



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 402 Friday 16th November 2018

Thank you to those families and their children who attended the Family Remembrance Mass last Sunday. There is no doubt that the Holy Family School community affords Remembrance the respect, reverence and dignity it deserves.

We were pleased to welcome 20 families to view the school yesterday for admission to our Reception class 2019. It was lovely to see some old and new faces and our Year 6 children were fantastic ambassadors for the school throughout the morning and afternoon providing our visitors with detailed guided tours. Thank you to the governors who also gave their time to speak to our prospective parents. The Essex LA online admissions portal opened on Monday 12th November and the application date deadline is Tuesday 15th January 2019.

Year 6 had great fun on Wednesday when they visited Wat Tyler Park for an Evacuation Day with their very own "Land Girl," Mrs Lewins. The children were keen to show me the WWII toilet paper that they made from newspaper! Their next project will be to build an Anderson Shelter on the school field. If anyone has corrugated iron or plastic, sandbags or digging equipment, please let Mrs Lewins know as all offers of help and materials will be gratefully received.

Yesterday our mixed netball team was in action at home against South Benfleet Primary. Unfortunately, the mixed squad did not manage to replicate the recent feats of the girls' netball team, but the players I spoke to afterwards thoroughly enjoyed the game and were full of praise for the skill and sportsmanship of the South Benfleet squad.

We all had spots before our eyes today—not because of any dizzy spells but thanks to everyone dressing up for BBC Children in Need Day. Thank you all so much for helping your children to join in with this nationwide campaign by providing costumes and clothes to mark the day. Thanks also for the donations in lieu of wearing uniforms—£127.25 was raised and has been sent off this afternoon.



Our Nursery Class Children Today



ASSISI
CATHOLIC
TRUST

*'Start doing what's necessary
then do what's possible
and suddenly you are doing the impossible'*

Our Year 4 pupils helped us all to mark Anti-Bullying Week by presenting a thought provoking assembly to address the issue of bullying. They reminded us of the different types of bullying: social, verbal, physical and, increasingly, cyber-bullying. They also reminded us of Jesus' message to: *"Love one another as I have loved you."* Thank you to all the parents and other family members who came along to support the children.



KS1 Mass Fr Eduard has to conduct a funeral service next Thursday, so the KS1 Mass will not take place as arranged. An alternative date and time will be arranged. Apologies for any inconvenience.

School Uniform A number of children are still coming to school wearing parts of the summer uniform. All children should now wear their full winter uniform to school; ties need to be worn with shirts/blouses that have stiff collars—not polo shirts. Miss Furby has asked me to remind everyone that their child will need to bring appropriate PE gear into school for PE lessons. As the hall will be used increasingly for Christmas rehearsals, many PE lessons will take place outside as long as it is not raining. The children should have plain navy sweatshirts and jogging bottoms for outdoor PE/Games (or navy with the school logo). Thank you for your continued support of our uniform policy.

Christmas Fayre Saturday 1st December—Donations and Volunteers Please! Any donations of preloved or unwanted toys, books, toiletries or gift sets etc would be gratefully received in preparation for the Christmas Fayre. Can you spare an hour or two on the day to help out? The PGSA are looking for volunteers to run a stall or help with setting up and tidying away after the Fayre has finished.

Christmas Dinner Wednesday 19th December If your child would like a Christmas dinner on the last of term, please order via the Parentmail App. Thank you to all those parents and carers who have already paid and ordered. There will obviously be no payment for KS1 children but the meal still has to be ordered. For KS2 children, please pay via the events payment option on the App. Please look in PAYMENTS-SHOP-EVENTS. The deadline for orders is 17th December and we regret that we are unable to provide any meals on the day which have not been ordered.

The Christmas dinner must be paid for separately from the online school dinner payments.

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.

Saint of the week Today is the Feast Day of St Margaret of Scotland—but she was actually an English princess. Although she was a queen, she lived a devout and humble life, working hard to promote

Christianity in her adopted land. She brought up six children, one of whom was later canonized as St David. She was an inspiration to all who met her—just as all our mothers are!



Thought for the Week “You don’t choose your family. They are God’s gift to you as you are to them.”
Archbishop Desmond Tutu.



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 73.8% RF 97.6% 1F 97.8% 2T 96.9% 3W 95.7% 4H 95.7% 5B 95.3% 6L 95.5%
Well done to Year 1 for best attendance once again last week.

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

Parish Secretary: Mrs Clare Dempsey

priest@holyfamily-church.org

Telephone: 01268 792082 or 01268 799649

office@holyfamily-church.org

Mr P. O’Kane Headteacher

Diary Dates

Friday 23rd November

Year 1 Assembly, 10.15am

Friday 23rd November

School Choir to Compete at Music Festival

Monday 26th November

Y5&6 Barnardo’s Concert, Royal Albert Hall

Tuesday 27th November

Year 1 Winter Games, Deanes School

Friday 30th November

Cake Sale & Children’s Raffle Morning

Saturday 1st December

PGSA Christmas Fayre

Sunday 2nd December

1st Sunday of Advent

Tuesday 4th 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
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 the school year
Thursday 25 th July 2019	Summer holidays begin