

# HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Diocese of  
Brentwood

Headteacher Mr P.O'Kane

## Newsletter 458 Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

It does not seem possible that we have almost reached the end of another academic year. We have one week left and are now busily making arrangements for a full return of pupils in September. Last week, the government published guidance on re-opening schools fully in September. Once we receive greater clarity around what schools can and cannot do, we will share with you more detailed arrangements on how the school day will look in Holy Family. I hope to be able to give you more information at the end of next week but please be prepared that it may be necessary to send further updates during the summer holidays. The most recent Government guidance for schools and parents outlining their plans for the autumn term can be found via this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>

### September 2020

At this point in time, we have planned to hold two teacher training days on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September (non-pupil days). On Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September all pupils in KS1 and KS2 should be back in school for a 'well-being' day (subject to further guidance). We feel it is very important that the children have an opportunity to share their experiences with their teachers and their friends, talk about things they continue to find stressful and devise coping strategies. It will be a time to reiterate for the children who they can talk to when they are feeling anxious and they will participate in a range of activities to ease them gently into school life. Children who have had a long period of time away from the usual daily school routine may need to re-establish skills such as listening to others, turn-taking, and concentration and may also have lots of thoughts and questions about their time away from school. Arrangements for the return of EYFS will be confirmed very shortly. The building work to restructure the EYFS Unit commences on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July, so once we know the schedule for this project we will be in a better position to update you.

**TEACHER HELLO VIDEOS** – As we have not been able to do any transition in school this term, the teachers thought it would be nice to extend a welcome to their September class by video. I uploaded the 'hello' video yesterday afternoon on the Whole School Class Dojo page - please share the video with your children.

Thank you to Mrs Lewins for co-ordinating the video for us.

### SEPTEMBER 2020 Staffing

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Nur	Mrs Fisher	Mrs Fisher	Mrs Monksfield	Mrs Fisher	Mrs Fisher
Rec					
Year 1	Mrs Lewins	Mrs Monksfield	Mrs Lewins	Mrs Lewins	Mrs Lewins
Year 2	Pam	Pam	Pam	Mrs Monksfield	Mrs Monksfield
Year 3	Vicky F	Vicky F	Vicky F	Vicky F	Vicky F
Year 4	Mrs Castle	Mrs Castle	Mrs Castle	Mrs Castle	Mrs Castle
Dec '20			Ms Tranah	Ms Tranah	Ms Tranah
Year 5	Mrs Mahon	Mrs Mahon	Mrs Mahon	Mrs Barratt	Mrs Barratt
Year 6	Mr Holmes	Mr Holmes	Mr Holmes	Mr Holmes	Mr Holmes

### Class Zoom Meetings

The class zoom meetings this week have been a resounding success. The children's smiles said it all!

**Y3 Class Zoom meeting** will be held by Mrs Wall and Mrs Mahon on **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July at 3:30pm.**

Some teachers are hoping to arrange additional zoom meetings for their classes, especially for children who missed taking part in the previous class zoom meetings. Details will be posted on the class dojo pages on Monday.



### EYFS Pirate Day

Thank you to Mrs Fisher and her team of wonderful LSAs who organised the PIRATE DAY in school for our youngest children. The children looked terrific. Photos will be uploaded onto Tapestry for EYFS parents and carers to view. Thank you Mrs Fisher for making the day such a success and thank you to the families who took part at home as well.



### Y6 Leavers Mass

Final preparations for our Year 6 Leavers' are well underway. This morning I received an e-mail from Fr Eduard to confirm that he is happy to celebrate Mass in school for our Y6 children at 9:30am on Wednesday 15th July. Although we would love to invite parents and parishioners, it will not be possible at this time due to the restrictions of social distancing.



**Congratulations to Lizzy, Ankush and Layla for achieving the Talent for Writing Award this week. Well done!**



**THANK YOU** to all who continue to send us wonderful photos of all the home-learning taking place. At the very start of school closure, I promised to publish as many photos as possible. It is still a work in progress! Here are some of the photos teachers have sent me this week.



## Goodbye and Thank you to Mr O’Kane

It is always very important to say thank you, so I’d like to say a big **THANK YOU** to all the children who have already submitted a message to thank Mr O’Kane for his years of service to our school. If your child has not already done so, please encourage them to write a short message to Mr O’Kane - sharing a special memory of him, or wishing him all the best for the future. I uploaded some outlines for children to use on Parentmail, but please feel free to create your own outline designs. Messages and artwork should be uploaded via Class Dojo to your child’s teacher, or left at the office hatch in the school foyer. I have extended the deadline until **Tuesday 14th July** so that more children can be part of it. All the messages will be collated and presented in an album to Mr O’Kane, date to be confirmed. Please remind your child to put their name on their work.

This coming week will be the last time teachers will upload powerpoints and worksheets for home learning. Please use the recommended websites and continue to log onto: **My Maths, TTRockstars and Bug Club**

Regular daily lessons - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

Over 180 video lessons each week on National Oak Academy - <https://www.thenational.academy/>

Storytime daily on Monster phonics <http://bit.ly/3cvcgIM>

Lonely Planet - <https://www.lonelyplanet.com/kids/activities>

Why not visit the Maths Factor website created by Carole Vorderman <https://www.themathsfactor.com/>

Change4life - <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/activities>

## ONLINE SAFETY

With home learning taking place online and more free time spent on devices, it is so important that children are safe. The NSPCC have information on how to set up parental controls on a range of different devices and apps. Follow the link below for more information.

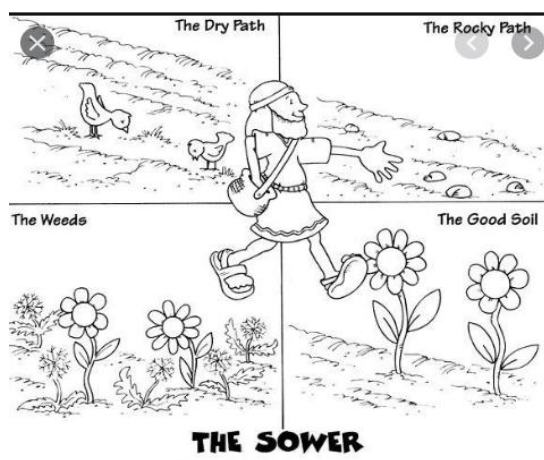
<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>

## The gospel this weekend is about a farmer who went out to plant some seeds in the soil. Matthew 13: 1-23

A farmer went out to sow his seed. Some fell on the hard path and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on soil that was full of rocks. The seeds started to sprout and grow the next day. However, there was little soil, so the plants didn’t put down roots which would help them to become strong and healthy. In the afternoon, the sun was very hot so these plants withered and died.

Other seeds fell on soil full of weeds and thorns. The weeds and thorns grew taller than the plants from the seeds, so they choked the plants.

Finally, some seeds fell on the good soil that had been ploughed, fertilized and weeded to make a good place for the seed to grow. Those seeds made healthy plants and produced good fruit.



### What lesson do we learn from the Gospel?

The seed that the sower was planting in the story represents the teachings of God's Word. Our heart represents the soil where the sower planted the seeds.

**Dear God, help us to be like the good soil.**

**Help us to listen to your Word and always be the boys and girls you want us to be. Amen.**

Next week will be the last week of bubbles in school and then, as a staff, we will be spending time getting ready for September and having a well-earned break. It has certainly been a very different year for us all and not one that any of us could have envisaged. Throughout this time, the sense of community I have felt at Holy Family has never been stronger. Thank you to everyone for all your support.

Take care and stay safe.

God bless,

Mrs Hurley [senco@holyfamily.essex.sch.uk](mailto:senco@holyfamily.essex.sch.uk)

**Parish Contact Details**

**Fr Eduard is once again celebrating Mass in Holy Family Church and in St Thomas More Church in Hadleigh.**

**Holy Family Catholic Church,**

661 High Road, Benfleet, SS7 6SF

[www.holyfamily-church.co.uk](http://www.holyfamily-church.co.uk)

**Parish Priest:** Fr Eduard Fartan,

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