



HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher Mr P.O'Kane

Newsletter 329 Friday 6th January 2017

Welcome back to the new school term; I hope that you have all had a relaxing and enjoyable time with your families over the Christmas period. We had a lovely start to the term as we welcomed Father Eduard into school this morning to celebrate Mass for The Epiphany. We are so grateful for the time that Father dedicates to the school and the mature way in which our pupils behave and respond during Mass. The Three Kings finally made their way to the manger this morning—they have been travelling on their journey to the crib, slowly moving around the school hall since before Christmas.



Diocesan Information for parents wishing their child to attend a Catholic Primary School

A Certificate of Catholic Practice should be requested from your Parish Priest in person and only one per child will be issued. Please apply for one of these from Fr. Eduard during the following times **after the 6pm Mass on 7th and 14th January**. Meetings will take place in Holy Family Church Meeting Room. Sign-up sheets for appointments are available now in the Holy Family Church lobby. These Certificates will be issued to families known to your Parish Priest and who are practising Catholics.

Superheroes—Reception Class Reception Class will be starting a new topic of Superheroes next week. Mrs Fisher would be grateful for donations of any unwanted figures, books, puzzles or dressing up clothes/costumes that you may have lurking in cupboards at home.



Clubs & Activities There will be no clubs or activities next week (w/b Mon 9/1/17) led by members of school staff. Staff-led clubs & activities will recommence in the w/b 16/1/2017.

SUFC Football The coaches from SUFC will be back in school on Wednesday 11th January. Please note that there will be 11 sessions this term.

Whole school annual trip to The Pantomime The children brought home a letter yesterday requesting payment for our annual trip to the Wednesday Players Pantomime at The Palace Theatre. This year they will be performing Beauty and the Beast, the cost of which will be £12.50. Thank you.

Danbury Trip 2017 There will be a meeting for parents of Y6 children on Monday 16th January at 3.30pm in the Year 6 classroom.

Uniform A number of children have returned to school wearing coats and other items of uniform that breach our school uniform policy. School coats should be plain navy or black. The overwhelming majority of children and parents support the school's uniform policy and it is no accident that Holy Family children always look smart and presentable when they represent the school beyond our own gates. A copy of our uniform policy accompanies this newsletter.

Parking We have only been back at school for less than two full days and already the ladies in the office have had to field complaints from residents about Holy Family parents blocking driveways with their cars. Please, please, please remember that how you act outside the school gate reflects on all of our school community. Parking is an issue at all schools, but by parking with courtesy, care and consideration all of our children will be safer in the mornings and at home-time and there will be less conflict with our neighbours and other motorists.

Piano Lessons Lessons with Mrs Rothwell will commence on Tuesday 10th January.

Music For Schools change of day Lessons with Amy Jago will now take place on MONDAY mornings so please remind your children to bring their instruments in on that day. Lessons commence on Monday 9th January. Thank you.

School Health Drop-in service If you have concerns about your child's health then you can use the Drop-in service where no appointments are necessary. The limit is 15 minutes per child but for more in-depth problems please contact the clinic directly to speak to a member of the school nurse team.

The locations are: Central Canvey Primary Care Centre, Long Road, Canvey Island, SS8 OJA. Phone 01268 686041 2-4pm 19th January; 2nd & 23rd February; 16th March 2017.

Oak Tree Children's Centre, Grovewood Primary School, Grove Road, Rayleigh, SS6 8UA. Phone 01268 686041 10th & 24th January; 7th & 21st February; 7th & 21st March 2017.

Saint of the week The 6th of January is traditionally seen as the Feast of the Epiphany. The Epiphany marks the visit of the Magi (wise men) to the infant Jesus; the revelation of the Son of God in human form. For the majority of Roman Catholics, the Feast will be celebrated on the Sunday closest to 6th January. For Eastern Rite and Orthodox Christians, the Epiphany, celebrated on 6th January is one of the three great Christian Feasts—the other two being Easter and Pentecost.

Attendance RF 90.5% 1F 93.3% 2F 93.3% 3W 92.5% 4D 95.4% 5LB 93.3% 6F 78.6%
Well done to Year 4 for the best attendance during the last week of term.

Mr P. O’Kane
Headteacher

Diary Dates

Saturday 7 th January 2017	Certificate of Catholic Practice Session (After 6.00pm Mass), Holy Family Church Meeting Room
Wednesday 11 th January 2017	Speedwatch (Road Safety) Years 5 & 6
Saturday 14 th January 2017	Certificate of Catholic Practice Session (After 6.00pm Mass), Holy Family Church Meeting Room
Monday 16 th January 2017	Danbury Parents Meeting Y6, 3.30pm
Wednesday 18 th January 2017	Whole School Theatre Visit (Beauty & The Beast—Wednesday Players, Palace Theatre)
Monday 6 th February 2017	Year 6 Danbury Residential Trip
Friday 10 th February 2017	Year 6 Return from Danbury
Monday 13 th February—Friday 17 th February 2017	Half-Term Holiday
Wednesday 1 st March	Ash Wednesday—Lent Begins
Tuesday 21 st March 2017	Hot Cross Run (Catholic Schools’ Cross Country Event) (tbc)
Monday 3 rd April—Friday 14 th April 2017	Easter Holidays
Sunday 9 th April 2017	Palm (Passion) Sunday—Start of Holy Week
Sunday 16 th April 2017	Easter Sunday
Monday 17 th April 2017	Public Holiday—School Closed
Tuesday 18 th April 2017	First Day of Summer Term
Monday 1 st May 2017	Public Holiday—School Closed

Monday 8th May 2017

SATs Week Begins

Monday 29th May- Friday 2nd June 2017

Half-term Holiday

Thursday 20th July 2017

Leavers' Mass (tbc)

Friday 21st July 2017

Last day of the school year

Monday 24th July 2017

Summer Holidays Begin

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