



# HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher Mr P.O'Kane

## Newsletter 351 Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2017

During Monday morning's assembly, we welcomed Stephen Parker, Education Officer from Essex Fire and Rescue Service to talk to the children about 'Summer Safety'. Stephen's presentation was very informative but also entertaining and covered topics from wearing sunscreen to the more dangerous issues of water safety and the hazards of playing near a railway line. The children responded well to Stephen's questions. Hopefully the assembly will help them to make the right choices over the summer holidays.



As promised, here are some photos of Year 3's trip to Chalkwell beach last Friday:



And Year 4's class assembly:



On Tuesday afternoon, Year 6, accompanied by Miss Fordham and Mrs Clifton, headed to The Deanes School to attend 'Crucial Crew' This is an event in which Holy Family has always taken part because the children learn some valuable life skills. The sessions covered aspects of safety related topics including fire, water and road safety, 999 calls and stranger danger advice.

On Wednesday morning selected children from KS1 attended their Catholic Sports competition at St Teresa's Catholic Primary School. The team was not placed but everyone tried their best and that is all that we can ask of the children. Thank you to the parents who came to support the school and to the staff who accompanied the children.

On Thursday morning it was the turn of our KS2 to attend their Catholic Sports at St Thomas More High School in Westcliff. Considering the fact that we are a small one-form entry school, we finished a creditable 5<sup>th</sup> out of 8 schools—apparently we were just a few points away from being placed third overall. Several children returned to school with medals; some returned with medals and new Catholic deanery records.

Jessica, Y6 won gold in the girls' long-jump—she also set a new record. The Year 5 boys' relay team (Cailen, Joshua, Samuel and Ellis) also set a new record and won gold. Maya came 1<sup>st</sup> in the Y6 girls' sprint; Zeneida came 3<sup>rd</sup> in the javelin and the Y6 girls' relay was won by Maya, Leah, Zeneida and Elle. Joshua, Y5 received bronze in the long distance race, whilst Daragh, Y5 also won bronze for the ball throw. Cailen won an individual gold in the sprint to accompany his relay gold. Congratulations also to Dylan, Y4 for winning gold in the long jump. Well done to all the team for competing so well. Thank you to staff and parents who supported the team. We look forward to some more medals on Tuesday at the local District Sports.

Whilst the older children were out of school, the Nursery Class held their sports morning on the school field. The children competed in egg & spoon, shopping race and a running race. Thanks to everyone who came along and thank you to the Nursery staff for organising the morning.



The school seemed eerily empty today with so many children out on trips and visits—Year 6 to Westcliff to watch **Gangsta' Granny** at the Cliffs; Year 5 to King John for a taster day; Year 3 to St Bernard's for a Eucharist day.

**End of Year Reports** Reports will go out on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July. Please complete and return your child's report reply slip that will accompany the report.

**Reception Class Pirate Day** In lieu of a trip out of school, Reception Class will enjoy a Pirate Day in school on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July. Thank you to everyone who has already sent in £5.00 towards the cost of the day. If you haven't already done so, please send your £5.00 contribution into Mrs Fisher or the school office.

**Family Fun Day/Cake Sale/Children's Raffle** The PGSA Family Fun Day takes place on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July, 1.00pm—4.00pm. Please come along and make the day a great success. As part of the fundraising effort for the Fun Day, the children's cake sale will take place in school on Friday morning followed by the draw for the children's raffle. Raffle tickets are on sale priced £0.10p each—prizes are on display in the school hall. We ask each child to bring in some cakes/buns on Friday morning that the Year 6 children will sell; we also ask the children to bring in a named container for their purchases.

**School dinner payments weeks beginning Monday 10<sup>th</sup> and Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July** With effect from Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July, all school meals should be paid for in advance. In addition, if your child would like a school dinner in the last week of term, the dinner must be paid for by **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July**. No child will be able to have a school dinner during the last week of term unless it has already been paid for. Any credits will be carried over to the next academic year or in the case of Year 6 be given a refund. No arrears will be permitted. We should appreciate your co-operation in this matter as an inordinate amount of time is spent by the ladies in the office on chasing payment for meals which have been taken but not paid for! Thank you.

**School dinners for Juniors** A reminder to Year 2 parents that when your child enters Year 3, you are required to pay for school dinners at a cost of £2.20 in advance or on the day. However, if you think that your child may qualify for free school meals, all details are available on the Essex County Council website [www.essex.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](http://www.essex.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals)

**Open Afternoon** Parents are warmly invited to come into school on the afternoon of this Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July (1.30—3.00pm) to go through their child's work with their child. Once you and your child have gone through the books, you are welcome to take your child home early. Please complete and return the slip located at the end of this week's newsletter.

**Children's Art Exhibition** A message from Mrs Impey that there will be an exhibition of the children's art work to view in the hall after school each day next week. Come and see the amazing work the children have carried out in their art lessons; the quality of some of the artwork is incredible!

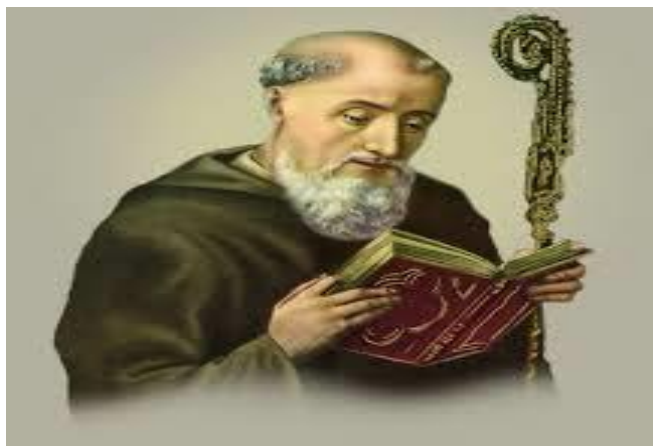
**September 2017 Reception Class** There are a limited number of places still available for the September 2017 intake—perhaps you have a friend or relative whose child is due to start school in September 2017 who would like to have a place at Holy Family. Please contact the school office in the first instance for further details.

**Swimming Contributions** Thank you to everyone who has sent in voluntary donations to help meet the costs of our swimming pool and the provision of lessons. If you haven't yet made a donation towards the costs of swimming, the ladies in the school office will be happy to receive

any you wish to give before the end of term. Mr Smith had to arrange for a new pump to be fitted this week at a cost of £800—maintaining the pool is not cheap!

**Emails to parents** Our first choice of communication to parents and carers is by text message. However, in a cost cutting measure, we will now be using **email** (which is free on Parentmail) in the first instance so we would ask parents to check their emails regularly. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

**Saint of the week** Many of us have heard of, or read about the Battle of Monte Cassino in 1944. The monastery at the top of the famous hill was founded by St Benedict of Nursia, the father of Western Monasticism, in around 525 A.D. He died at Monte Cassino and was named Patron Protector of Europe in 1964 by Pope Paul VI. He is also the patron saint of speleologists (cave explorers). His Feast Day will be marked on Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> July.



**Attendance** N2 90% RF 92.8% 1F 93.3% 2T 90.7% 3W 83% 4D 98% 5LB 99.3% 6F 97%  
Well done to Year 5 for best attendance once again last week.

Mr P. O’Kane

Headteacher

### **Open Afternoon**

Please complete the slip below and return it to the school office if you wish to attend the Open Afternoon to view your child’s work.

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I \_\_\_\_\_ would like to attend Open Afternoon on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July, 1.30pm—3.00pm to view the work of my child(ren) in Year(s)\_\_\_\_\_

If you intend to take your child home early on Open Afternoon, please sign below and return to the school office.

I \_\_\_\_\_ would like to take my child(ren) home early when I have finished viewing their work

## Diary Dates

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> July   | Year 2 trip to Wat Tyler Park                   |
| Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> July  | KS2 District Sports The Deanes School           |
| Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> July   | District Swimming Gala (Y4—6)                   |
| Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> July   | Cake Sale & Children's Raffle                   |
| Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> July   | Year 2 class assembly 11.00am                   |
| Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> July   | PGSA Family Fun Day 1.00 – 4.00pm               |
| Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> July   | Open Afternoon, 1.30—3.00pm                     |
| Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> July  | Year 6 class assembly 2.30pm                    |
| Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> July   | Year 6 Leavers' Mass, 7.00pm Holy Family Church |
| Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> September                                       | Non-pupil Day                                   |
| Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September                                      | Non-pupil Day                                   |
| Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September                                    | First Day of New School Year (Years 1—6)        |
| Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October  | Non-pupil Day                                   |
| Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October—Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October        | Autumn Half-term Break                          |
| Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December                                    | Last Day in School 2017                         |
| Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December—Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2018 | Christmas Holidays                              |
| Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January 2018                                   | Non-pupil Day                                   |
| Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2018                                 | First Day of Spring Term 2018                   |
| Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> February—Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2018   | Year 6 Danbury Residential                      |
| Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> February—Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2018 | Spring Half-term Break                          |