



HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Diocese of
Brentwood

Headteacher Mr P.O'Kane

Newsletter 379 Thursday 29th March 2018

The last few days in school have been varied and busy but it is always lovely to be in school during Holy Week which we began on Monday with our Lenten Reconciliation Service lead by Father Eduard. This was such a reflective, thoughtful occasion. Father then made himself available for those children in the juniors who wished to attend individual Confession. I am always proud of the maturity which our pupils display at such important times. Preparing our hearts and minds for Easter is such an important part of Lent.

Last Friday morning, Year 2 performed their Infant Music Festival songs for the whole school as their class assembly. The children were word perfect and they looked fantastic in their coloured T-shirts. Thank you to all the parents and other family members who came along last Friday to watch the assembly.



On Monday morning a member of the Fire Service visited the Nursery and Reception classes as part of their topic on "People who help us". She showed the children her uniform and told them about the work that both the fire service and the police carry out to keep us all safe.

In great contrast on Tuesday morning we were treated to the termly Rock Steady concert by the children who have lessons with Phil from Rock Steady each week. It was lovely to see how the children have progressed in their lessons since the last concert. Thanks to all the parents and carers who came into school to watch the performances.

Unfortunately, the Catholic Deanery Hot Cross Run was cancelled by the organisers on Tuesday morning due to the heavy rainfall. Hopefully it will go ahead next year as planned.

During the week our Nursery and KS1 classes held an Easter craft morning and craft afternoons. The children had a fantastic time with a range of activities from pottery to Easter

cards and making Easter bunnies out of socks! Thank you to all the staff who organised this for the children and to those parents and carers who were able to come in to school to help. Mrs Fisher would like to say a special “thank you” to the **PGSA** who paid for all the craft materials that were used.



Faster Eggshibition The teaching staff had a very enjoyable time after school yesterday when they judged the Eggshibition entries which this year were based around the theme of Reading/Books. After much deliberation, the following winners were chosen: Nursery class, Joseph; Reception class, Jenson; Y1, Sam; Y2, Millie; Y3, Amber; Y4, Bethany; Y5, Liam; Y6, Ethan.



Thank you to all our eggshibitors for such tremendous effort and creativity. Every eggshibitor received a *Cadbury's Crème Egg* in recognition of their participation.

During this morning's assembly, I was also privileged to present Angel certificates to all the children whose names have been entered into the Book of Angels by staff members by way of thanks and recognition for good deeds, kindness, hard work, effort and other things that make our school a nicer place for everyone. I also was pleased to announce the names of children with 100% attendance over the last two weeks and present wristbands that have been made especially for the children by Mrs Herridge, our Chair of Governors. The 100% attendance half-termly draw for the £10.00 note was won by Leo Walker in Y3.



The winners of the children's raffle organised by the **PGSA** were: Alfie, Y1; Freddie, Y3; Olivia, Y2; Amelia, Y6; Dexter, Reception; Arthur, Reception. Thank you to the PGSA for providing the prizes; thanks also to Mrs Herman for organising the draw in school. Ms Rolph was the winner of the **PGSA** parents' raffle—she was pleased to receive her Easter hamper.

We ended the term with the solemn Easter presentation—a re-enactment of the events of Holy Week. Year 4 did a wonderful job of conveying the Easter story to the other children. Thank you to Mr Holmes, Mrs Clark and Mr Lawrence for preparing the children so well. Thanks also to the parents and other family members who came along to watch this afternoon's presentation.

I trust that you all will have a happy and holy Easter. ***(and don't forget to practice your spellings for the Spellathon)***

Interim Report/Parent Contact Feedback Thank you to all the parents that have taken the time to complete and return the feedback forms. If you have not returned your form yet, you can still do so by emailing it to: admin@hollyfamily.essex.sch.uk . The forms that have come back so far have been in a variety of formats: Word documents, PDFs, screen-shots and JPEGs—all are perfectly acceptable.

Summer uniform When we return after the Easter holidays, the children should wear their summer uniform, details of which are to be found on the school website under Parents' Information. Girls in the Nursery Class may also wear the summer dresses.

Year 5 and 6 Girls summer uniform As there is a problem sourcing, at a reasonable cost, the pink gingham blouses which the Year 5 and 6 girls wear as part of their summer uniform, it has been agreed by the Governors that the girls could wear a short sleeved, plain white blouse with a revere collar.

School dinner arrears Once again I am required to remind parents and carers that school dinners should be paid for in advance or on the day on which the dinner is taken. It is **not** possible for the school budget to continue to support these arrears.

Change of dinner menu to summer menu The summer menu will begin after the Easter holidays with Week 1, a copy of which is to be found on the website under Parents' Information. On Monday 16th April the choices will be: **A** Pasta and either tomato, cheese, ratatouille or quorn bolognese sauce; **B1** Sub roll with cheese; **B2** Sub roll with egg mayonnaise.

PGSA The KS2 Movie & Pizza evening was a great success. The children that attended enjoyed themselves, as did the adults who gave up their time to supervise the event. Thank you to everyone who supported the evening, especially those who stayed to supervise and tidy the hall. The **PGSA** is made up entirely of volunteers from the parents and the staff. They give freely of their time and would welcome additional support from others. Every parent and carer is welcome to come along to **PGSA** meetings and help with events and fundraising.

Please note the **PGSA** has had to change the date of the camp out from Saturday/Sunday 9/10th June to Saturday/Sunday 23rd/24th June.

Job Vacancy Holy Family School Kitchen A vacancy has arisen in our school kitchen: Kitchen Assistant Band 1 point 6—7 (annual FTE £15014--£15115), 10 hours per week, 38 weeks per year, Monday—Friday 11.45am—1.45pm.

We are looking to appoint an enthusiastic and caring person to work as a Kitchen Assistant in our busy school kitchen. Primarily the duties will involve washing up and maintaining cleanliness, but in addition to this can include the preparation and simple cooking of food & beverages.

Visits to the school are welcomed and encouraged. To arrange an appointment, and request an application pack, please contact Maxine Henderson (School Business Manager) 01268 792231. Applicants must use CES Catholic Education Service Forms.

Closing Date: Friday 20th April 2018

Interview date to be confirmed

This is a public facing role and the successful candidate must speak fluent English.

The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share in this commitment. All appointments are subject to an Enhanced DBS Check, staff disqualification declaration medical clearances and references.

Job Vacancy—Holy Family Parish Office Person required for paid position of Admin Manager in the offices of Holy Family Parish, Benfleet. 20 hours p.w. timing of work can be negotiated. If you – or any of your family/friends – are interested, please first contact Fr. Eduard Fartan on 01268 792082 or the office on 01268 799649 – or send an email to priest@holyfamily-church.org for a job description and person specification. You should then send in your CV, with a covering letter demonstrating how your experience and skills match the essential requirements and attributes of the role. Closing date for CVs/applications is Tuesday 3rd April 2018.

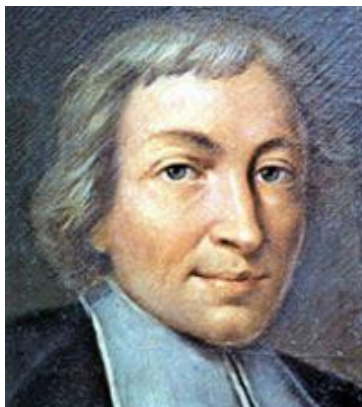
GCSE Easter Revision Classes Some of you may have older children who will be taking GCSE exams later this year. Mr Selukwe, one of our parents is an experienced science teacher who also works with some of the exam boards. He will be offering intensive GCSE revision sessions at SEEVIC College during the Easter holidays with a team of other subject specialists—chemistry, physics, biology, maths and combined science. If you have a teenager who you think would benefit from some revision sessions please contact Fluent Tutors by calling 07902 513898 or email fluenttutors@gmail.com. A limited number of leaflets are available from the school foyer.

Data collection sheets Thank you to those parents and carers who have returned their data collection and additional information sheets. If you are yet to return these sheets we should be grateful if you would do so as soon as possible in order that your child's details are up to date on our system. Thank you.

Saint of the Week On Saturday 7th April we mark the Feast Day of one of the church's greatest educators: St John Baptist De La Salle. St. John Baptist de la Salle was born in Rheims, France, on April 30, 1651 to a wealthy family. He was a devout child and went off to study to be a priest. However, he had to leave the seminary and go home to take care of his brothers when his parents died. He maintained his studies away from the seminary and eventually John was ordained a priest.

At that time, the nobles, like Father de la Salle's family, had the chance to be well educated. However, the common people remained poor and ignorant. They had no opportunity to go to school. St. John Baptist felt very sorry for the children of the poor. He decided to do something about the situation. He began to open schools for them. To provide teachers, he started a new order, the Brothers of the Christian Schools. Although Father de la Salle also taught the children himself, he spent most of his time training the teaching brothers. For them he wrote a rule of life and a book explaining the best way to teach. He was one of the best educators of all time. He believed in teaching in the language of the people, not in Latin, as others did and he grouped pupils into classes.

The brothers opened more schools and the De La Salle family of schools spread throughout the world. The staff of De La Salle School, Basildon continues the traditions of St John Baptist De La Salle to this day.



Thought for the Week *He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay." Matthew 28:6*



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

Holy Week 2018 Easter Weekend Schedule

Tonight (Maundy Thursday)	8.00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper, Holy Family Church followed by watching at the Altar of Repose
Tonight (Maundy Thursday)	11.45pm Night Prayer, Holy Family Church
Tomorrow (Good Friday)	9.00am Office of readings & Morning Prayer followed by confessions until 10.00am, Holy Family Church
Tomorrow (Good Friday)	10.00am Walks of Witness, Benfleet & Hadleigh
Tomorrow (Good Friday)	3.00pm Solemn Stations of the Cross, Holy Family Church
Tomorrow (Good Friday)	3.30pm Solemn Liturgy of the Passion of the Lord, Holy Family Church
Saturday 31 st March	8.30pm Paschal Vigil and Evening Mass, Holy Family Church
Sunday 1 st April	8.30am Mass, The Resurrection of the Lord, St Thomas More Hadleigh Church 10.00am Mass, The Resurrection of the Lord, Holy Family Church

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 Julie Herridge,

office@holyfamily-church.org

Telephone: 01268 792082 or 01268 799649

Attendance RF 95.5% 1F 91.1% 2T 96.2% 3W 90.% 4W 94.3% 5LB 96% 6F 95.3%. Well done to Year 2 for best attendance last week.

Mr P. O'Kane

Headteacher

Diary Dates

Friday 30 th March	Good Friday (School Closed)
Sunday 1 st April	Easter Sunday
Monday 2 nd April	Public Holiday (School Closed)
Tuesday 3 rd April—Friday 13 th April	Easter Holidays
Monday 16 th April	First Day of Summer Term
Thursday 19 th April	Year 3 Class Assembly, 10.15am
Monday 23 rd April	St George's Day
Monday 7 th May	Public Holiday (School Closed)
Monday 14 th May	Beginning of SATs Week
Sunday 20 th May	First Holy Communion, Holy Family Church, Benfleet
Friday 25 th May	Crowning of Our Lady, 2.30pm
Monday 28 th May—Friday 1 st June	Half-term Holiday
Friday 8 th June	School Talent Show
Monday 11 th June	Junior Music Festival, Cliffs Pavilion (Choir)
Sunday 17 th June	Mass of Thanksgiving, First Holy Communicants
Tuesday 19 th June	School Sports Morning (Years 1—6)
	<i>Nursery Class and Reception Class will organise their own Sports Morning—date tbc</i>
Saturday 23 rd June	PGSA Camp out
Monday 2 nd July	Year 3 Eucharist Day, St Bernard's
Thursday 5 th July	Year 7 Induction Day, St Thomas More
Friday 6 th July	Year 7 Induction Day, St Thomas More & St Bernard's
Friday 6 th July	Year 5 Taster Day, King John School
Saturday 7 th July	PGSA Summer Fete
Wednesday 18 th July	Leavers' Assembly, 2.30pm
Thursday 19 th July	Leavers' Mass, 7.00pm, Holy Family Church