.

Mrs O'Reilly

Before and After School Care for Nursery Open for Bookings

Now our 2-year-old provision is fully staffed from 7.45am-5.45pm we are in a position to advertise and take bookings for Rising Robins and Sleepy Sparrows. Nursery children who attend both our new 2-year-old Nursery and our existing 3-year-old Nursery are welcome to attend. Previously we have not accepted Nursery children into Early Birds or Late Owls because they operate out of our dining room and this is not the right setting for our youngest children. Our Rising Robins and Sleepy Sparrows will operate from our new 2-year-old provision. This is paid-for childcare rather than education. Our 3-year olds will join the 2-year-old room, if they are attending before or after school care.

It will be possible for parents to book places now to start from Monday 8th September. The cost for this childcare is greater than the existing Early Birds and Late Owls because the staff ratio will be 1 adult to a maximum of 5 children.

Please see the section on our website 'Before and After School Care' for details of how to book.

St Thomas Catholic Academy Trust News

At the end of this term, our current CEO, Joe Richardson, will be leaving his post following a location change for him and his family. The newly appointed CEO is Mark McLaughlin. We look forward to working with him.

Lost Property

As we near the end of this school year, please claim any missing items from the Lost Property container (by the metal gates outside main Reception leading to playground/Year 3 classrooms). The container will be emptied at the end of term and any unnamed items will be disposed of. Thank you.

Holiday Camp at Holy Family

To ensure that our staff:child ratios can be met, we have now closed bookings for the summer holiday camp at HFCS. Thank you to those parents and carers who have already booked place(s). Please note that charges are in the process of being added to ParentPay and we would ask you to regularly check your child's ParentPay account over the next few days so that payment can be made by the end of next week (Friday 18th July). A letter with final details will be sent out to those who have booked next week. Thank you.

Unauthorised School Absences – Penalty Notice

Please see the attached poster for more information. If you have any queries, please contact the school's Attendance Officer, Mrs Oakes at emma.oakes@hfcs.org.uk.

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	G- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ozf2qUoP/ytqxn0SD E- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/gwWqCpnV/e9kqguop F- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ZkLGb0LZ/Hhw2vdqc A https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/mpOiOmsH/OM977WSZ https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/0a5TBwaS/bdvmuqv2 https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/FNeyaqlS/7bWD61ND https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/051VsAWP/OCIBFWO https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/9Ca9fM73/lfMRS9GK
Mrs Scott	Ditties	SH- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/SEv79Qnt/c1D0BP2b CH- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/bRIIH9tA/WKz7iY1M TH- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/kaFE7Xs5/JK2Wx2bK NG- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/0GU0Tsc1/mzDPIIB8
Mrs Birch Mrs Keogh	Green Purple	AR- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ObCcNXUJ/5a0RZJ6a OR- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/UNIWEIDO/J6s3HJNE AIR- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/heo99ENd/ydSJITib IR- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/29xiPUaz/UyRZB0kZ
Mrs Wilson Mrs Hogg	Orange Grey	TION- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/JEDrNZZ2/5bYWwmWT TIOUS/CIOUS – https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/0vZBdqPa/hrbd0mcZ AU- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/mkZ7Vc5J/QGXRzdwv UE- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/gRJOYU0v/I8XBxVIL
Mrs Crow	Blue	TION- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/JEDrNZZ2/5bYWwmWT TIOUS/CIOUS – https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/0vZBdqPa/hrbd0mcZ ARE- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/xOr16K6S/nOLePV5d EA- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/r6e90CI7/kqRVRdHV

Mrs Hendy		A-E- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/r77V1nAg/O9xyTyx I-E- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/2gP1enlp/602DUrJK O-E- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/9xoGbNTV/jkhRyeWG U-E- https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/1pkHxSjd/CItImPYP
-----------	--	--