



# HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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## Diocese of Brentwood

Headteacher Mr P.O'Kane

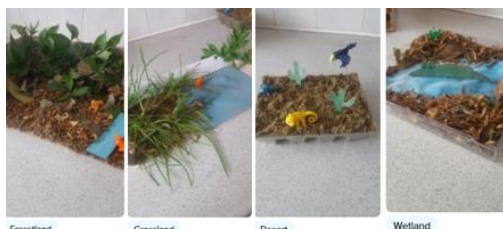
### Newsletter 447 Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

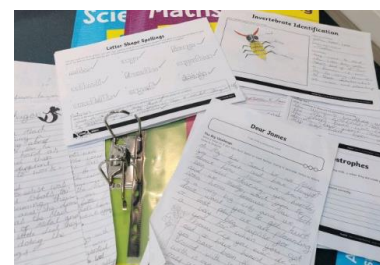
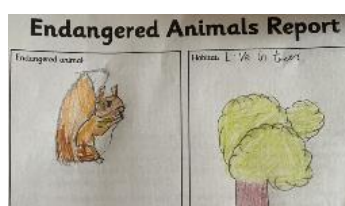
This was the thoughtful image I spotted on my arrival to unlock our school first thing on Monday morning – it was a lovely start to the week and brought many smiles to people's faces as they walked by.



The children have once again responded brilliantly to the resources uploaded onto Class Dojo and Tapestry throughout the week. We continue to enjoy looking at their work and love the increasing number of photos which are being sent to us on a daily basis. The majority of families start their day with Joe Wicks' PE sessions, or a similar workout and then settle into a routine where children complete maths and English activities followed by an enriched curriculum. Activities this week involved lots of food technology, art and craft, music practice and gardening. I've enjoyed receiving regular updates about how the pet caterpillars are thriving and many children have let us know about new lifeskills they have acquired – cooking, riding a bike, making a cup of tea, and even creating a home-made assault course. Discovering more about animal habitats and endangered animals has also been a popular topic this week.



**Well done children! All your teachers would like to thank you for working so hard at home.**



Enjoy the photos on the attachment.

**THANK YOU PARENTS & CARERS for the continued support you are giving your children.**

#### On-line programs

We are particularly pleased to see a growing number of children accessing My Maths and Bug Club every week. Some children are trialling using LEXIA from home. I'd like to thank them for their feedback and also thank the children who are trialling the new Dyslexia Gold on-line program. Your feedback is invaluable. We are delighted to let you know that our school has once again signed up to TT Rock Stars. If your child has not already received their log-in details, they will soon be on their way.

## Easter Holiday

Please note our new on-line classroom will temporarily pause for the next two weeks. Children and families need a break and our teachers and support staff also need to switch off and spend time with their family members. Therefore, there will be no directed work set on Class Dojo until Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April, nor will teachers be expected to respond to messages. I will continue to check my [senco@holyfamily.essex.sch.uk](mailto:senco@holyfamily.essex.sch.uk) email daily, so please feel free to contact me if you need any support and I will do my best to find a solution.

As we prepare for Holy Week, let us stay close to God and each other. Mrs Lewins sent me this beautiful hymn during the week which I'd like to share with you.

**God will Make a Way** <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=RsMAXhc0QTs>

If we were in school during Holy Week, assemblies would mainly focus on our walk with Jesus as he carried his cross, suffered and died. We know the pain and suffering Jesus endured for us was not the end. Now, more than ever, the events of Holy Week give us reassurance and hope. I know that many families within our school community are in need of our prayers and I ask that we pray for each other.

***"Holy Week is a privileged time when we are called to draw near to Jesus: friendship with Him is shown in times of difficulty."***

Pope Francis

**Holy Week** All the services that will be Live Streamed on Instagram

Palm Sunday	Holy Thursday	Good Friday	Easter Saturday
5th April	9th April	10th April	11th April
Mass 10.30am	Mass 8pm Shortly after 9pm, quiet watching with the Lord (Adoration), until 10pm	Service of the Passion of the Lord 3pm	Easter Vigil in two halves 8pm-8.45pm: Blessing of the Fire, Exsultet, Readings 9pm-10pm: Gospel Homily, Renewal of Baptismal Promises, Liturgy of the Eucharist, Easter blessing
			<b>Easter Sunday</b> 12th April Mass, 10.30am

All Orders of Service will be available at [www.bcys.net](http://www.bcys.net) the evening before @brentwoodcys

Celebrate Holy week with Brentwood Catholic Youth Service (BCYS)

You might find the following resources useful in helping young children focus on the importance of the Easter story.

- Learn how to make a Palm Cross for Palm Sunday <http://www.just4kidsmagazine.com/rainbowcastle/palmcross.html>
- The Stations of the Cross <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j0qv7c4PsrA>
- The Story of Easter <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0PSgoPdKQFQ>

## FSM Vouchers

The Department of Education announced details of a National Voucher Scheme this week for all families who are entitled to receive Free School Meals. We have arranged for these families to receive the vouchers/e-code via their email addresses. Families will receive £15 per child per week and will receive vouchers every two weeks (excluding the Easter holidays). The vouchers can currently be redeemed at six supermarkets –Tesco, Asda, Sainsbury's, Morrisons, Waitrose, and M&S. If you have not received your vouchers by Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March, please get in touch. (The FSM voucher scheme does not apply to children in receipt of Universal FSM in Reception and Key Stage 1)

### **Suggested activities to keep children engaged during the holidays**

- Children may like to complete a mini project using resources from **My 2020 COVID-19 Time Capsule**
- Design a picture to show how our school is still strong as a community even though we are not all together.
- Play card games, or build a house of cards? How high can you go?
- Design a board game to play with the whole family.
- Join in the Bear Hunt whilst out for a daily walk with your family, or organise an Easter Egg hunt at home.



### **ONLINE SAFETY**

Remote learning can be a great way to continue learning outside the classroom, but please ensure you have filters and parental controls in place to prevent your children stumbling across inappropriate content.

- We're not going to be travelling anywhere for a while yet but how about a virtual tour of interesting places around the world?

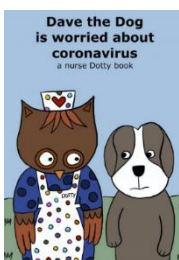
<https://www.airpano.com/360photo list top.php>

- Listen to The Tale of the Three Trees

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=DjIOViJIM3U>

- The Royal Mint has launched a new interactive 'Kids Hub'

<https://wales247.co.uk/the-royal-mint-launches-new-interactive-kids-hub/>



You can access this book using the following link:

<https://nursedottybooks.files.wordpress.com/2020/03/dave-the-dog-coronavirus-1-1.pdf>

## Free Daily Resources For Children



**PE with Joe Wicks On YouTube**  
Week days at 9am but you can visit any time on youtube to view the workout.



**Wildlife With with Steve Backshall On Facebook**  
Every day at 9:30am for answering all your wildlife, biology, conservation, geography and exploration questions.



**Science with Maddie Moate on YouTube**  
Weekdays 11am. Maddie & Greg chat about science and nature!



**Dance with Oti Mabuse On Facebook**  
Every day at 11.30am but children can view the class at any time.



**Maths With Carol Vorderman**  
Free access to the her maths website:  
[www.themathsfactor.com](http://www.themathsfactor.com)



**Music with Myleene Klass on YouTube**  
Twice a week. Next one Friday 27 March 10am, but can view any time.



**Storytime With David Walliams**  
Free story everyday at 11am on his website:  
[www.worldofdavidwalliams.com](http://www.worldofdavidwalliams.com)

### 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)

Parish Secretary: Mrs Clare Dempsey

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Easter is a special time when we think about new beginnings because Jesus gave us a new life with him. After the holidays, we will begin working together again in our 'virtual classrooms' and hopefully we will have the chance to be back in school towards the end of term.

God bless,

Mrs N Hurley



To all of our Key Workers - **THANK YOU.**  
We will continue to keep you in our prayers.