



HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Diocese of
Brentwood

Headteacher Mr P.O'Kane

Newsletter 396 Friday 28th September 2018

It was lovely to see so many of the children and their families at Family Harvest Mass last Sunday morning—thank you to everyone who braved the rain to come along; thanks too, for the donations of foodstuffs and toiletries for those less fortunate than ourselves.

On Monday morning, we held our regular attendance assembly. It was pleasing to see that so many children have managed to maintain 100% attendance in the first few weeks of term.

The children and staff in our Nursery Class held a Welcome Get Together on Wednesday morning. All the visiting parents and carers were able to join in with a range of activities and share refreshments with the children. They also learned about learning and assessment in the EYFS.



On Thursday, Year 6 spent the day in retreat at Walsingham House in Brentwood. The children and staff had a great day—"FANTASTIC!" was the word one Y6 pupil used when I spoke to him this morning. Two former Holy Family pupils are currently on the staff team at Walsingham House: Georgia Sayer and Chris Burkette and they gave our children and staff a particularly warm welcome.



ASSISI
CATHOLIC
TRUST

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

Thank you all so much for your generosity and overwhelming support for this morning's cake sale in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. Miss Tranah and the school council came up with the idea of holding a fundraising cake sale—Miss Tranah has a close affinity to Macmillan Cancer Support and has been organising cake sales for years in all the schools she has worked in. She told me that the children and parents from Holy Family School have donated more cakes than at any other school she has worked in. The children's cake sale raised £260.00.



I had the privilege of teaching some science lessons to Year 6 at the beginning of the week—I thoroughly enjoyed myself, and I believe the children did too! Our Year 2 children were also busy with scientific study this week, testing the waterproof properties of various materials.



Holy Family PGSA Meeting There will be a PGSA meeting in the school hall on Tuesday 2nd October at 7.30pm. All parents and carers are welcome to attend. The PGSA organises events throughout the school year such as Movie Nights, the Summer Fete and the Christmas Bazaar.

As well as their important social function, these events are fundraising opportunities. Please, please, please come along and offer your time and expertise—many hands make light work!

Office Supplies The school office would be really grateful for your donations of any unwanted or spare underwear for the children who may have had little accidents during the school day! Thank you.

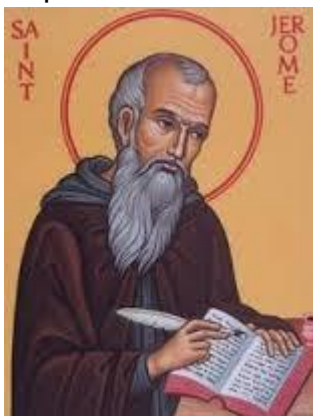
Reception Class 2019 Open Day Our open day for children starting school in September 2019 will be on Thursday 15th November. Parents and their children are welcome to attend one of the two sessions - from 9.15-11.30am or 1.15-2.30pm. If you have family or friends with children starting school next year,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

Year 6 Parents—Secondary School Admissions 2018 The Essex Local Authority online application system opened on 12th September 2018 and the last day for receipt of applications is 31st October 2018. Applications may be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions and last year 98% of parents in Essex applied online. The website also has a copy of the Secondary Education in Essex 2018-2019 booklet.

[www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Admissions/Documents/secondary Admissions Booklet.pdf](http://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Admissions/Documents/secondary%20Admissions%20Booklet.pdf)

Please check the specific application processes of each secondary school—Catholic secondary schools will require all parents to complete a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) and (where applicable) submit a Priest's Reference Form (PRF—see next newsletter item). Some schools may require your child to take an entrance exam, an aptitude test or undergo an audition for a particular specialism such as drama or dance.

Saint of the Week On Sunday it is the Feast Day of St Jerome, known as a “Doctor of the Church,” a reference to the fact that he did so much to set out in a scholarly way the beliefs and traditions of the church in an era of persecution and heresies. He travelled much of the known world, teaching gospel values in a clear way, never afraid to challenge those in a position or power. He was a highly intelligent man and is often portrayed in pictures as a scholar in the desert. There is also a legend that he removed a thorn from a lion's paw! He died on 30th September 420 and is buried under the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem.



Thought for the Week “A friend is long sought, hardly found, and with difficulty kept.”

St Jerome

Attendance RF 100% 1F 100% 2T 99.2% 3W 99.7% 4H 99% 5B 98.3% 6L 100% Well done to Year 6, Year 1 and the Reception class for perfect attendance last week.

Parish Contact Details

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Mr P. O’Kane Headteacher

Diary Dates

Tuesday 2 nd October	PGSA Meeting, 7.30pm, School Hall
Friday 5 th October	Library Visit, Years 1 & 2
Monday 8 th October	School Photographs
Wednesday 10 th October	Judaism Day
Thursday 18 th October	St Thomas More High School Open Day
Thursday 19 th October	St Thomas More High School Open Day
Monday 22 nd October—Friday 26 th October	Autumn Half-term week
Tuesday 30 th October	Parental Consultation 3.30—6.00pm
Thursday 1 st November	Feast of All Saints Day
Thursday 1 st November	Parental Consultation 5.00—7.30pm
Friday 9 th November	Year 6 Assembly, 10.15am
Sunday 11 th November	Family Mass (Remembrance), Holy Family Church, 10.00am
Thursday 15 th November	Reception 2019 Open day 9.15-11am 1.15-2.30pm
Thursday 22 nd November	EYFS/KS1 Mass, 9.30am
Monday 26 th November	Y5&6 Barnardo’s Concert, Royal Albert Hall
Tuesday 27 th November	Year 1 Winter Games, Deanes School
Sunday 2 nd December	1 st Sunday of Advent
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
Monday 11 th February—Friday 15 th	Y6 Danbury Residential Trip (tbc)

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