



## HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Kents Hill Road, Benfleet, Essex SS7 5PX  
Telephone: 01268 792231 Fax: 01268 759274  
Email: admin@holyfamily.essex.sch.uk  
www.holyfamily.essex.sch.uk



Diocese of  
*Brentwood*

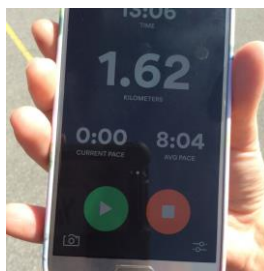
Headteacher Mr P.O'Kane

### Newsletter 386 Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2018

Welcome back to the last half term of the school year. I hope that you all had a lovely break and are ready for one of the busiest times of the year. I talked to the children about the Feast of Corpus Christi during Monday's assembly. This year, Corpus Christi occurred during half-term which prevented us from holding a traditional Corpus Christi procession.

Our rounders squad attended a tournament at the Deanes School on Tuesday. They faced some tough competition and unfortunately did not progress beyond the group stage. However, the team members enjoyed themselves and were good ambassadors for our school. Thank you to Mrs Bowers and Mr Lawrence for organising our participation; thanks also to all the parents and grandparents that helped with transport.

On Wednesday morning we held our inaugural Daily Mile which proved a great success. The children that I spoke to all told me that they enjoyed the activity—I think the staff did too!



We held a meeting yesterday evening for the parents of children who will be joining Reception class in September. Thank you to everyone who came along and to Mrs Fisher and Mrs Williams for arranging the meeting.

The enterprise club members were busy today selling ice lollies. They made an amazing £44.60, which they will reinvest in true entrepreneurial spirit. Thank you to Miss Furby and the children from the enterprise club for all their hard work. Who knows—there could be a future Karen Brady or Richard Branson right here at Holy Family!

This morning's talent show was a great success. The overall winner was Aksel Baker from Year 4, with Joseph Burns from Year 2 in second place. The Banter Bros group from Year 5 came



third. Joshua and Vongai from Year 6 were excellent hosts throughout the morning. Thank you to all the children who participated, not only in the show this morning, but in the class-based auditions. They all displayed great courage and an extremely wide range of talents and skills. Thanks also to Mrs Lewins and the school council for organising the event.



The children in Year 2 have been busy learning about one of my favourite topics in English history—the Great Fire of London. Although the Great Fire took place in 1666, it still captures the imagination today. Thank you to all the parents and grandparents that have helped and encouraged the children at home—some wonderful burning buildings have been coming into school. The children have enjoyed using library service books and artefacts to explore the Great Fire of London. They investigated using a leather bucket to pass along the line to put out the Great Fire. They also used a quill and inkwell like Samuel Pepys the famous diarist.





**New Books** The new books that Miss Furby purchased are being used throughout the school. Thank you once again for your donations that came in via the sponsored spell and thanks also to the PGSA for their donation—the generosity of parents and grandparents has allowed the school to buy more books than our budget could afford.



**End of School Day** This is a reminder that from September 2018, the school day will end at 3.00pm each afternoon. The school lunch break will be shortened by 15 minutes to 55 minutes.

**School uniform** Please be aware that 'hoodies' are not part of The Holy Family school uniform and should not be worn in the place of a blazer or light summer jacket. In a similar vein, a number of children are wearing trainers to school instead of black shoes. If you are unsure of the school's uniform expectations, please visit the ***School Uniform*** section of the school website—it is located in the ***Parents Information*** tab of the ***About Us*** link. Our school governors will be carrying out a review of our uniform policy over the coming months which will involve consultation with parents.

**Maths at Home** Mrs Lewins, our Maths subject leader would like to invite parents into school on the morning of Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June for ***Maths at Home*** sessions. Staff will demonstrate how you can use everyday objects found around the home, such as packets and boxes, to bring maths to life for your child. The first session for parents of children in Nursery and Reception classes starts at 9.15am. The second session for parents of children in Year 1 starts at 10.00am. A final session for Year 2 parents will begin at 11.00am.

**NHS at 70** Miss Furby and Year 1 will be learning about people who help us. Miss Furby came up with the brilliant idea of combining this aspect of school work with marking the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the NHS by dressing up as medical staff. I'm sure we all have occasions in our own lives to be thankful for the NHS, so we will hold a non-uniform day for the whole school on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July. Everyone can dress as a doctor, nurse, paramedic, dentist or some other NHS professional.



**Assisi Catholic Trust** Bishop Alan Williams has made it diocesan policy for all Catholic schools in Brentwood Diocese to become members of deanery based multi-academy trusts (MATs). Holy Family will be joining the Assisi Catholic Trust (ACT) which will be made up of schools in the Southend Catholic Deanery. St Thomas More High School for Boys, Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School and Sacred Heart Primary School all formally converted to form ACT on 1<sup>st</sup> May. Holy Family and five other primary schools are scheduled to formally join ACT on 1<sup>st</sup> September. There will be an information session for parents at 4.45pm on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> June. Gemma Ackred and Frank McEvoy from ACT will both be present to answer any queries you may have about ACT or MATs in general.



**Piano lessons** With effect from September 2018 there will be 5 spaces for piano lessons at school with Mrs Rothwell of Essex Music Services. The lessons take place during the school day on a Tuesday and last 15 minutes at a cost of £8.25 per lesson. The children will have 10 lessons each term. If you would like your child to begin piano lessons in September please leave their name at the school office. Places will be allocated on a “first come first served basis” with a waiting list after that. Essex Music Services offer tuition vouchers covering 66% of the cost of the fees to low-income families. Information about the vouchers can be found at [tuition.vouchers@essex.gov.uk](mailto:tuition.vouchers@essex.gov.uk)

### **Cashless school**

To enable us to become a cashless school, from now on we ask that no cash is brought into school to pay for trips, swimming, Breakfast and After School Club etc. We thank those of you who have been making online payments. For those who have asked about school dinners going online, you will be pleased to note that we are in talks with Parentmail for this to become live soon. If you experience difficulties with the Parentmail App please contact the school office.

**Open Air Mass** Fr Eduard has kindly agreed to celebrate an open air Mass on the school field for the Feast of Saints Peter & Paul. We would like to invite all parents, parishioners and past pupils to this Mass as a way of paying their respects to Sr Mary Barry who died recently. Although the 29<sup>th</sup> June is a solemnity, Fr Eduard has assured us that Sr Mary can be remembered during Mass. If you plan on celebrating Mass with us, please confirm your attendance by email to [admin@holyfamily.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@holyfamily.essex.sch.uk) so that we can ensure we have enough seats for the congregation. Mass will be at 11.00am and will be followed by a picnic on the school field. All families are welcome to come to Mass and then stay to picnic with their children—please bring along your own picnic items.

**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:

Little Lions Children’s Centre, Northwick Park Academy, Third Avenue, Canvey Island, SS8 9SU. Phone 01268 683671 from 3-4pm : 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> June; 10 & 24<sup>th</sup> July; 7<sup>th</sup> August.

Oak Tree Children's Centre, Grovewood Primary School, Grove Road, Rayleigh, SS6 8UA.  
Phone 01268 775910 from 3-4pm 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> June; 10<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> July; 7<sup>th</sup> August.

Little Hand Prints, Thundersley Primary School, Dark Lane, Thundersley SS7 3PT Phone:  
01268 753557 3-4pm 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> June; 11<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> July; 8<sup>th</sup> August.

**Saint of the week** Next Wednesday is the Feast Day of St Anthony of Padua. How many of us have said a short prayer to St Anthony when we have lost something? He is commonly referred to as the "finder of lost articles". St Anthony was born in Portugal in 1195 though he lived, worked and died in Italy. He was a member of the Augustinian and then Franciscan Orders, preaching the word of God to many, many people in a manner that was easily understood by all.



**Thought for the week** "Religions are different roads converging to the same point." Mhatma Ghandi.

### **Parish Contact Details**

Holy Family Catholic Church, 661 High Road, Benfleet, SS7 6SF [www.holyfamily-church.co.uk](http://www.holyfamily-church.co.uk)

Parish Priest: Fr Eduard Fartan,

[eduard.fartan@yahoo.com](mailto:eduard.fartan@yahoo.com)

[priest@holyfamily-church.org](mailto:priest@holyfamily-church.org)

Parish Secretary:

[office@holyfamily-church.org](mailto:office@holyfamily-church.org)

Telephone: 01268 792082 or 01268 799649

Attendance RF 91.4% 1F 95% 2T 91.7% 3W 92% 4W 81% 5LB 87.3% 6F 95%. Well done to Years 1 and 6 for joint best attendance last week.

Mr P. O'Kane Headteacher

### **Diary Dates**

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> June

Mass of Thanksgiving, First Holy Communicants

***Please note this is a change to the original date***

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June

Junior Music Festival, Cliffs Pavilion (Choir)

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June

EYFS Sports Morning (Nursery & Reception)

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> June

School Sports Morning (Years 1—6)

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> June

ACT Information Session, 4.45pm

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June

Maths at Home Morning

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June

Year 6 Deanery Mass, 11.00am, Our Lady of

Lourdes, Church, Leigh-on-Sea

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> June

PGSA Camp out

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June

Year 1 Class Trip

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June

Appleton & King John Schools' Year 7 Induction

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> June

Appleton & King John Schools' Year 7 Induction

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June

Feast of Saints Peter & Paul—Mass on the school field at 11.00am, followed by family picnic—all are welcome

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> July

Year 3 Eucharist Day, St Bernard's

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July

Year 7 Induction Day, St Thomas More & WHSG

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July

NHS 70 Non-uniform day

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July

Year 7 Induction Day, St Thomas More & St Bernard's, WHSG, WHSB, SHSG, SHSB

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July

Year 5 Taster Day, King John School

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> July

PGSA Summer Fete

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> July

Year 5 Day—St Bernard's & St Thomas More

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> July

KS2 Catholic Sports, St Thomas More, 10.00am

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> July

KS1 Catholic Sports, St Joseph's **tbc**

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> July

District Swimming Gala, Runnymede, 9.30am

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July

Year 2 Assembly, 10.15am

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> July

Leavers' Assembly, 2.30pm

Leavers' Mass, 7.00pm, Holy Family Church