



# HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher Mr P.O'Kane

## Newsletter 353 Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2017

Well here we are – the last newsletter of the academic year—where does the time go?

On Wednesday afternoon, our Year 6 leavers presented a wonderful final assembly to the school, which as is tradition was a humorous yet emotional review of their time at Holy Family. Some of the singing was worthy of the West End stage! 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 Good New Bible, commemorative mugs and certificates from the school. The following leavers' awards were presented by Fr Eduard, Jackie Poth, Julie Herridge and Paul Miller from the Knights of St Columba.

Parish Priest's Award

Knights of St Columba Good Deeds Award

Ken Goulbourn DSF Certificate for Outstanding Achievement

Knights of St Columba Achievement in English

Sr Mary Barry Award for Religious Knowledge

Sr Mary Francis Cup for Endeavour

Miss Murphy Cup for Progress

Poth Sports Award

Carroll Music Award

Herridge & McCarthy ICT Award

Keeble Award for Art and Design

Outstanding Performance in Mathematics

Miss Walker Award for Acts of Mercy

Eva Kelly

Bodhi Mitchell-Kiely

Nancy Lovett

Niamh Kieran &

Elle McMeekin

Marco Burzotta

Chloe Watts

Jack Davies

Maya Whitbourn

Jessica Barber

Leah Hampson-Long

Blake Essex

Albert Osijo

Cameron Bull

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

### Good Samaritan Award

RW Winnie Campbell

Y1 Daniel McGettigan

Y2 Georgia Caulfield

### Courtesy Award

RW Vincent Essex

Y1 Lucia Di Fede

Y2 Kamran Sassani

### Progress Award

RW Kian Sassani

Y1 Finley Scott

Y2 Chloe Leonardi

Y3 Sofia Di-Fede  
Y4 Lilly Wright  
Y5 Alfie Pelham  
Y6 Freddie Macal

Y3 Jo Payne  
Y4 Oscar Phillips  
Y5 Oscar Beesley  
Y6 Amber- Leigh Gaynor

Y3 Callum Jones  
Y4 Carter Dawson  
Y5 Evie Fuller  
Y6 Rhianna Winn

### **Presentation Award**

RW Alicja Macleod  
Y1 Joseph Burns  
Y2 Hollie Overett  
Y3 Leila Moore  
Y4 Summer Peddle  
Y5 Ella Mahony  
Y6 Annabelle McCarthy

### **Most Improved Presentation Award**

RW Pearse Mastrogiacomo  
Y1 Scarlett O'Connor  
Y2 Jude Madden  
Y3 Francesca Brumwell  
Y4 Issabella Hilz  
Y5 Archie Macal  
Y6 Alysia Purkis

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

The following children were awarded certificates from Mrs Butteriss for being student of the year during Italian lessons: Y3 Ronnie Hazell, Lily Bowers. Y4 Sofia di Fede, Callum Pettit. Y5 Deborah Adesanya, Cailen Hill. Y6 Marco Burzotta, Niamh Kieran.

The following children were presented with certificates for 100% attendance throughout the school year: Hannah Baverstock, Dylan Boateng, Maryse Fisher, Deborah Adesanya, Lucy Jo Hoeb, Daragh Mastrogiacomo, Alfie Pelham, Blake Essex, Amber-Leigh Gaynor, Tega Ogbe, Luke Robinson, Maya Whitbourn.

The following children received certificates relating to their Quad Kid levels: Step 1 Liam McCarthy. Step 2 Ella Mahoney. Step 3 Joshua Collins, Grace Ross. Step 5 Zach Chittock, Maryse Fisher. Step 6 Lily Bowers, Ankush Dillon, Lemuel Msonthi, Issabella Hilz, Annabelle McCarthy, Nancy Lovett, Niamh Kieran. Step 7 Evie Marsh, Georgia Ross, Lacey McLaughlin, Elle McMeekin, Amber-Leigh Gaynor, Blake Essex. Step 8 Emma Macleod, Georgia Bull, George Payne, Wade Morrissey, Oscar Phillips, Cameron Bull. Step 9 Chanae Selukwe, Isla Harris, Freya Essex, Daniel Kelly. Step 10 Ben Prophet, Lucy Jo Hoeb. Bronze Daragh Mastrogiacomo, Zeneida Joseph. Silver Luke Whitbourn. Gold Ellis Essex, Maya Whitbourn, Jessica Barber.

Our assembly was tinged sadness as we said goodbye to our Year 6 children, but also bade farewell to Ms Dawson, Mrs Wheatley and Mrs Lewis as they move on to pastures new. Jessica Tran, Kian and Kamran Sassani also received certificates and a prayer book each as they will be moving to new schools in September—Kian and Kamran will be moving to Spain.

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 (Years 1—6) back in school on **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September**.

**New parent email** [parents@holyfamily.essex.sch.uk](mailto:parents@holyfamily.essex.sch.uk) We are pleased to advise that, with effect from the Autumn term, parents and carers will have access to a dedicated email address in order to contact the school for example to report pupil absence; advise on different pick –up arrangements or other important matters. The email account will be monitored by the ladies in the office on a daily basis.

**Islam Day** On Tuesday, the children had the opportunity to learn about Islam using the ***Come and See*** resources for each year group. Miss Fordham set the tone for the day with a morning assembly to introduce Islam. The children presented what they learned to the rest of the school in the afternoon.



**First Holy Communion photographs** Parents of the children who recently made their First Holy Communion are reminded that copies of the photographs taken on that day are available to view in Holy Family Church lobby. (***Mrs Herridge***)

**Preparation for First Holy Communion** Preparation for this Sacrament will commence in mid to late September and finishes in the following June with a Thanksgiving Mass and celebration. The course is open to eligible children in school year 3 (from September 2017) and above. The children’s sessions are usually once a month and weekly attendance at the Sunday Mass (or Saturday Evening) is a prerequisite of the course. Please check the church newsletter for details of meetings with Fr. Eduard and how to apply for the course. (***Mrs Herridge***)

**School Uniform** I 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 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.

**Drum lessons** There is one space for a child to take up drum lessons in the Autumn term. At a cost of £75 per term, children receive 10 lessons of 15 minutes during the school day with a qualified tutor from Essex Music Services. (Vouchers are available for a 66% subsidy of the fees if the child comes from a low-income family. Applications for vouchers are made via [tuition.vouchers@essex.gov.uk](mailto:tuition.vouchers@essex.gov.uk) )If you are interested in the drum place, please contact Mrs Duxbury in the school office. The place will be allocated on a 'first come first served' basis with a waiting list after that.

**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 may qualify 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)

**Open Afternoon** We welcomed many parents into school on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July afternoon to go through their child's work with their child. It was a great success and I hope that those who attended found it helpful and informative .

**September 2017 Reception Class** There are a limited number of places still available for the September 2017 intake—perhaps you have a friend or relative whose child is due to start school in September 2017 who would like to have a place at Holy Family. Please contact the school office in the first instance for further details.

**Essex Libraries Summer Reading Challenge – Animal Agents**From 15<sup>th</sup> July to 2<sup>nd</sup> September, Essex libraries will be running their summer reading challenge which, this year, is based on the theme of Animal Agents and is all about detectives and solving clues. As the children read or share 6 books of their choice they will earn a medal and certificate. In addition, this year Essex Libraries are in partnership with Colchester Zoo and are offering a voucher for the children to go to the zoo free (terms apply) when they sign up for the Summer Reading Challenge. For more information go to [animal-agents.org.uk](http://animal-agents.org.uk)

**Saint of the week** During the summer holidays, we mark the 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.



**Swimming Credits** We apologise for the fact that swimming lessons did not take place this week, despite Mr Smith's and Mr Lawrence's best efforts. The ladies in the office have detailed records of swimming sessions and donations made. Any child who is owed a session (or two) will receive a credit for this during next year's swimming season.

**Attendance** RF 88.1% 1F 90% 2T 86.7% 3W 92.3% 4D 98.9% 5LB 99.3% 6F 96.3% Well done to Year 5 for best attendance last week.

Mr P. O'Kane

Headteacher

### **Diary Dates**

Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	Non-pupil Day
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	Non-pupil Day
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September	First Day of New School Year (Years 1—6)
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	Non-pupil Day
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October—Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October	Autumn Half-term Break
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Last Day in School 2017
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December—Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2018	Christmas Holidays
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January 2018	Non-pupil Day
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2018	First Day of Spring Term 2018
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> February—Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2018	Year 6 Danbury Residential
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> February—Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2018	Spring Half-term Break