



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 374 Friday 10th February 2018

Yesterday we were treated to a wonderful assembly by the youngest children in our school community: the Nursery and Reception classes. The theme of the assembly was superheroes and princesses and the children looked fantastic in their costumes. They sang and danced their way through different aspects of the curriculum they have been working on. Thank you so much to the huge number of parents and grandparents who came along to support the children. Thanks also to Mrs Fisher, Mrs Williams, Annette, Esther, Catherine and Mrs McCarthy for preparing the children.

On Tuesday, Mrs Rothwell our longstanding piano teacher visited a number of classes to talk to the children about how she practices her Jewish faith. It's important that the children learn about other faiths and cultures, especially Judaism as so much of our own Christian faith is underpinned by Jesus' experiences as a Jew—the Last Supper that we commemorate in the Sacrament of Holy Communion was itself a celebration of the Jewish Passover. I would like to thank Mrs Rothwell for giving of her time to share her insights with our pupils.

We welcomed the Year 6 back to school this afternoon; all rather tired but happy. The children were able to take part in a range of activities including canoeing, climbing and aerial trekking. I went to visit the children on Wednesday and took part in bush-craft, problem-solving and low ropes. Throughout the week they were excellent ambassadors for our school, demonstrating good behaviours and positive attitudes. Thank you to all the members of staff who gave up their home comforts and family time to accompany the children: Mr Watson, Mrs Monksfield, Mrs Herman and Mr Lawrence. Thanks also to Mr Macal who accompanied the group as a parent volunteer.

The winners of the 'Spirit of Danbury Award' were:

Daragh Mastrogiacomo

Lily Butteriss

Lacey McLaughlin

The winners of the 'Tidy Room Award' were the boys from cabin 8

Mr Watson has all the prizes to present to the winners when we come back after half-term.

Attendance Prize Draw We had our first half-termly attendance prize draw this afternoon. The names of all the children who have received attendance wristbands in recent weeks were placed in the box and a winning entry was drawn out by a child during this afternoon's assembly. The winner was Cailen Hill from Year 6, who was extremely pleased to hear that he had won £10.00 upon his return from Danbury.



World Association
of Girl Guides
and Girl Scouts



World Thinking Day I received a lovely letter earlier this week from one of our pupils, Sofia Di Fede. She wanted to let me know that the **World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts** will mark **World Thinking Day** on 22nd February. Celebrated since 1926, **World Thinking Day** is a day of international friendship. It's an opportunity to speak out on issues that affect young women and girls. Ten million Girl Guides and Girl Scouts in over one hundred and fifty countries will take part in activities and engage in fundraising. Sofia has asked if Holy Family pupils can wear their Girl Guide, Girl Scout, Brownie or Rainbows uniforms to school on this day instead of their school uniform which is a wonderful idea. She also suggested that we widen the scope of the day by inviting members of the Cubs, Beavers and Scouts to also wear their uniforms to school. So if you are a member of one of these organisations, please wear your group's uniform to school on Thursday 22nd February. Thank you Sofia.

Data collection sheets Thank you to everyone who has returned the data collection sheets. Year 6 children will be given theirs after half term. If you have yet to return this information for your child, please do so as soon as possible in order that the school is fully up to date with your child's details. Thank you.

PGSA Thank you to everyone who helped to run the KS1 disco party after school yesterday. The children had lots of fun. The Strictly Come Dancing evening will be held on Saturday 24th February (adults only please) at 7.30pm. Full details are on the Holy Family PGSA Facebook page.

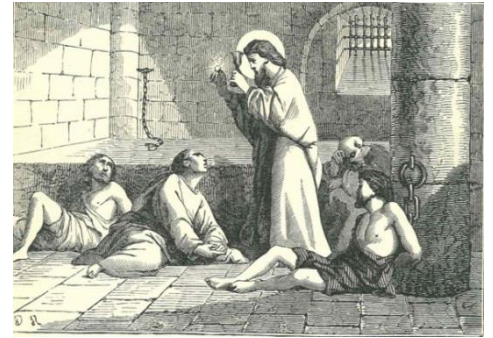
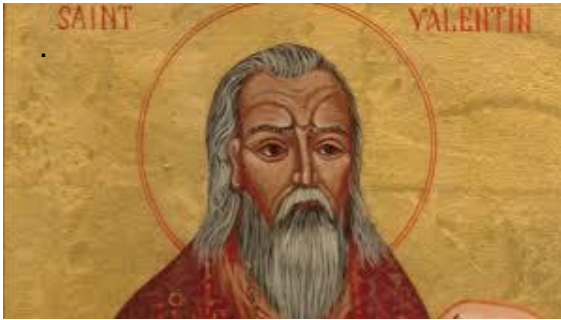
Thought for the Week "Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek." Barack Obama.



The Holy Family

Prayer to the Holy Family Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in you we contemplate the splendour of true love; to you we turn with trust. Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that our families too may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic churches. Holy Family of Nazareth, may families never again experience violence, rejection and division; may all who have been hurt or scandalized find ready comfort and healing. Holy Family of Nazareth, make us once more mindful of the sacredness and inviolability of the family and its beauty in God's plan. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, graciously hear our prayer. Amen

Saint of the Week Next Wednesday during half term we will celebrate St Valentine's Day. But beyond cards, love tokens and the colour red, what do we actually know about this saint? He was a priest in Rome during a time of persecution of Christians under Claudius II. He helped many martyrs and their families, but was eventually martyred himself in 269. He is the Patron Saint of a myriad of causes including engaged couples, bee keepers, epilepsy, happy marriages, love, plague, travellers and young people. He is represented in pictures with birds and roses. When you give and receive your cards, perhaps you could spare a thought for Valentine who made the ultimate sacrifice for the love of Christ.



Wednesday also marks the beginning of the Church's season of Lent—Ash Wednesday. Fr Basil will celebrate Mass at the following times:

10.00am, St Thomas More Church, Hadleigh
7.00pm, Holy Family Church, Benfleet



Parish Contact Details

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

Parish Priest: Fr Eduard Fartan,

eduard.fartan@yahoo.com
priest@holyfamily-church.org
office@holyfamily-church.org

Parish Secretary: Mrs Julie Herridge,
Telephone: 01268 792082 or 01268 799649

N2 92.4% RF 95.7% 1F 98.6% 2T 97% 3W 92.5% 4HW 93.8% 5LB 93.3% 6F 90.5%. Well done to Year 1 for best attendance last week.

Mr P. O'Kane

Headteacher

Diary Dates

Monday 12 th February—Friday 16 th February	Half-term Holiday
Tuesday 13 th February	Shrove (Pancake) Tuesday
Wednesday 14 th February	Ash Wednesday—Beginning of Lent
Thursday 22 nd February	World Thinking Day (Girl Guides & Girl Scouts)
Friday 23 rd February	Year 6 Class Assembly, 10.15am
Saturday 24 th February	PGSA Strictly Dance Evening (adults only)
Thursday 1 st March	World Book Day
Friday 2 nd March	Year 5 Appleton Day

Friday 2nd March
Thursday 8th March
Tuesday 13th March
Thursday 15th March
Friday 23rd March
Sunday 25th March
Thursday 29th March
Thursday 29th March
Friday 30th March
Sunday 1st April
Monday 2nd April
Tuesday 3rd April—Friday 13th April
Monday 16th April
Monday 7th May
Monday 14th May 2018
Monday 28th May—Friday 1st June 2018

Year 1 Class Assembly, 10.15am
Year 3 Class Assembly, 10.15am
Parental Contact Evening, 3.30—6.00pm
Parental Contact Evening, 5.00—7.30pm
Year 2 Class Assembly, 10.15am
Palm (Passion) Sunday
Year 4 Solemn Easter Presentation, 2.15pm
Holy Thursday
Good Friday (School Closed)
Easter Sunday
Public Holiday (School Closed)
Easter Holidays
First Day of Summer Term
Public Holiday (School Closed)
Beginning of SATs Week
Half-term Holiday