



HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Diocese of
Brentwood

Headteacher Mr P.O'Kane

Newsletter 445 Friday 13th March 2020

Year 2 presented an information-packed class assembly linked to their current topic about the continents of the world. The children sang some of the songs they are learning in preparation for the Infant Music Festival and also brought along the papier mâché globes which were made during their recent Art and D/T lessons.

Thank you to Mrs Frost for helping the children to prepare for their class assembly and to all the families and friends who came



along to support the children – they were wonderful!

Parent contact sessions took place throughout last week. Thank you to those parents and carers who attended the sessions; I trust you found them helpful and informative and that you had an opportunity to discuss your child's progress towards their targets for next term. Due to the fact some parents/carers asked to reschedule their chosen consultation slots, we are still awaiting some Parental Surveys. Once all the responses have been analysed, we will draw up an action plan to address any areas for development and share this with you. Your opinions and feedback are extremely important to us.

On Thursday afternoon, Years 1 and 2 had some very special visitors of the animal variety to their classrooms. It was a fun-filled, educational afternoon where the Year 1 children had the opportunity to handle snakes and bearded dragons, whilst Year 2 cuddled ferrets and baby hedgehogs. It was truly amazing seeing the excitement on the children's faces as they learned all about some of the more exotic pets and they



asked lots of questions.



COVID-19

The situation is changing rapidly but we are in receipt of regular updates from Public Health England. Should any of this information impact our children we will advise you accordingly. We have a number of sanitisers fitted around the school and the children are reminded to wash their hands throughout the day and to cough into their upper sleeve, not their hands. Throughout this week, I have delivered a number of assemblies linked to how we can prevent the spread of germs. Your support in reiterating this message is greatly appreciated. If you suspect that you or your child may have contracted Coronavirus, or your child is suffering from a new continuous cough and/or high temperature (37.8 degrees and above), then please keep them at home and inform us via Parentmail. We would also advise you to contact NHS111 for further advice.

Family Mass Sunday 15th March

Please try to attend our Family Mass in Holy Family Church on Sunday. It would lovely to see as many of the children as possible in church. After Mass the Year 3 children will be presented with their Reconciliation Certificates.

Homework Club We are pleased to inform you that Monday Homework Club will commence this Monday 16th March. The club will run from 3-3:45pm and will be led by Mrs Carroll. If you would like to book a place for your child, please contact the school office. The children will have access to LEXIA, Bug Club and My Maths as well as support to complete any additional homework provided by your child's class teacher.

LEXIA Club: If your child uses LEXIA in school, they are invited to attend LEXIA Club every morning from 8:30 – 9am. Children who arrive before the gate opens at 8:40am should come through the main entrance where they will be signed in.

PGSA: We would like to express our gratitude to the PGSA volunteers for their fabulous efforts in raising money for our school. We are very blessed to have such a hard working team of individuals. As a result of the PGSA fund-raising efforts, Mrs Monksfield and I are currently in the process of ordering more new books to replenish our Reading Scheme. Have you thought about joining the team? It is a great witness for your children and a very rewarding role. **Volunteers are urgently required.**

Sport: On Tuesday Mr Holmes accompanied a group of selected Year 5 and Year 6 pupils to The Deanes School where they had the opportunity to participate in a Tri-Golf competition. Well done to the team! Next week, on Tuesday 17th, the school squad will participate in a cross-country competition. A huge thank you to Mr Holmes who works tirelessly behind the scene to organise the sporting events for our school.

Saint of the Week Next Tuesday it is the Feast Day of St Patrick, the Patron Saint of Ireland. Patrick brought the faith to the people of Ireland, despite his own mistreatment at the hands of the Irish when he was young. Thanks to the seeds of faith that he sowed, Irish priests, nuns and monks went throughout the world to take the faith to others. There would be no Holy Family School if it was not for the Sisters of Mercy, founded by Mother Catherine McAuley from Dublin, coming to this part of Essex to provide Catholic education in the best traditions of St Patrick.



St. Patrick



Mother Catherine McAuley

Thought for the Week “Where can we go to find God if we cannot see Him in our own hearts and in every living being?” Swami Vivekananda, Indian Spiritual Leader.

Attendance last week Nursery class 60% RF 95.2% 1F 96.7% 2T 97% 3W 92.6% 4LB 94.5% 5H 95.3% 6M 93.8% Well done to Year 2 for best attendance last week.

Parish Contact Details

Holy Family Catholic Church, 661 High Road, Benfleet, SS7 6SF

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eduard.fartan@yahoo.com

priest@holyfamily-church.org

Parish Secretary: Mrs Clare Dempsey

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Telephone: 01268 792082 or 01268 799649

Mrs N Hurley
Interim Acting Headteacher

Diary Dates

Sunday 15th March

School Family Mass

Thursday 19th March

Mother’s Day shopping

Friday 20th March

Y3 Assembly 10.15am

Monday 23rd March

Infant Music Festival Year 2

Saturday 28th March

PGSA Race Night

Monday 30th March

KS1 Craft afternoon (volunteers needed)

Wednesday 1st April

School Nurse drop-in 2.30-3.30pm

Thursday 2nd April

PGSA Children’s Disco

Friday 3rd April

Y4 Easter Presentation

Sunday 5th April

Palm/Passion Sunday—Start of Holy Week

Monday 6th April—Friday 17th April

Easter Holidays

Thursday 9th April

Maundy/Holy Thursday

Friday 10th April

Good Friday

Sunday 12th April

Easter Sunday

Monday 20th April

Pupils return to school

Friday 8th May

75th Anniversary of VE Day—Public Holiday

Monday 11th May

Saturday 16th May

Friday 22nd May

Monday 25th May—Friday 29th May

Monday 1st June

Tuesday 2nd June

Thursday 4th June

Tuesday 23rd & Wednesday 24th June

Friday 26th June

Tuesday 7th July

Wednesday 8th July

Tuesday 21st July

Wednesday 22nd July

KS2 (Year 6) SATs Week

Quiz Night (PGSA)

Crowning of Our Lady

Summer half-term break

Non-Pupil Day 4

Pupils return to school

Y3 & Y5 Mary Poppins trip

Y6 Induction Days (Appleton & King John)

School Summer Fete (PGSA) 3.15pm

KS1 Catholic Sports

KS2 Catholic Sports

Final school day of Academic Year

Non-Pupil Day 5