



# HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher Mr P.O'Kane

## Newsletter 313 Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2016

The end of term has come at last! This week's heatwave has meant that the school hasn't always been a pleasant place to be, especially for those of us who don't like too much heat.

Despite it being the last week of term, it has still been extremely busy. The children brought home their reports on Tuesday and we would be grateful if you could return your child's report reply slip if you haven't already done so.

On Wednesday afternoon, our Year 6 leavers presented their final assembly to the school, which as is tradition was a humorous yet emotional review of their time at Holy Family. This was the first of a number of leavers' traditions.

The Leavers' Mass at Holy Family Church was a lovely reverent occasion last night. Fr Eduard helped the children to reflect on the journey they have been on during their time at Holy Family and the new chapter in their lives that is unfolding. When Mass was finished, the children were presented with copies of the New Testament, commemorative mugs and certificates from the school. The following leavers' awards were presented by Fr Eduard, Jackie Poth and Paul Miller from the Knights of St Columba.

Parish Priest's Award	Larissa Guit
Knights of St Columba Good Deeds Award	Mia Henning
Ken Goulbourn DSF Certificate for Outstanding Achievement	Aara Shofiuzzaman
Knights of St Columba Achievement in English	Gabriella Kemp & Alex Bull
Sr Mary Barry Award for Religious Knowledge	David Toluwalaju
Sr Mary Francis Cup for Endeavour	Carina Johnson
Miss Murphy Cup for Progress	Joshua Devonport
Poth Sports Award	Nicholas Key
Carroll Music Award	Katie-Jane Quinn
Herridge & McCarthy ICT Award	David Egbowawa
Keeble Award for Art and Design	Jamie Carroll
Outstanding Performance in Mathematics	Larissa Guit
Miss Walker Award for Acts of Mercy	Juanita Agbi

At this morning's assembly, the following awards were handed out:

### Good Samaritan Award

RW Tilly Muldoon  
Y1 Finley Overall  
Y2 Evie Marsh

### Courtesy Award

RW Emily Wedge  
Y1 Finlay McLaughlin  
Y2 Georgia Bull

### Progress Award

RW Maisie Pamphilon  
Y1 Brian Koscinski  
Y2 Harry Strutt

Y3 Sofia Di-Fede  
Y4 Lilly Butteriss  
Y5 Maja Debiec  
Y6 Amy Mabey

Y3 Maryse Fisher  
Y4 Cailen Hill  
Y5 Niamh Kieran  
Y6 Brenton Hill

Y3 Leonardo Rocha  
Y4 Liam Carroll  
Y5 Bodhi Mitchell-Kiely  
Y6 Keira-Leigh Morton

### **Presentation Award**

RW Isabella Simpkins-Nascimento  
Y1 Ella Salter  
Y2 Ronnie Hazell  
Y3 Hannah Baverstock  
Y4 Deborah Adesanya  
Y5 Jasmin Ozkadi  
Y6 Pearl Morrissey

### **Most Improved Presentation Award**

RW Daniel McGettigan  
Y1 Lilia Meleard  
Y2 Samuel Mills  
Y3 Callum Pettit  
Y4 Daniel Kelly  
Y5 Mason Norris  
Y6 Ryan Purkis

The **Key Stage 1 Trophy**, traditionally presented to a Year 2 child for progress, was awarded to Lemuel Msonthi.

The following children were presented with certificates for 100% attendance throughout the school year Scarlett O'Connor, Oliver Murawski, Leo Walker, Maryse Fisher, Issabella Hiltz, Oscar Phillips, Blake Essex, Niamh Kieran, Maya Whitbourn, Amelia O'Shaughnessy, Zach Chittock and Brenton Hill.

Our assembly was tinged sadness as we said goodbye to our Year 6 children, but also bade farewell to Miss Cropper and Miss Lardner. They have both been real assets to our school in the short time they have been with us. We thank them for all their hard work and wish them well at their new schools in much sunnier climes – Bahrain and Dubai respectively. Kaell Njuguna and Pacha Busby also received certificates and a prayer book each as they will both be moving to new schools in September.

On behalf of all the children and staff I would like to thank you all for your support and kindness throughout the year. I know that the end of term cards and gifts are greatly appreciated. I hope that you all have a lovely break in the summer holidays and we look forward to seeing all the children back in school on **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September**.

### **School Uniform**

As a parent with four sons, all still at school, I understand that by this time of the year, school shoes and other items of uniform can become worn out or too small. I would not put pressure on anyone to buy new school shoes with just a week or so to go. However, I do expect that all children will return to school in September with the correct school uniform, including black shoes—not trainers. If the weather is still pleasant in September, your child can return in summer uniform or winter uniform. You will be notified when summer uniform is no longer allowed to be worn. If you are going to buy a coat for your child for the autumn and winter, please remember that our school uniform policy (which all parents agreed to when they chose to send their child to Holy Family) clearly states that plain black or navy coats should be worn at school. Please don't put your child in an awkward situation by sending them to school in red polka dots or combat camouflage, as they will be asked where their school coat is.

### **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 qualifies 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)

### **Essex Libraries Summer Reading Challenge – The Big Friendly Read**

From 16<sup>th</sup> July to 3<sup>rd</sup> September, Essex libraries will be running their summer reading challenge which, this year, is Roald Dahl themed. As they read or share books of their choice the children will collect Roald Dahl character cards and earn a medal and certificate. There will also be a competition between schools and the school which has the most participants (pro rata) will be awarded some free books. For more information go to [www.essex.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.essex.gov.uk/libraries)

### **Musical Instruments**

The school has a number of stringed instruments that are surplus to requirements. If you would like to purchase a violin or a double bass; a cello or a guitar, please speak with Mrs Fisher or Mrs Lewins. No reasonable offers will be refused.

### **Holy Family ELC**

The Early Learning Centre has sessions available in September for children aged 3 and above. Children who turn 3 after 1<sup>st</sup> September can join the setting after their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday, however, fees are payable until they are eligible for government funding.

The Early Learning Centre and Reception Class work in close partnership and form our Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) classes. This supports our young children to play and learn in an environment that is well resourced, safe and secure. Parents, children and staff see and experience the long-term benefits of attending the ELC. Children become familiar with their future school environment and they form good friendships with their peers and learn to work as a strong group that progress together throughout their primary school life.

It would be beneficial to everyone if families in the school support the ELC to ensure it remains viable for the future. The ELC is open to all so please pass this information to any friends or families who are looking for a setting for their child

### **Fire Station Open Day**

Rayleigh Fire Station is holding an Open Day on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> August from 10am – 4pm giving children an opportunity to meet the firefighters, look at the fire engines and explore the fire station.

### **Saint of the Week.**

During the summer holidays, we mark the wonderful Feast Day of the Assumption of our Blessed Lady into Heaven on 15<sup>th</sup> August. Wherever you are on that day, please try to mark it with your children.

### **Attendance**

RW 94.3% 1C 95.7% 2FL 92% 3L 98.6% 4H 94.7% 5B 93.2% 6I 97.5%. Well done to Year 3 for best attendance last week.

**Motto:** **Merciful like the Father**

On August 28<sup>th</sup> the 6.30pm Mass at Brentwood Cathedral welcomes those who live with the pain of having had an abortion or being involved in one.

Mr P O’Kane Headteacher

### **Diary Dates**

Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> September	Non-Pupil Day
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	Non-Pupil Day
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	Children return to school
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	Non-Pupil Day
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	Non-Pupil Day
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> October—Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> October	Half-Term Holiday
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2016—Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2017	Christmas Holidays
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> February—Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> February 2017	Half-Term Holiday
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April—Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> April 2017	Easter Holidays
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2017	Public holiday
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> May- Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2017	Half-term holiday
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2017	Last day of the school year
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> July 2017	Summer Holidays

***There is one more non-pupil day that needs to be set for 2016-2017 academic year.***