



# HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mansel Road West, Southampton, SO16 9LP  
Telephone 02380 773264 [www.holyfamilylive.net](http://www.holyfamilylive.net)  
info@holyfamilylive.net

Executive Headteacher: Mrs G. Montague, M.A.  
Head of School: Miss S. Hendricks, B.A. Ed. (Hons)

## NEWSLETTER MARCH 2023

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

*Create a pure heart in me, O God, and put a new and loyal spirit in me.*

### *Psalms 52:10*

Dear Parents

Spring is truly here at Holy Family Catholic school. There are daffodils and crocuses on the school grounds and the sound of new life filling the corridors with the ... ducklings that have successfully hatched in Year 2.



This half term, we entered the special time of Lent. We have been thinking deeply about how we can give, act and pray to grow closer to God. During our weekly whole-school collective worship, Father Pascal explained how we can put Jesus at the centre of our world through funny and interesting stories from when he was our age!

Year 2 delved into answering their big question for the unit and explored what Jesus teaches us about repentance and forgiving others so that they can apply this to their own lives. Further up the school, Year 6 linked their current knowledge of the Beatitudes to consider why Lent is a good time to reflect on them.

At the end of the half term, the entire school whole-heartedly took part in CAFOD's Big Lent walk. Each class walked for 15 minutes, creating a continuous march to stamp out poverty. The money raised will go towards supporting those living in poverty across the globe. A big thank you to those families who sponsored their children, supporting a great cause.





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## Curriculum and Enrichment

### Year R

This term, Year R have enjoyed reading and retelling 'The Gingerbread Man'. We enjoyed telling our own versions with different animals. In Science, we investigated dissolving to find out if the Gingerbread was telling the truth about not being able to swim! Then, we designed and built boats to help him next time.

For Understanding the World, we have compared Past and Present through looking at kitchens and cars. We have also started thinking about the signs of new life and seasonal changes in springtime. To develop our maths skills, we have explored estimating, halving and doubling.

### Year 1

This half term, there has been a Gruffalo on the loose in Holy Family! First we wrote a wanted poster describing his looks and personality and now we are writing a story where he goes on a journey in a different setting. Does he go underwater? Does he go into the jungle?

In History, we have been learning about the heroic actions of Grace Darling and her sea rescue, we have been thinking about artefacts, the story of the rescue and why she is considered significant.

### Year 2

Year 2 have had a wonderful half term. We have been writing about mythical creatures and are currently about to write the start of an exciting, adventure story.

Last week, our duck eggs were delivered and hatched on..... We were excited to learn about the hatching process but also to name our new arrivals. In history, we are learning about Florence Nightingale and the impact she has had on our National Health Service.

### Year 3

Year 3 have had a fantastic half term. In writing, we have been writing an invitation based on the book, Guess Who is Coming for Dinner?, where the evil Dr Hunter is trying to entice Horace and Glenda to stay at his mansion. We have been exploring powerful vocabulary to create the desired effect on the reader.



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In guided reading, we have been looking at the book Song of a Dolphin Boy and making links to climate change and how dolphins are being affected by plastic pollution. In geography, we have been learning all about climate change and how it is impacting on the polar regions in particular.

## Year 4

It has been an exciting and busy half term in Year 4! In our writing we have been linking our learning to the David Walliams book Billionaire Boy. We have been creating an effect of intimidation and worry for when our reader enters a new school for the first time. In Maths, we have begun our investigations into measurement and perimeter, working carefully to convert between different units of measurements and apply it to real life circumstances.

In Geography and Science, our focus has been rivers and the water cycle. We noticed that water has many different stages and how ready we are for a flood depends very much on how many resources the country has. We learn about these things to prepare us for our future and helps us to be ready to become architects of a better world!

## Year 5

In Year 5, we have been learning about World War I in order to help us with our writing. We are writing a flashback of life in the trenches. We have used some of our Guided Reading lessons to gain further insight into WWI using both fiction and non fiction texts to help us understand how the soldiers felt. We have then explored a variety of writing techniques to help us convey our emotions. Science has been fun as we have had the opportunity to undertake several tests during our topic 'Forces'. These have really helped us with our understanding.

## Year 6

Year six have been having a fantastic half term. In English we have been reading a book called, 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell. We are writing our own adventure survival story based on the characters that have crash landed in the Amazonian rainforest. In mathematics, we have completed our topics on ratio and proportion and learned how to apply scale factors to amounts or draw tables with sequences of scaled numbers to find answers to questions. We have designed motorised vehicles to race once we have built them and also in computing we have learned about e-safety.

More information about our curriculum can be found at <https://holyfamilylive.net/curriculum>





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## World Book Day

The children and staff all enjoyed World Book Day, as they do every year. A great chance for them all to dress as their favourite characters and for the teachers to decorate their classroom doors based on a book they are reading in class. Our "Bookface" competition was a huge success again this year, with the children merging themselves into the covers of their favourite books. We also had a very exciting competition for Year R and KS1 to design a new 'Pip and Pap' alien character. The winning designs will be turned into a book character!

## School Council update

In school council this term, our school counsellor's took part in a special tree planting ceremony. They were joined by a very important guest, Southampton's 800th Right Worshipful Mayor of Southampton Jacqui Rayment.

To see all the amazing workshops, events and activities the children are a part of, make sure you check out the weekly blogs.

<https://holyfamilylive.net/schoolblog>

## Attendance

Thank you to all those families who work hard to ensure their children are in school every day. Our school target is 97.6% and currently our attendance is at **94.3%**. If your child is too ill to attend school please contact the school office each morning that they are away from school so that we can correctly record the reason and so that we don't worry. Any absence from school without an explanation will be recorded as an unauthorised absence and will be investigated.





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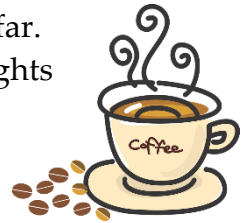
## Uniform

Please ensure all uniform is clearly labelled with your child's name so that we are able to return any lost property to your child as and when it is found.

## Coffee mornings / Uniform 'swap shop'.

Many thanks to the parents who have been able to attend our coffee mornings so far. The feedback and ideas shared during these sessions have helped shape our thoughts going forward.

Our next coffee morning will be on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May at 8:40am, this will be running alongside our first Uniform 'swap shop'. A huge thank you to all of our lovely parents that have donated preloved uniform ready to find a new home! If you have any uniform that no longer fits, in good condition and clean, that you would like to donate please bring into the school office.



## School meals

Please check out the new Summer term menu from City Catering that will be available after the Easter break.

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/62fb75dfcb84e0517feffce8/t/6411ba2684e219338cf7c055/1678883367757/Holy+Family+School+%28three+page%29.pdf>

School meals are £2.90 per day. Year R, 1 and 2 are all entitled to Universal free school meals. If you think your child may be eligible for free school meals due to your personal financial circumstances please use the below link to run an eligibility check.

<https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/southampton/>

## Parking

We are sadly still getting occasional reports from local residents of inconsiderate parking or dangerous driving at school drop off and pick up times. Please be mindful if you need to use your car for the school run. As the weather improves it is a good opportunity to enjoy a lovely walk to and from school. Local residents are advised to contact the Civil Enforcement Officers or the police if they have concerns.





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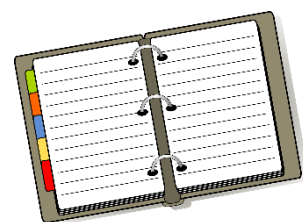
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## Dates for your Diary

- 3<sup>rd</sup> April – 14<sup>th</sup> April – Easter holidays
- Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> April – Year 2 trip to Marwell
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April – Tempest Class Photographs
- Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> May – May Day bank holiday
- Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> May – Coffee morning and Uniform Swap Shop
- Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> May – King's Coronation – extra bank holiday
- Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> May – Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> May – Year 6 SATS Week
- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May – Sports day and family picnic
- Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> May – Inset Day
- Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> May – Inset Day
- 29<sup>th</sup> May – 2<sup>nd</sup> June – half term
- Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> July – break up for the Summer Term
- Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> September – Inset Day
- Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> September – Pupils return to school



Have a wonderful Easter break.

**Gerida Montague**  
Executive Headteacher

**Sarah Hendricks**  
Co Executive Headteacher



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