



HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Kents Hill Road, Benfleet, Essex SS7 5PX
Telephone: 01268 792231 Fax: 01268 759274
Email: admin@holyfamily.essex.sch.uk
www.holyfamily.essex.sch.uk



Diocese of
Brentwood

Headteacher Mr P.O'Kane

Newsletter 433 Friday 11th October 2019

Thank you so much to everyone who supported our Harvest collection and our Harvest Mass last Sunday. All the donations of food, drink and toiletries will be passed on to the families currently living in Basildon Women's Refuge. I know that your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Thanks also, for all the full CAFOD envelopes that have come back to school. CAFOD envelopes can still be returned to school next week.



It has also been lovely to see the pile of shoeboxes grow bigger each day. Dexter from the Jermaine Defoe Foundation will collect our school's shoeboxes on Friday 25th October, so there is still time to fill a shoebox and leave it in school before that date. Thank you for all the kindness you have shown so far.

As part of our RE programme of study, Come & See, the children have been learning about Judaism. Much of our Christian faith is based around Jewish traditions and teachings, so it is important that the children learn about Judaism each year as part of their RE work. I have thoroughly enjoyed leading Judaism assemblies this week that even included an attempt at dancing to Hava Nagila!



For the remainder of October, our whole school assemblies will focus on Black History Month and October as the month of the Holy Rosary.



We have now presented the Year 6 House Captain and School Councillor badges to our newly elected pupils:

This year's House Captains are: St Mary's: Georgia and Oliver ; St John Bosco: Daisy and Lemuel ; St Thomas More: Emma and Bradley; St Joseph's: Francesca and Harry.

The School Councillors are: 1F Elizabeth and Logan 2T Abiraam and Holly and ; 3W Ronny and Elsie ; 4LB Ronan and Niamh ; 5H Bailey and Joseph and ; 6F Evie and Ankush.

Clubs in school Thank you to all the parents and carers who have contacted the school about clubs for their children. An email will be sent to confirm whether your child has a place in their requested club. We are pleased to announce that the school netball squads will recommence training on Wednesdays



after school with Mrs Joadey Chapman, a local netball coach. Some of our Year 6 netballers had an opportunity to meet Mrs Chapman yesterday—they made a very good first impression!

As reported in a previous newsletter, we will be linking up with the Castle Point & Rochford Schools Sport Partnership (CPRSSP) based at the Deanes School to offer a variety of after-school clubs. We are still waiting on final confirmation of the offer from CPRSSP/Deanes.

Library Visits Children from Years 1 and 3 walked to South Benfleet library today. Thank you to the staff who organised the visits and the parents and grandparents who gave up their time to accompany the children on the walk. Miss Furby was able to send me a few pictures of the Year 1 pupils enjoying all that the library has to offer.



School Uniform The autumn weather seems to have set in, so all children should wear their winter uniform to school. At this time of the year, children should also wear a coat to school which should be plain navy blue or black. The school community is rightly proud of our smart, neat uniform and I would like to thank the overwhelming majority of parents and pupils that support our uniform policy.

This is our winter uniform list:

BOYS - WINTER:

- Grey Trousers or Shorts (not black)
- Black Shoes (not trainers)
- Grey Socks
- School Tie*
- Jumper*
- White Shirt
- Plain Navy or Plain Black Coat or Jacket **

GIRLS - WINTER:

- Navy Skirt or Pinafore
- Black Shoes (not trainers)
- White Socks or Black/Navy Tights
- School Tie*
- Cardigan*
- Plain Navy or Plain Black Coat or Jacket **

* Jumpers, cardigans and ties can be purchased from Penn UK, Kents Hill Road, Benfleet.

** Plain navy or black winter coats can be purchased from a wide variety of shops and online retailers—they should not have prominent logos or branding.

Children may wear a wristwatch, but no other jewellery is permissible, such as earrings or studs.

If you have any queries about the school uniform please do not hesitate to speak to the ladies in the office who will be happy to advise you.

PGSA The PGSA held their first meeting of this academic year on Wednesday evening which included an AGM. Mr Richard Summerscales has stepped down as chairman of the PGSA and Mr Alan Caulfield has taken on the role. Mrs Rita Sopp and Mrs Sarah Poth are happy to continue as treasurer and secretary. I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has worked so hard over the past few years to

organise events that bring children and their families together, whilst at the same time raising vital funds for the school.

There was a lot of discussion about this year's Christmas Bazaar. It was agreed that this year's event will be on Saturday 30th November from 1.00—4.00 pm and not on Friday 29th November after school. This decision was taken due to the fact that a significant number of volunteers work on Fridays. The PGSA desperately needs confirmed offers of help and support for the Christmas Bazaar. If there is not enough practical support, it is likely that the Christmas Bazaar will be a significantly smaller event along the lines of a Christmas Fayre. The PGSA has booked an inflatable snow globe for this year's event which will be a new attraction. All the PGSA volunteers are parents, grandparents, carers, staff members and governors who give of their time freely—please do think about joining in to spread the load.

The PGSA wish to raise funds for the purchase of new interactive whiteboards for the classrooms; they would also like to buy a defibrillator for the school. The next PGSA meeting will be in the school hall at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 6th November. There will be a Strictly Holy Family event on Saturday 16th November in the school hall, 4.00—6.00 pm. This is a family event, so you and your child can come along for some professional dance tuition! There is a Holy Family PGSA Facebook page that has details of PGSA events.

School Nurse Louise Skelcher, our school nurse, will be in school on the following Wednesday afternoons from 2.30-3.30pm to help with any concerns you may have about your child: 16th October; 23rd October; 6th November; 13th November; 20th November; 27th November

Piano Lessons There are still spaces for piano lessons at school with Essex Music Services. The lessons take place during the school day and last 15 minutes at a cost of £8.25 per lesson. The children will have 10 lessons each term. If you would like your child to begin lessons please leave their name at the school office. Places will be allocated on a "first come first served basis" with a waiting list after that. Essex Music Services offer tuition vouchers covering 66% of the cost of the fees to low-income families. Information about the vouchers can be found at tuition.vouchers@essex.gov.uk



Aldi Kit for Schools Thank you for all the Team GB stickers that have come into school already. I'm sure we can all make this a very successful campaign and obtain some PE equipment—we may even win the prize draw and receive £20 000. We have filled one poster already and we are well on the way to completing a second.

London Marathon 2020 Brentwood Catholic Children's Society has a number of Gold Bond Charity places for runners in the LONDON MARATHON taking place on SUNDAY 26th April 2020. If you are an experienced runner or someone who would value the opportunity to participate in this renowned event please contact Libby Phillips for further details on 01268 784544 / lphillips@bccs.org.uk. The closing date for completed applications is Friday 15th November and please note that there is a minimum sponsorship requirement of £1600 (excluding Gift Aid). If you have been lucky enough to secure your own running place through the ballot, we would invite you to join us and run for Brentwood Catholic Children's Society. The London Marathon is a unique opportunity to raise much needed funds for the Diocesan Children's Society and perhaps achieve a lifetime ambition at the same time.

October—Month of the Rosary

Throughout October, Catholics have traditionally prayed the Rosary. It is a contemplative form of prayer that allows you to think about the great mysteries of our faith. Archbishop Fulton Sheen said, "*The rosary is the book of the blind, where souls see and there enact the greatest drama of love the world has ever known; it is the book of the simple, which initiates them into mysteries and knowledge more satisfying than the education of other men; it is the book of the aged, whose eyes close upon the shadow of this world, and open on the substance of the next. The power of the rosary is beyond description.*"

Please take time to pray the Rosary with your children throughout October. I know many children receive Rosary beads as gifts, especially around the time of their Baptism or First Holy Communion—October is an ideal time for your children to use their Rosary.



Our Lady of the Rosary



A Rosary



A Nun Making Rosaries

Thought for the week "*If I had an army to say the Rosary, I could conquer the world.*" Pope Pius IX

Attendance Nursery class 94.7% RF 98.4% 1F 99.1% 2T 91.9% 3W 96.4% 4LB 92.8% 5H 98.7% 6M 97.2% Well done to Year 1 for best attendance last week.

Parish Contact Details

Holy Family Catholic Church, 661 High Road, Benfleet, SS7 6SF

www.holyfamily-church.co.uk

Parish Priest: Fr Eduard Fartan,

eduard.fartan@yahoo.com

priest@holyfamily-church.org

Parish Secretary: Mrs Clare Dempsey

office@holyfamily-church.org

Telephone: 01268 792082 or 01268 799649

Mr P. O’Kane Headteacher

Diary Dates

Wednesday 16th October

World Food Day

Thursday 17th October

African Dance Day

Friday 18th October

Year 1 Class Assembly 9.15 am

Tuesday 22nd October

Parent Contact 3.15—5.45 pm

Thursday 24th October

Parent Contact 5.00—7.30 pm

Thursday 24th October

Last Day for Shoebox Appeal

Thursday 24th October

Flu Immunisation Day

Friday 25th October

Non-Pupil Day 3

Monday 26th October—Friday 1st November

Autumn Half-Term Break

Monday 4th November

All Pupils Return to School

Tuesday 5 th November	Sponsored Times Tables Challenge
Wednesday 6 th November	PGSA meeting, 7.30 pm
Friday 8 th November	Year 6 Class Assembly 9.15 am (Remembrance)
Sunday 10 th November	Remembrance Sunday
Monday 11 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Tuesday 12 th November	Online Applications for September 2020 Reception Places Open
Thursday 14 th November	Open Day (September 2020 Admissions)
Saturday 16 th November	PGSA Strictly Holy Family, 4.00—6.00 pm
Friday 15 th November	BBC Children in Need Day
Thursday 21 st November	Year 4 Trip Hadleigh Park
Friday 22 nd November	Leigh on Sea Music Festival (Choir Only)
Tuesday 26 th November	Year 6 Trip Wat Tyler Park (WWII & Evacuation)
Friday 29 th November	Children's Cake Sale & Raffle
Saturday 30 th November	PGSA Christmas Bazaar 1.00—4.00 pm
Sunday 1 st December	1 st Sunday of Advent
Friday 6 th December	Christmas Nativity & Concert Dress Rehearsal
Monday 9 th December	Christmas Nativity & Concert 1.30 pm
Tuesday 10 th December	Christmas Nativity & Concert 1.30 pm
Wednesday 11 th December	Christmas Nativity & Concert 1.30 pm
Thursday 12 th December	KS2 Children Walk to Church am
Thursday 12 th December	KS2 Christmas Concert Holy Family Church 7.00 pm
Wednesday 18 th December	Christingle Service 2.30 pm
Thursday 19 th December	Christmas Dinner Day
Friday 20 th December—Friday 3 rd January 2020	Christmas Holidays
Monday 6 th January 2020	All Pupils Return to School
Friday 10 th January 2020	Whole School Pantomime Trip
Wednesday 15 th January	Online Applications for September 2020 Reception Places Close
Monday 10 th February—Friday 14 th February 2020	Year 6 Residential Trip tbc
Monday 17 th February—Friday 21 st February	Spring Half-Term Break
Monday 24 th February 2020	All Pupils Return to School
Sunday 5 th April 2020	Palm/Passion Sunday—Start of Holy Week
Monday 6 th April—Friday 17 th April 2020	Easter Holidays
Thursday 9 th April 2020	Maundy/Holy Thursday
Friday 10 th April 2020	Good Friday
Sunday 12 th April 2020	Easter Sunday
Monday 20 th April 2020	Pupils Return to School
Friday 8 th May 2020	75 th Anniversary of VE Day—Public Holiday
Monday 11 th May	KS2 (Year 6) SATs Week
Monday 25 th May—Friday 29 th May 2020	Summer Half-Term Break
Monday 1 st June 2020	Non-Pupil Day 4
Tuesday 2 nd June 2020	Pupils Return to School
Tuesday 21 st July 2020	Final School Day of Academic Year
Wednesday 22 nd July 2020	Non-Pupil Day 5