



HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Diocese of
Brentwood

Headteacher Mr P.O'Kane

Newsletter 394 Friday 14th September 2018

We welcomed the new Reception children into school yesterday and today. Mrs Fisher tells me that they are settling in well and that she and Mrs Williams have enjoyed their time with them.

It was wonderful to see the children and staff dressed as Roald Dahl characters to celebrate **Roald Dahl Day**. Thank you all so much for supporting **Dahl Day** by providing costumes for your children—they looked amazing. We enjoyed a Dahl assembly yesterday afternoon—I relished the opportunity to read an extract from **The Witches** to the children.



We are currently working to improve our school website so that information can be found more easily. We will also be including links to the Assisi Catholic Trust website and Assisi Catholic Trust policies that will be applicable to Holy Family—please bear with us; we appreciate your patience.

A number of teachers have uploaded class newsletters/homework sheets to the school website. These can be found in the section labelled **Classes & Curriculum** and will be posted in the **Downloads** section of your child's year group.

School Clubs Thank you to those parents and carers who returned the clubs letter last week. We have worked hard to ensure that the children have obtained a place in a club of their choice. Clubs will commence on Monday 17th September. If your child attends a club finishing after the end of the school day, please ensure that they are collected promptly. Thank you.

Benfleet Young Drama This club will recommence on Tuesday 25th September, 3.15—4.30pm. The club is open to all pupils in Y1 and above. There are a limited number of places available in this club—please contact Jackie Poth on 01268 752447 or 07703 187143 for details.

Harvest Collection/Harvest Mass Although we are no longer a rural, agrarian community, at this time of year we always give thanks for the harvest and share our bounty with those less fortunate than ourselves. There will be a Family Harvest Mass on Sunday 23rd September at 10:00am in Holy Family Church—we would love to see all our children and their families at this Mass. During the offertory procession, the children will be able to present their harvest gifts to the altar. We are also happy to accept donations into school—these will be displayed in the school hall. If you are thinking of donating foods, we have a suggested class list:

Nursery and Reception Class

- Year 1
- Year 2
- Year 3
- Year 4
- Year 5
- Year 6



- Dried pasta
- Tinned foods
- Breakfast cereals
- Biscuits
- Toiletries
- Jars of food
- Bottles of squash, lemonade, cola
(no alcohol please)

All items of donated food are shared with the local women’s refuge and charities that work with the homeless. Thank you in advance for your generosity to those less fortunate.

First Holy Communion 2019 The Sacramental preparation for First Holy Communion at Holy Family and St Thomas More Churches, will commence in late September and this is open to children in school year 3 and above. The application packs are now available and the application form should be returned to the parish office at Holy Family Church by Wednesday, 19th September. A meeting for parents will take place after the 6pm Mass on Saturday, 22nd September.

House Captains and School Councillors All classes (except Reception) have held their elections for school councillors. Year 6 has held an additional election to choose this year’s House Captains. At a special assembly this morning, Mrs Hurley presented the following children with their badges of office.

Year 6 House Captains:

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|----------------|----------------|
| St John Bosco | Dylan & Maryse |
| St Thomas More | Callum & Freya |
| St Joseph’s | Heidi & Oliver |
| St Mary’s | Oscar & Sofia |

School Councillors:

- | | |
|----|-----------------|
| Y1 | Eva & Zachary |
| Y2 | Stanley & Milly |
| Y3 | Emily & Max |
| Y4 | Finlay & Abi |
| Y5 | Amelia & Wade |
| Y6 | Isla & Keiran |

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 Next Tuesday it is the feast day of St Joseph Cupertino. As a child and young adult, Joseph found it difficult to do things carefully and correctly and thus was often treated badly by his family, friends and other villagers. However, as he put more and more faith in God, he found that he was able to persevere with tasks and studies, eventually to become a Franciscan Friar, devoted to Our Lady. He is the patron saint of aviators and astronauts—in pictures he is often depicted in mid-air as it is believed he was able to levitate miraculously.

Thought for the week: “If we have no peace it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other” Mother Teresa.



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

priest@holyfamily-church.org

Parish Secretary: Mrs Clare Dempsey

office@holyfamily-church.org

Telephone: 01268 792082 or 01268 799649

Mr P. O’Kane Headteacher

Diary Dates

Monday 17th September

Y3 Meet The Teacher, 3.15pm

Wednesday 19th September

Echo Newspaper Reception Class Photo

Sunday 23rd September

Family Mass (Harvest), Holy Family Church,
10.00am

Thursday 27th September

Y6 trip to Walsingham House

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 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 6 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