



HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher Mr P.O'Kane

Newsletter 298 Friday 18th March 2016

It has been a lovely week in school and so nice to see the sun shining even though it was a little chilly!

Thank you to all those families who sent in groceries and goods for the refuge run by Women's Aid in Basildon. I am sure the recipients will appreciate your generosity and I have been overwhelmed by the response of our school community. In this Year of Mercy, Holy Family has certainly helped to "**Feed the Hungry.**"



Last Saturday, Mrs Fisher took the school choir to the Salvation Army Citadel in Hadleigh to perform in the Castle Point Mayor's Charity Concert. I understand that they were a real credit to the school and performed fantastically. We are grateful to Mrs Fisher and Mrs Clark for the time they spend rehearsing with the choir.

Yesterday we welcomed Father Eduard in to school to celebrate Mass with our Year 3 and 4 children. It was lovely to see parents and parishioners sharing in the Mass. I am very proud of

the maturity with which the children participated in the Mass and their beautiful singing and reading. It was a real treat to be at Mass for St Patrick's Day.

Earlier today, Year 2 represented the school at the Infant Music Festival at The Paddocks, Canvey Island. It was fantastic to see so many parents and grandparents supporting our children at this wonderful event of music and song. The children behaved impeccably and were a credit to our school. They performed their songs to the rest of the school on Wednesday morning and received huge applause and good luck wishes from the other pupils. Thank you to Mrs Fisher, Mrs Clark and Miss Trigg who worked so hard with the children to ensure that they were fully prepared for their music festival experience.

Today Year 3 had lots of fun making robots all day as part of their "robots" topic across all subjects but specifically literacy and science. I hope that the parents who helped had fun too!



School Dinner Arrears

Please ensure that all dinner money arrears are paid by **Tuesday 22nd March** and that all payments for school dinners are up to date next week. Thank you.

Easter Eggshibition

In many Christian communities there has been a longstanding tradition of decorating eggs for Easter. A spring chick emerging from an egg reminds us of the risen Christ coming out of the

tomb. From simply painting hard-boiled eggs through to the splendour of the Faberge Eggs made for the Romanovs, Easter Eggs have been a reflection of artistry and ingenuity. At Holy Family we have actively encouraged this tradition and each year we ask the children to bring in an eggshibit for our Eggshibition. Every child who creates an eggshibit receives a small chocolate egg; one child in each class will receive a larger chocolate egg if their eggshibit is selected by staff. This year's theme is Rio 2016—Olympics. We look forward to seeing the Eggshibits which can be brought in to school on Monday 21st March. They will be returned on Wednesday 23rd March.

School procedure reminder

As a parent, if you have any concerns regarding your child/ren, the first port of call is always to the class teacher because they know and teach your child and have responsibility for them on a daily basis. However, if having met with them (through having made an appropriate appointment) and the issue has not been resolved, the next stage of the process is to request a meeting with the Deputy Head Teacher, Mrs Hurley. If there is still no resolution, then the matter can be referred to the Headteacher, Mrs Birtles, by either party. This procedure is in line with the school's Policy on Behaviour, Discipline and Anti Bullying. Thank you.

Sport Relief Mile

This Sunday 20th March at Woodside Park, Manor Road, Benfleet there will be an opportunity to take part in The Benfleet Mile for Sport Relief. Details of how to apply may be found at sportrelief.com Happy running!

School Health

Drop- in service

Any parents with health and developmental concerns about their children may drop in to the Central Canvey Primary Care Centre, Long Road, Canvey Island SS8 OJA. They are able to perform hearing tests and no appointment is necessary.

The drop-in clinic dates are: 24th March; 21st April; 5th and 19th May; 16th and 30th June; 14th July.

For more in-depth problems please contact the clinic directly on 01268 686041 for an appointment with the school nurse.

Team Points

St John Bosco (green team) were the winners of the house points competition this week –well done to all those who contributed.

Attendance

RW 94.7% 1C 95.5% 2FL 96% 3L 97.2% 4H 93.7% 5B 93.8% 6I 96.7%. Well done to Year 3 for best attendance last week.

Saint of the week

Yesterday (March 17th) was 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 wasn't 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.

Jubilee Year of Mercy 2016

Motto: Merciful like the Father

From

Mrs S Birtles and Mr P O'Kane
Headteacher

Diary Dates

Monday 21 st March	Eggshibition entries in school
Tuesday 22 nd March	Hot cross run p.m. (selected junior children) St Thomas More High School
Thursday 24 th March	Year 4 Easter Presentation 2pm in the school hall parents and parishioners welcome
Friday 25 th March – Sunday 10 th April	Easter holidays

Final Training Day for Academic Year 2015/16

The final training day for staff will be on Friday 1st July 2016.

There is a calendar section on the school website—www.holyfamily.essex.sch.uk