



HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher Mr P.O'Kane

Newsletter 303 Friday 6th May 2016

This week we have all enjoyed the wonderful weather and it has been lovely to see the children taking advantage of the playing field at break and lunchtime. Obviously if this weather continues, please ensure that your child has a hat to protect them from the sun and also apply sun cream before school.

Mrs Hurley and Year 4 led this morning's assembly on the theme of Pentecost—the coming of the Holy Spirit. Through poetry, drama, dance, song and prayer, the children helped us all to understand that allowing the Holy Spirit into our hearts will enable to make the right choices in life. They reminded us how Saul converted to Paul after Jesus put the Holy Spirit into his heart on the road to Damascus. It was a vibrant, colourful assembly—the Holy Spirit was clearly moving through the hall.

Tomorrow, some of our children will be making their First Holy Communion at Holy Family Church. Please remember them in your prayers. During this morning's assembly, we presented each of the First Communicants with a card and prayed for them.



Summer Fete

The parish Development Fund Committee has organised a Summer Fete each year for many decades. Unfortunately, the Development Fund Committee has not been able to organise a fete for this year. School staff are very keen to organise an event that would replace the Summer Fete (for this year at least or maybe in the future as well) that would be enjoyable for children and parents. This would also be a good opportunity to establish a Parents' Association similar to those found in other schools. We have provisionally scheduled Saturday 16th July as

the date for the event. We plan to have a selection of inflatables and children will be able to purchase a wrist band that will allow them access to the inflatables throughout the afternoon. Mrs Lewins and Mrs Hunter will be holding a meeting very soon—I'm sure there are lots of parents who would love to get involved with fundraising and organising events for the children. More details to follow.

School Uniform

Children, parents and staff at Holy Family have always been extremely proud of our school uniform and the overwhelming majority of children and parents support the school in maintaining our dress code. Whenever Holy Family children participate in events outside school, comments are always made about how smart they look. Therefore it is saddening to see quite a few non-standard items of uniform creeping into the school.

Our school uniform expectations are set out below:

BOYS - WINTER:

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

GIRLS - WINTER:

Navy Skirt or Tunic
Black Shoes
White Socks or Black/Navy Tights
School Tie*
Cardigan*
White Shirt/Blouse
Plain Navy or Black Coat or Jacket

BOYS – SUMMER:

Grey Trousers or Shorts (not black)
White Polo Shirt with School Logo
Black Shoes
Grey Socks
Navy Blazer (optional)
Blazer Badge*
Jumper*

GIRLS – SUMMER:

Summer Dress - Pink Check
Black Shoes
White Socks
Navy Blazer (optional)
Blazer Badge*
Cardigan*

For P.E.

PE Bag*
Black Plimsolls and/or Trainers
White T-Shirt with School Logo
Navy Shorts
Sweatshirt

For P.E.

PE Bag*
Black Plimsolls and/or Trainers
White T-Shirt with School Logo
Navy Shorts
Sweatshirt

April – July

Swimming Trunks - Black or Navy

Swimming Cap*
Towel

April-July

Swimming Costume - One Piece
Black or Navy
Swimming Cap*
Towel

Thank you for your continued support of our uniform standards. As the weather has improved dramatically, all children should come to school in summer uniform from Monday onwards.

Parking outside school

I was saddened to be informed that a Holy Family parent and a local resident had an altercation the other morning because of a parking issue. Please, please, please be considerate when you park. Holy Family is no different from any other school in that it was built in a time when there was less car ownership and the majority of children walked to school. Parking disputes occur outside all schools, but we can all minimise the opportunity for conflict by parking safely, responsibly and legally.

Swimming Money

If you are still to pay for swimming lessons for your child, please send the money in as soon as possible. We feel that £25.00 for 10 swimming lessons represents excellent value for money. Thank you. We are monitoring the participation rates for swimming lessons, and as stated last week, if a number of parents continue to refuse to allow their children to swim during curriculum time, it could mean the end of the school swimming pool and summer term swimming lessons for all.

Bug Club

Mrs Hurley and Mrs Wall have been rolling out a free trial of Bug Club. Bug Club is a reading resource that gives children access to hundreds of online books. I know that some children have already logged on at home and have read some books, including a boy who is a reluctant reader normally. Please help your child to log-in if they are experiencing difficulty with the system. Mrs Wall and Mrs Hurley will be happy to answer any queries you may have.



Family Day—Holy Family Church

Fr Eduard is planning to hold a Family Day on Saturday 14th May at Holy Family Church. There will be Mass at 9.00am followed by confessions until 10.00am. He hopes that representatives of various parish groups will be on hand in the hall to talk about their work in the parish; there will be entertainment from Jackie Poth and members of the Young Drama Group and Wednesday Players. Mrs Butteriss will be hosting Italian cookery lessons for anyone aged 9+. There will be a sung Mass at 6.00pm, followed by refreshments. Further details from Fr Eduard or the parish office. If you would like to sign up for cookery with Mrs Butteriss or you can help her in any way on the day please email her at: larabutteriss@hotmail.com Please do your best to support Fr Eduard as he tries to bring all in the parish community closer together.

School Health

Drop- in service

Any parents with health and developmental concerns about their children may drop in to the Central Canvey Primary Care Centre, Long Road, Canvey Island SS8 OJA. They are able to perform hearing tests and no appointment is necessary.

The drop-in clinic dates are: 19th May; 16th and 30th June; 14th July.

For more in-depth problems please contact the clinic directly on 01268 686041 for an appointment with the school nurse.

House Points

Well done to St Thomas More (red team) who were the winners of the house points competition last week with 491 points.

Attendance

RW 95% 1C 100% 2FL 96.3% 3L 99.7% 4H 95.3% 5B 98.5% 6I 93.1%. Well done to Year 6 for best attendance last week.

Saint of the Week

Tomorrow is the Feast Day of St Rose Venerini who died at the age of 72 on 7th May 1728. St Rose was a pioneer in the field of education for women and girls, despite immense opposition from many within the establishment. By the time of her death, she had opened over 40 schools and had founded an institute to train women teachers. It was the same pioneering spirit that led the nuns to found Holy Family and similar schools all around the world.



Midday Assistant

We are looking to appoint two Midday Assistants who enjoy working with children to join our friendly team of midday staff. If you, a family member or friend is interested please contact Maxine Henderson at the school office for further details.

Motto: **Merciful like the Father**

The 6.30pm Mass on Sunday May 8th at Brentwood Cathedral is being held to welcome those trapped by any destructive addiction or dependency.

From

Mr P O'Kane
Headteacher

Diary Dates

Saturday 7 th May	First Holy Communion, Holy Family Church
Monday 9 th – Friday 13 th May	KS2 SATS Week
Saturday 14 th May	Family Day—Holy Family Church (Fr Eduard)
Thursday 19 th May	Sponsored Bounce for School Funds
Friday 20 th May	Italian Cookery, Years 5 & 6 with Mrs Butteriss
Tuesday 24 th May	NFER Pilot Tests (Y6)
Wednesday 25 th May	School photographer—class photos only.
Thursday 26 th May	Reception & KS1 Cross Country Running
Friday 27 th May	Crowning of Our Lady
Monday 30 th May—Friday 3 rd June	Summer Half-Term Holiday
Monday 13 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Week
Tuesday 14 th June	Meeting for New Parents—Reception 2016/17
Wednesday 15 th June	Year 3 Trip to Layer Marney
Thursday 16 th June	Full Governing Body Meeting
Monday 20 th June	St Bernard's & St Thomas More Information Session for Year 5 Parents, 3.30pm
Wednesday 22 nd June	Sports Morning 9.30 am
Wednesday 22 nd June	Year 6 Deanery Mass 2.00pm
Thursday 23 rd June	Catholic Schools Sports KS1
Monday 27 th June	Governors' Finance & Premises Meeting
Tuesday 28 th June	Induction Day (1) King John & Appleton
Wednesday 29 th June	Year 1 & 2 Trip to Barleylands

Wednesday 29 th June	Induction Day (2) King John & Appleton
Thursday 30 th June	Year 5 Bikeability (1)
Thursday 30 th June	Induction Day (1) St Bernard's, St Thomas More, Westcliff for Boys & Girls
Friday 1 st July	Non-pupil day
Friday 1 st July	Induction Day (2) St Bernard's, St Thomas More, Westcliff for Boys & Girls
Friday 1 st July	Induction Day Southend High School for Boys & Girls
Monday 4 th July	Year 5 Bikeability (2)
Tuesday 5 th July	Year 5 Day to St Bernard's & St Thomas More
Wednesday 6 th July	South Essex Archery Tournament
Wednesday 6 th July	Year 5 Bikeability (3)
Wednesday 6 th July	St Bernard's Open Evening
Thursday 7 th July	Catholic Schools Sports KS2
Thursday 7 th July	St Thomas More Open Evening
Friday 8 th July	Year 5 Bikeability (4)
Monday 11 th July	Reception 2016/17 Induction 1
Tuesday 12 th July	Reception 2016/17 Induction 2
Wednesday 13 th July	BATIC Schools Swimming Gala pm
Saturday 16 th July	Inflatable Fun Day (tbc)
Friday 22 nd July	Last School Day of the Academic Year
Thursday 1 st September	Non-Pupil Day
Friday 2 nd September	Non-Pupil Day
Monday 5 th September	Children Return to School

Monday 24th October—Friday 28th October Half-Term Holiday

Thursday 22nd December 2016—Wednesday 4th January 2017 Christmas Holidays

Monday 13th February—Friday 17th February 2017 Half-Term Holiday

Monday 3rd April—Monday 17th April 2017 Easter Holidays

We are aware that the school website is not fully up to date. A number of members of staff have now received appropriate training and over the next few weeks the school website will be brought up to date. Thank you all for your patience. There is a problem with the CALENDAR section of the website that is beyond our control. The company who built our website is looking into a solution for this problem.