



HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Diocese of
Brentwood

Headteacher Mr P.O'Kane

Newsletter 401 Friday 9th November 2018

During Monday's assembly, I spoke to the children about November as a special month of Remembrance. Throughout November, the children will have an opportunity to pray for and remember deceased relatives, friends and neighbours. We will also ensure that the children have opportunities to remember all those who have died in the service of their country.



The members of the Art Club created a special Remembrance tribute

The sombre mood was broken when we were joined in the hall by Mr Smith our site manager. He celebrated his 60th birthday on Monday he was presented with cards from the children and staff. Happy birthday, Les!

Mrs Clark and the signing choir ended the assembly for us with a fantastic performance of This Is Me from the movie, The Greatest Showman. The signing choir is one of the school's success stories—what started out as a small-scale project to support our hearing-impaired pupils has morphed into a large group of dedicated signers. Thank you Mrs Clark for all your hard work and dedication.

The football and netball squads were in action on Monday evening. Our football team earned a 1:1 draw away from home at North Crescent, Wickford. However, the netball squad received all the plaudits by winning 26:0 away to Kents Hill Juniors. This is a remarkable achievement, when one considers that Kents Hill School has three times as many pupils as Holy Family. Well done to both squads and thank you to Mrs Bewers, Mr Lawrence and Mr Watson for coaching the teams so well.



Victorious netball squad

On Wednesday morning we welcomed the school nurse team into school to administer Flu vaccinations to those children whose parents requested it. I understand that the children were all very sensible.

On Thursday afternoon, our football and netball teams took part in the inaugural Assisi tournaments held at Our Lady of Ransom School, Rayleigh. Both our squads came second in their respective tournaments, losing only one game each to the overall winners, Our Lady of Ransom. These are remarkable achievements for both teams as Holy Family was one of the smallest schools taking part. Once again, thanks are due to Mrs Bewers, Mr Lawrence and Mr Watson for coaching the teams.



Congratulations to our silver medallists

This morning, our Year 6 children led a moving assembly of Remembrance. In this 100th anniversary year of the end of WWI, it was particularly poignant to see our pupils remember the fallen with such dignity and reverence. Thank you to Mrs Lewins and Mrs Bewers for helping the children to present such a mature and meaningful assembly. Following assembly, the school community observed a minute's silence on the school playground at 11.00am. Please do your best to come to Family Mass on Sunday at Holy Family Church—it is Remembrance Sunday.



***“In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row”
Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, MD***

Love in a Box/Operation Christmas Child/Samaritan's Purse Thank you so much for all the gift boxes that have come into school so far. If your child hasn't filled a shoebox yet, there's still time as Miss Furby will not be delivering the boxes until the week beginning 19th November.



Online payments for school meals We are pleased that we are now accepting payment for school dinners via the Parentmail app and thank you to those parents and carers who have already made payments. Parents will now be able to view their child's balance and top up the account at their convenience. Parentmail will automatically send a prompt to top up accounts when the balance falls to £0.00. All children should have sufficient funds on account before they ask for a meal. If you experience any difficulties with the app, please contact the school office.

PGSA Christmas Fayre donations Any donations of preloved or unwanted toys, books, toiletries or gift sets etc would be gratefully received in preparation for the Christmas Fayre on Saturday December 1st. Thank you

Christmas Dinner Wednesday 19th December If your child would like a Christmas dinner on this day, please order via the App. There will obviously be no payment for KS1 children. For KS2 children, please pay via the events payment option on the App. Please contact the school office if you experience any problems.

Reception Class 2019 Open Day and Open Day for parents & carers of children currently in reception Class

Our open day for children starting school in September 2019 will be on Thursday 15th November. Parents and their children are welcome to attend one of the two sessions - from 9.15-11.30am or 1.15-2.30pm. If you have family or friends with children starting school next year, please let them know and spread the word! Mrs Fisher and Mrs Williams would also like to extend a warm welcome to the parents and carers of children currently in Reception Class.



Interior of St John Lateran



St John Lateran, Rome



President Macron receives his honorary canon title

Saint of the Week This week's "Saint of the Week" is actually a church! Today, Catholics around the world will mark the Feast of the Dedication of the Basilica of St John Lateran in Rome. It is the oldest and ranks first among the four Papal Basilicas. It is the mother church of all Catholic churches. St John Lateran is built on the site of the former palace of an ancient Roman family, the Laterani—hence its name. It is the seat of the Cardinal of Rome, but because of a quirk of history, President Macron of France is the first and only honorary canon, a title inherited from French Kings. St John Lateran is dedicated to St John the Baptist.

Thought for the Week "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand." John the Baptist

Throughout this month of the Holy Souls, please remember to pray for those who have gone before us: "Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Attendance Nursery class 96.7% RF 95.3% 1F 98.3% 2T 92.7% 3W 94.7% 4H 89% 5B 95.3% 6L 88.4%
Well done to Year 1 for best attendance last week..

Parish Contact Details

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Mr P. O'Kane Headteacher

Diary Dates

Sunday 11 th November	Family Mass (Remembrance), Holy Family Church, 10.00am
Tuesday 13 th November	LGC Meeting, 6.00pm
Thursday 15 th November	Reception 2019 Open day 9.15-11.30am & 1.15-2.30pm
Friday 16 th November	Year 4 Assembly, 10.15am
Friday 16 th November	PGSA Movie Nights 3.00—4.30pm & 5.00—7.00pm
Thursday 22 nd November	EYFS/KS1 Mass, 9.30am
Friday 23 rd November	Year 1 Assembly, 10.15am
Friday 23 rd November	School Choir to Compete at Music Festival
Monday 26 th November	Y5&6 Barnardo's Concert, Royal Albert Hall
Tuesday 27 th November	Year 1 Winter Games, Deanes School
Friday 30 th November	Cake Sale & Children's Raffle Morning
Saturday 1 st December	PGSA Christmas Bazaar
Sunday 2 nd December	1 st Sunday of Advent
Tuesday 4 th December	Colin Wyatt (Illustrator) in School
Thursday 6 th December	KS2 Walk to Church for Morning Mass & Rehearsal for KS2 Christmas Concert
Friday 7 th December	Dress Rehearsal Morning
Monday 10 th December	Christmas Shows, 1.30pm (grandparents)

Tuesday 11 th December	Christmas Shows, 1.30pm
Wednesday 12 th December	Christmas Shows, 1.30pm
Thursday 13 th December	KS2 Walk to Church for Morning Mass & Rehearsal for KS2 Christmas Concert
Thursday 13 th December	KS2 Christmas Concert, 7.00pm Holy Family Church
Tuesday 18 th December	Advent Reconciliation Service
Wednesday 19 th December	Christmas Dinner
Wednesday 19 th December	Last day of Autumn Term
Thursday 20 th December—Wednesday 2 nd January 2019	Christmas Holidays
Thursday 3 rd January 2019	Non Pupil Day
Friday 4 th January 2019	Non Pupil Day
Sunday 6 th January 2019	Feast of the Epiphany
Monday 7 th January 2019	Children return to school
Friday 11 th January 2019	School Trip to Pantomime
Tuesday 15 th January 2019	LGC Meeting, 6.00pm
Thursday 17 th January 2019	Year 3 Assembly, 10.15am
Friday 25 th January 2019	Year 5 Assembly, 10.15am
Wednesday 30 th January	Dance Festival—Miss Furby and selected children
Friday 8 th February 2019	Year 2 Assembly, 10.15am
Monday 11 th February—Friday 15 th	Y6 Danbury Residential Trip (tbc)
Thursday 14 th February 2019	Reception Class Assembly, 10.15am
Monday 18 th February—Friday 22 nd February	Spring Half-term week
Monday 8 th April 2019—Monday 22 nd April	Easter Holidays
Sunday 14 th April 2019	Palm Sunday
Friday 19 th April 2019	Good Friday
Sunday 21 st April 2019	Easter Sunday
Tuesday 22 nd April 2019	Children return to school
Monday 6 th May 2019	Public Holiday—School Closed
Monday 13 th May—Friday 17 th May 2019	SATs week
Monday 27 th May—Friday 31 st May 2019	Summer Half-term week
Monday 3 rd June 2019	Non Pupil Day
Wednesday 24 th July 2019	Last Day of School Year
Thursday 25 th July 2019	Summer Holidays Begin