



God Love  
Family

# **Holy Family Catholic Primary School**



God Love  
Family

## **July 2022 Newsletter**

### **God in our hearts, Love in our words, Family in our actions**

#### *Jeremiah 17:14*

*Heal me, LORD, and I will be healed;  
save me and I will be saved, for you are the one I praise.*

Dear Parents

Welcome to our final newsletter of the academic year. This has been a very busy year and we have enjoyed the summer weather.

Transition Day went really well and we have welcomed all of our new teachers into school for a full transition week ahead of their start. We plan this each year so that all new members of our teaching community can really get to know our partnership and systems. The children have all now had the opportunity to visit their new class and a great deal of work has been put into ensuring this changeover is as easy for the children as possible.

This newsletter contains dates and information for the next academic year so please make a note of the dates and keep the newsletter somewhere safe.

### **Farewell and Welcome**

Summer term is a real mix of pride, happiness and a little sadness. It is the time when we celebrate a year of achievement and personal successes for our children and staff community and a time where some teachers move on to pastures new.



We are saying farewell to Mr Tosta, Miss Jackson, Mr Pickett, Miss Powell, Miss Dacombe, Miss Smith, and Miss Connis. We thank them all for their dedicated service and wish them well with their new ventures. Miss Khan, from our office team, is pursuing her teacher training but remaining at Holy Family - super good luck to her. We wish them all the very best in these new endeavours and thank them all for their dedication, service and support.



We will be joined in September by Miss Taylor, Miss Smith, Miss Palmer, Miss Broomfield, Miss Khan, Miss Colwell and Mr Scala. Also Mrs Haynes will be re-joining us following her maternity leave.

## Religious Education

We started this half term studying the Pentecost which commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles and other disciples following the Crucifixion, Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus Christ. We then moved on to the Sacraments of the Catholic Church including Holy Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Orders.

## Year 6 Leavers' Mass

On the last day of term, the Year 6 children celebrated a special Mass led by Father Benjamin at Holy Family church with their teachers, families, friends and parishioners. It was a lovely service of thanksgiving, commemorating their time at Holy Family School, and looking ahead to the next step on their journey to secondary school. Each child created a butterfly with prayers of thanksgiving and supplication, which were brought to the altar as part of the offertory. The children then received a special Blessed gift bag to take away with them. Congratulations to all our Year Six leavers!



## Sports Day

Early yesterday morning, we all gathered in our school houses to begin a day of sports. Following a carousel of varying activities, we moved on to the races. These included long-distance, relay and sprinting. It was lovely to have so many parents cheering us all on. Our Lady house came first, followed by St Joseph, Sacred Heart and St John. Our Lady claimed the trophy but everyone had a fabulous time, and this was followed by a picnic lunch on the sports field.

## Superstar Sports Play schemes

Superstar Sports will once again be holding their holiday activity club during the summer holidays. These will be on the following dates and if you would like your child to attend any of these sessions please book by visiting [www.superstarsports.com](http://www.superstarsports.com).

25th – 29th July

1st – 5th August

8th – 12th August

15th – 19th August

2<sup>nd</sup> – 26th August

## Thank you to our School Governors



I would like to extend on behalf of the whole school our sincere thanks to the Holy Family Catholic Primary Board of Governors, chaired by Sarah Studzinski, who generously give their time and support in ensuring we provide a good quality education for all our pupils and promoting effective ways of teaching and learning.

## History quiz competition

This half term we had an exciting knowledge competition that links to our History learning. We recapped all the amazing facts we have learnt – in particular everything for the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee. For our grand finale, we had three representatives for each house, per key stage. They went head-to-head in a battle showing off their wonderful knowledge around British History. In the end, St Joseph took the cup and won! We are proud of all the children for participating and trying their absolute best.

## Current News

**Year R** have had a super term of summer sunshine. We continue to be super 'busy bees' during this half term. We have continued to grow in our ability to apply our phonics learning when reading and writing. We continue to explore the adventures of Pip and Pap and have a huge amount of new guided and home reading books; we can read independently - this is also “thank you” to the regular reading the children have been engaging with at home, too!! We can successfully develop sentences remembering to use 'full-stops' as a tiny-dot', 'capital letters' and 'finger spaces!!' *'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'* story has led us to learning about life-cycles. We continue to learn how to care for our school environment; we planted our own beans and took them home to watch them grow! 'Keeping safe in the sun' led us to making our own sun safety posters! We have enjoyed learning about and visiting year one; we had a lovely transition morning as we met our new teachers and we are excited about next term!

**Year 1** have been working in groups to carry out different experiments. They have focused on predicting what might happen, planning the experiment, undertaking it and then showing their results. Highlights for year 1 have been discovering the most effective bubble mixture and the best insulator to stop an ice lolly melting! On top of their Science learning, the children have also been learning about Pentecost and Sacraments in RE and intrepid explorers in History. They have loved learning about Christopher Columbus and Neil Armstrong and have made fantastic comparisons between their adventures. Year 1 have been able to point out the impact of Christopher Columbus on their lives today e.g. he brought back parrots which can be seen at zoos and wildlife parks. Year 1 have had a fantastic Summer term!

**Year 2** have been enjoying becoming scientists this term by learning all about minibeasts! They have been busy exploring the school grounds to hunt for different minibeasts as well as thinking about what habitats and microhabitats they might live in. Year 2 particularly enjoyed being able to think closely about the microhabitat of a woodlouse and they even got to create their very own woodlouse house! Linking to science, in art, year 2 have also been focusing on creating minibeasts through manipulating wire in different ways. Their final project saw them making their very own giant minibeast! They have loved learning all about minibeasts and are so proud of themselves.

**Year 3** have been enjoying becoming ‘dragonologists’ in our writing topic this term! We have been creating our own non-chronological reports about dragons we have created. In science, we have been exploring light and shadow and investigating how shadows change throughout the day. We have enjoyed conducting our own investigations and presenting our findings. Year 3 have enjoyed becoming historians and making our own enquiries about the Ancient Greeks. We discussed whether the Trojan War actually happened! We have linked our history learning to Art and designed and created clay pots inspired by Ancient Greek pottery!

**Year 4** have focussed on building our scientific skills; through looking at the water cycle and mass we have developed our skills of observation, questioning and deduction. Geography saw a continuation of looking at rivers, focussing on wider issues of tourism and climate change. Staying with the water theme, we finished

the year looking at the Roman legacy for our water systems today and the impact of not looking after our rivers. In Music we looked at composition and finished the year recapping everything we had learnt: ukulele skills, the stave, rhythm and music notation.

**Year 5** have been applying their understanding of the four operations to problem solving! They have interweaved their understanding with other math topics including fractions, money, time, etc. Year 5 have been reflective learners and explained which methods they believe to be the most efficient when applied to different problems. In English, they have written narrative pieces about vile villains. They created spine-shivering descriptions of their villains and used show, don't tell to make their readers feel unnerved. In RE, they have been exploring the topics of Pentecost and Sacraments, looking at Matrimony and Holy Orders. During PSHE, Year 5 have been expressing their opinions in heated debates about whether the national voting age should be lowered. They have explored what democracy is and the importance of a system where every voice is heard.

**Year 6** have been busy writing informative speeches on the important topic of Black Lives Matter in English. In Maths they have been working in teams creating, marketing and selling drinks for the Smoothie Shack project. The profit they raised has gone towards supporting a charity of their choosing. IN RE the children have been deepening their understanding of the Sacraments and focusing on how someone is initiated into the church through the Sacraments of Baptism, Communion and Confirmation. The Year Sixes also had a wonderful adventure on their Residential trip to Skern Lodge where they took part in many exciting activities such as kayaking, body boarding and rock climbing to name a few!

## Pick up and Drop off

Please ensure that written permission is given ahead of a playdate or change in pick up organisation. Teachers will not release to anyone other than named adults on a contact list. Do not be offended if a teacher refuses to hand a child over to a friend or nominated adult other than parent without express written permission.

## Medication

Please ensure that medication (including inhalers) is brought into the school office at the beginning of term as we will require a new Administration of Medicines form to be completed before we can help your child.

## Dates for the diary

- Thursday, 1st September – Inset Day
- Friday, 2nd September – Children return to school
- w/c Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> October – Bikeability for Year 5
- Thursday, 20th and Friday, 21st October – Inset Days
- Thursday, 25th and Friday, 26th May 2023 – Inset Days
- Monday, 2nd October – Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> October – Half term holiday



## STAFF TRAINING DAYS

Thursday, 1st September 2022

Thursday, 20th October 2022 Disaggregated

Friday, 21st October 2022 Disaggregated

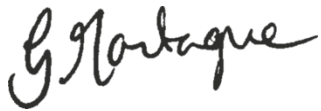
Thursday, 25th May 2023 Disaggregated

Friday, 26th May 2023 Disaggregated

**And finally.....**

Do have a safe and joyful Summer break, we are working hard to focus on a great year ahead. Thank you for choosing our school.....

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gerida Montague". The letters are cursive and connected.

**Gerida Montague**  
**Executive Headteacher**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Hendricks". The letters are cursive and connected.

**Sarah Hendricks**  
**Head of School**