



Holy Family Catholic Primary School

Pentecost Term

Newsletter No.38

Friday 17th July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Despite this being our last full week in school, we have been as busy as ever, and children have enjoyed some lovely events.

On Tuesday, EYFS enjoyed Ark Farm visiting our school field, where they got a chance to engage with a variety of animals, including lambs, chickens and goats, as well as Dec the donkey and Gibali, the very friendly farm dog. The visit prompted lots of conversation and excellent questions from the children. Year 4 celebrated their history topic for the term – The Romans – by holding a Roman Day. The costumes looked fantastic, and the children enjoyed a range of creative activities throughout the day, such as designing and making mosaics, as well as playing Roman games. Year 1 also celebrated the end of their topic by holding UK Day on Wednesday. The children were dressed in red, white and blue, and enjoyed learning lots about England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland; they made Welsh love spoons and read the story of Finn McCool and the tale behind the creation of the Giant's Causeway.

On Wednesday, Year 5 visited Longridge, which is an activity centre near Marlow. They spent the day trying lots of new activities, including Dragon Boating, the climbing wall and Jacob's Ladder. Hopefully this have given them a taste of what they will experience next year on their residential trip. Our Nursery children held a Teddy Bears' Picnic on Thursday, which was adorable. Each child brought a favourite soft toy and enjoyed songs and games whilst enjoying their lunch with their teddies.

Yesterday, we received our final report from the Catholic Schools Inspectorate, following the visit from three inspectors this time last week. We are absolutely delighted to share that the inspectors deemed our school to be Outstanding in all areas of Catholic education and we are even more proud of the comments that the lead inspector has used to describe our school. We are grateful to our parents who responded so positively to the survey which was sent by inspectors; although we don't get to see the results of the survey, we were read some of the comments that you made, making us feel incredibly proud. The hard work of our children, staff and leaders has been recognised throughout the report, as well as the supportive and inclusive parental and parish communities that surround our school. Please take the time to read the attached report.

We ended our week today with a beautiful Leavers' Mass at Holy Family Church. Years 3-6 walked to join parish Mass this morning, led by Fr Tony. He spoke to our Year 6 children in particular, about the importance of looking back fondly at their time with us, but taking all they have learnt about being the best version possible of themselves forwards with them into their new schools. We were joined by a number of Year 6 parents too, in order to mark and celebrate this occasion.

The celebrations continue into new week for our Year 6 children, with their production performance to parents on Tuesday at 9am, here in school, and then on Tuesday evening,

back in the school hall for our Leavers' Party. Please ensure you have registered your attendance for the party on ParentPay.

As this is our final newsletter of the year, we would like to take the opportunity to say an enormous goodbye and thank you to three wonderful members of staff who are leaving us on Wednesday: Carole Gonoud, Bobby Keogh and Rose Kukla. Mrs Kukla (formally Miss Maini) has been teaching at Holy Family for ten years and leaves to start a job that will allow her to work more easily around family commitments; she has been a fantastic and much-loved teacher of many children during that time, and will be missed by us all. Mrs Keogh has been with us for 22 years, and has worked tirelessly as a teaching assistant with magical medical powers on first aid. She has worked with hundreds of children, teaching reading and helping children with speech and language, as well as handing out thousands of ice-packs. Mrs Gonoud started working here 26 years ago, when her own children were young and attending Holy Family. She started as a teaching assistant, making the move to be our cheerful receptionist a number of years ago. She has welcomed thousands of families and visitors through our doors, always giving a warm welcome and being the first port of call for people's queries. We wish Mrs Keogh and Mrs Gonoud both a happy, healthy retirement, and thank them for their dedicated service and positive impact they have had on the thousands of children and their families who they have supported. May God bless them both.

Next week will also mark the end of a very long and much-valued relationship with thirty-six of our Year 6 families, as the following families will be leaving HFCS:

Adhisayaraj, Ahuja, Antony Anburaj, Carvalho, Chojdak, Doyle, Fenton, Fernandes, Flynn, Gohil, Gregorczyk, Henriquez, Kolodziejczyk-Ornelas, Kwiatkowski, Nxumalo, Oakes, Pai, Prabhu, Rea-Pharo, Rebello, Remmer, Sealy, Shah, Singh (Reese), Singh (Dalmeet), Singh (Veer), Sirvaitis, Smyth, Somide, Strachan, Szlezak, Telezynski, Tijani, Wojcik, Woodward, Yuvaraj

A sincere and heartfelt thank you to our wonderful parent community for your continued support throughout the year. The many events, visits and enrichment opportunities we provide simply would not be possible without your encouragement, flexibility and willingness to work alongside us. Children achieve their very best when home and school work together, and we recognise that we ask a great deal of our families through the many extra-curricular activities, performances, trips and special events that take place across the year. We are incredibly proud of the breadth of opportunities we are able to offer our pupils, and we are grateful for the support that makes them possible.

I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to all of our staff for their dedication, professionalism and hard work throughout another busy year. Every day they show remarkable commitment and resilience as they support the learning and wellbeing of more than 30 children in each class, while navigating the many challenges that school life can bring and balancing their own personal responsibilities.

Finally, just a gentle reminder that school finishes for Nursery children next Tuesday (21st July), and Reception – Year 6 children finish at 12.15pm on Wednesday (22nd July).

Wishing all our families a lovely and restful summer – look forward to welcoming everyone back in September.

God bless

Mrs Benn

Diary Dates

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 Alicia Zdanowska who has been awarded a gold medal and special reward for being the Gymnast of the Term in her after-school gymnastics class.

Congratulations to Bryan Rodrigues on receiving a certificate for completing Music Stars Gold in his piano lessons.

Congratulations to Reese Singh for passing her Grade 3 acoustic guitar exams with Merit.

Congratulations to Daniel Jerry whose team Langley FC U9's won the Langley Carnival Cup finals last weekend. Daniel's team were the defending champions having won it last year as well.

Congratulations to Daniel Shah and Devante Romney on their latest achievement in football. The boys took part in the Junior Summer League and proudly won the competition with their football team.

Well done to Alicia, Bryan, Reese, Daniel J, Daniel S and Devante.

Weekly Sports Update

This week was a busy one for our sports teams, our Year 5 and Year 6 girls football team had their final against Langley Heritage. The girls have given it their all this season and it was so impressive to see their determination and hard work with every training session, match and

tournament. They finished in second place for the season, making the school and myself very proud.

Our Year 5 and Year 6 Netball team also played against Cippenham school winning 3-2. Well done to Mrs Lynch and the following girls: Leyla, Teya, Sophie, Lea, Clarissa, Charlotte and Kamila.

Well done all of you! Mr Holder

Attendance

Congratulations to Mrs Martinez and Mrs Kukla's Year 3 class for achieving the highest attendance this week (98.6%).

Summer Holiday Camp at HFCS

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 have now been added to ParentPay and we kindly ask you to make payment by Monday 20th July. A letter with final details has been sent out to those who have booked. Thank you.

Gate Closure Trail

Since 29th June, we have been closing the small pedestrian gate at 8:51am each morning. 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. The trial has been successful and we will adopt these timings from September 2026.

Wednesday Word

Teya Stacey and Sophie Loughman from the Year 6 Mission Team write for us this week:

Hello our names are Teya and Sophie. Although there wasn't any Wednesday Word this week we thought we could still write to you. The Wednesday Word is Growing. This reading is Matthew 13:24-30. Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seeds in the field. So the owner let them grow together until harvest time when the wheat could be separated from the weeds and then the wheat could be gathered into his barn".

The week's mission is to grow closer to God's love and goodness. A quote from Pope Francis was "we cannot grow up by ourselves; rather we journey and grow in a community and family". You could think of ways to grow closer to your family.

This will be our last Wednesday Word from all of our Mission Team. Hope you all have a great half term.

We are very sad that this is our last message and we feel very honoured to be a member of the Mission Team.

We are also lucky this week to have the Wednesday Word written by Luscious from a previous week (3rd July). Luscious writes:

The 3rd July Wednesday Word was Companion.

In this week's Wednesday Word, we learn that Jesus is the ultimate companion! He loves us so much that he stays with us every day! How cool is that? We also learn that Jesus gives us

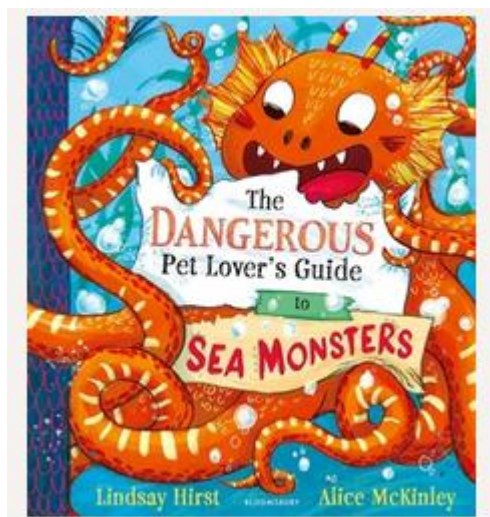
rest when we need it. All of this can be found in Matthew 11:25-30. We also remember that this is the year of Saint Francis of Assisi. As part of our Catholic prayers we say a special prayer every Wednesday Word, before we end with our St Francis prayer.

STCAT Trust Newsletter for Parents

Please see a copy of the STCAT July newsletter attached. The You Tube link for the STCAT end of year video is here: <https://youtu.be/iTx1gjeq-3A>.

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: Lindsay Hirst

Illustrator: Alice McKinley

Interest age: 4-7

A funny spoof guide to owning a pet, with detail-filled illustrations. A picture book to enjoy together.

Junior Librarians Wanted!

Children who are currently in Year 4 and 5 (Year 5 and Year 6 in September) can apply.

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

Application forms can be collected from Miss Macfarlane, 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. Parents/guardians can 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.

Year 6 Leavers' Events

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:



ParentPay Accounts

A polite reminder to please settle any outstanding balances on your child's ParentPay account prior to the end of this term. Thank you.

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.

Change in Slough Consortium of Grammar Schools' 11+ Test Provider from September 2027

Please see the attached letters (relevant to pupils in Year 4 and below) regarding a change in 11+ assessment provider for the Slough Consortium of Grammar Schools.

This change will apply to pupils who are currently in Year 4, who will transfer to secondary school in September 2028 and who will therefore be eligible to sit the 11+ entrance test in September 2027.

Please note that there is no change to the test provider for the 11+ examination taking place in September 2026, for pupils transferring to secondary school in September 2027.

Phonics

Please use the links below over the summer to help your child maintain the progress that they have made this year.

Special Friends

SH- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/payBK92P/C4qxSWIz>

CH- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/alsyVbIc/aZBQVXKd>

QU- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/7fFRIN3G/PIDz8hBO>

NG- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/MMYvxKvr/wFrzQ4y>

NK- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/uJlq9gor/DbvIRANd>

TH- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Q9OMQVak/A9qOer4N>

CK- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/tozuDAJP/0X1a5yhL>

SET 2

AY- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/HyzpqMTW/C37xAyJg>
EE- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/sd8c0YZx/uw9ywEGg>
IGH- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/f5AWi4Zr/Cfrh1Ha1>
OW- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/iVZtGTed/jZ1RBmDn>
OO- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/xIJrBlqF/JaB6Ye0I>
OO- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/00cVMOmq/I3heP4vT>
AR- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/tlMJTkM3/GhE9qzK7>
OR- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/arSeL5fB/sU38DbO0>
AIR- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/1jk3dns0/XEuBWvHE>
IR- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/yqxrKBSz/QuyQodmM>
OU- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/SxpHiDR2/fIUUcoL0>
OY- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/cPwEKxms/TmuPioWD>

SET 3

EA - <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ILDZ34YO/FI4sEW9N>
OI- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/c8oXdfXz/eNzagQbr>
A-E - <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/96Wag1Qz/griFf8kt>
I-E - <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ZmZV56L5/pdz8clud>
O-E - <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/4gTYSVXm/spog9DKT>
U-E - <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/cFnqctuW/dQo1GZjp>
AW- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/rSSm3HbC/99Z4SyZq>
ARE- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/etePak8t/C4G80Gr0>
UR- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/3t9V3jxQ/SwhyakmA>
ER- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/QmfCOWhp/3S4ID526>
OW- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Bfp82H3H/uIFSOKlQ>
AI- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Y22TtF5G/WyZr2z7D>
OA- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Bp5Ccd2F/NfnvJX2J>
EW- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/KSJO6HNP/vSVxpRZu>
IRE- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/TgdNP515/7YnuuEde>
EAR- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/NMDM3mMO/6YG1wzrz>
URE- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/QLsBoBxT/sFdJnF9K>
AU- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/LilgyKvN/CguXEU2R>
UE- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/83dFclD/EtIBpbSk>
IE- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/2ccji0Ye/LNzi1be7>
E-E- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/s5X35tpM/Zja8bt80>
E- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/PFV0kvHz/Y183B7R8>
WH- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/a48KK9Px/yxrnvu7v>
PH- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/kWDbTyNg/ju5tPm3X>
KN- <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/cFIU0QFS/9IfepGKL>
TION - <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/mRCpi0qG/WVuhzRb4>
TIOUS / CIOUS - <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/UIzggOR9/L8MfVm9L>