

14th February 2025



THE HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL

'As a family we live, love, learn and celebrate with Jesus.'

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We have now reached the halfway point of the academic year, and it is incredible how quickly the time has flown! There is so much to celebrate, and I want to take a moment to thank you for attending this week's parent consultations. I hope you found them informative in understanding your child's progress so far and how you can continue to support their learning at home.

Our **free after-school clubs** remain as popular as ever, with 63 pupils from all year groups enjoying a fantastic range of activities this half-term. A huge thank you to Mrs Micklethwaite and Mrs Connolly for their hard work in organising these clubs and to all the staff who generously give their time to provide these valuable opportunities for our pupils.

Lunchtimes continue to be an exciting time as we develop our **OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) programme**. The children are thoroughly enjoying the new play experiences, and we appreciate your patience while the field remains muddy. Please refer to my email from yesterday for guidance on suitable outdoor clothing. Further in the newsletter, you'll find pictures that truly capture why OPAL has been such a fantastic addition to Holy Family.

This week, our pupils have been taking part in **Online Safety Week**, building on the excellent workshops delivered by Childnet last term. With the theme *'Too Good to Be True?'*, children have been reflecting on how to stay safe online in an age-appropriate way. Why not ask your child what they've learned this week?

A big thank you to the **HFFA for organising last week's Bingo Night**—it was a fantastic evening enjoyed by all, including the staff!

Looking ahead, next half-term is packed with exciting events, including **World Book Day** (with a bedtime story theme—no costumes needed!), **Science Week** featuring a special visit from Safari Pete, our second **Subject Showcase** for parents, the beginning of **Lent**, and the **Y3 and Y4 Easter play**.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable half-term break with your families!

"Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all." – Aristotle

God Bless
Mrs Linnane

Upcoming Events

February

- 24th – Back to school
- 25th – Year 1 & 4 topic celebration
2.45pm
- 26th – Year 2&3 topic celebration
2.45pm
- 27th – Nursery topic celebration 8.40am
- 27th – Year 5&6 topic celebration 2.45pm
- 27th – Year 5 Astronomy Show

March

- 3rd – Book Fair
- 4th – Reception topic celebration 2.45pm
- 4th – Y3 Celtic Harmony trip

For regular news, updates and photos about life at our school!

Please see our website:

www.holyfamily.herts.sch.uk

Facebook: [TheHolyFamilySchoolWGC](https://www.facebook.com/TheHolyFamilySchoolWGC)

Twitter: [@holyfamilyWGC](https://twitter.com/holyfamilyWGC)



Stars of the week

- Rec - Drilion**
- Year 1 - Harper**
- Year 2 - Jude**
- Year 3 - Aoife**
- Year 4 - Daisy**
- Year 5 - Daniel**
- Year 6 - Emilio**

Year 3

In Year 3 we have been doing lots of fun learning the past few weeks! In Science we have been looking at soil formation and investigated it by choosing three different soils and seeing what happened when we poured a small amount of water on top. The results surprised us all! To celebrate Number Day we went on a 'Number Hunt' outside with Nursery. This was a great way for us to work in small groups and get to know our buddies more. It was lots of fun and we can't wait to spend more time with them next term! Finally, we have just finished writing our speeches on how we feel we can improve our school by using less plastic and recycling more!



Year 4

In Science, Year 4 have been investigating the properties of solids, liquids and gases. We have taken our learning outside to investigate different solids, liquids and gases. We have worked like scientists and completed lots of experiments. We have learnt how solids, liquids and gases change states and the scientific words to describe these changes. We have also thought about science in real life in the water cycle and in how our washing dries best.



As part of our RE topic Father Norbert came to talk to us about his life as a priest and his role in the community. We learnt a lot and

were then able to ask the questions that we planned. In English we enjoyed taking our learning outside to find clues and investigate the mysterious egg mystery. We then wrote newspaper stories to report on this mystery.



Year 5

Year 5 have been working hard in English and wrote a persuasive letter to Mrs Linnane. In maths, we have been focusing on fractions and learning and to add, subtract and multiply a fraction. Year 5 have been learning some African call and response songs and drumming in our music sessions this half term. Our RE topic is about memories. Children reflected on why we should keep memories alive and we have learned about Passover and the last supper. The children have demonstrated some fantastic rock and roll dancing to the hand jive this term and now we are learning a dance to perform in the Year 5 dance festival in March. Our science topic this half term is about Earth and space and we have learned about day and night and made our own

sundial to tell the time.



Year 6

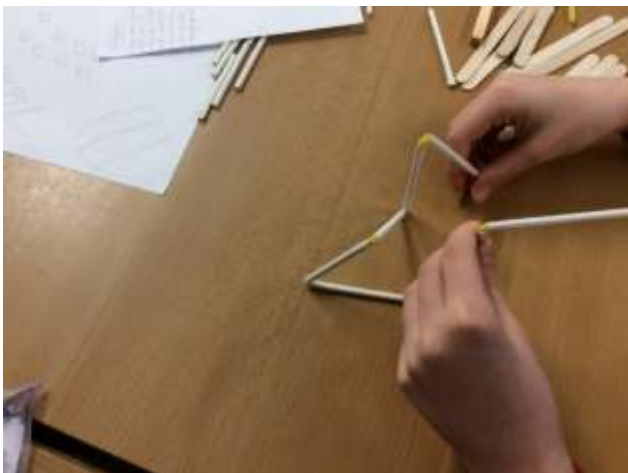
Safer internet day

On Tuesday, we participated in the BBC Safer Internet live lesson. We created PowerPoint presentations based on the theme "Too Good to Be True." Our focus was on understanding what this phrase means and how to stay safe online. We explored key topics such as identifying scams, recognising phishing attempts, and protecting our passwords.



DT - Structures

This term, we had a fantastic time designing and building structures! We worked with saws and glue guns to bring our ideas to life. Join us at our topic celebration to see our finished playground structure.



Topic Celebrations

Please note that some of the dates for the topic celebrations have changed.

25th February – Year 1 & 4 2.45pm

26th February – Year 2 & 3 2.45pm

27th February – Year 5&6 2.45pm

27th February – Nursery – 8.45am

4th March – Reception 2.45pm

My (After School) ART club

Our children have been working on a fantastic Our Farm animals art project has come to an end. The children's drawings look fantastic. They had a lot of fun using the dry pastels.

Please find the online art gallery of the children's artworks: [The Holy Family Art Gallery](#)



On Monday March 3rd March we have a bookshop coming to visit us (bookwagon.co.uk). They will hold presentations of new and exciting books for all children during the afternoon before hosting a book shop on Monday after school in the hall. Everyone is welcome to attend this event. They will have great books available for all ages. Hope to see you there!

We will celebrate world book day on Friday March 7th. The theme is 'snuggle with a book'. We are asking for children to come in pyjamas and to bring their favourite book to read. As well as sharing these books during the day, the children will also take part in a fun Enrichment morning with all activities based on books! On Friday afternoon, they will bring home a book token to spend on a book. They can use this World Book Day £1 token to get a brilliant read for free until 23 March 2025.



Pilgrims of Hope

Following the launch of our Jubilee Year, our focus has been on how we are all Pilgrims of Hope, journeying towards Jesus by following in His footsteps. As part of this, the entire school came together to paint our feet, symbolising our shared walk of faith and hope towards Him.



Prayer Cards

Each child has received a Jubilee prayer card to take home. As a family, you are invited to continue the journey by saying the Prayer of Hope together, asking God to guide us on our path as Pilgrims of Hope.

A prayer of hope

God, our loving Father,
in this Jubilee Year,
you remind us of our call to love creation.
Help us to work together
to replant, repair, and renew.

**Guide us on our journey
as pilgrims of hope.**

Jesus, our light,
in this Jubilee Year,
you remind us of our call to love
our neighbours
and to set free those who suffer.
Help us to treat everyone with dignity;
to be fair, forgiving and kind.

**Guide us on our journey
as pilgrims of hope.**

Holy Spirit, our inspiration,
in this Jubilee Year, you remind us of our
call to grow in faith and love.
Help us to hear you in scripture, to see
Jesus in others,
and to be united as God's global family.

**Guide us on our journey
as pilgrims of hope.**

Amen

Written in
collaboration with Misses

Dates for the Diary

February

- 24th – Back to school
- 25th – Year 1 & 4 topic celebration 2.45pm
- 26th – Year 2&3 topic celebration 2.45pm
- 27th – Year 5 Astronomy show
- 27th – Nursery topic celebration 8.40am
- 27th – Year 5&6 topic celebration 2.45pm

March

- 3rd – Secondary allocation day
- 3rd – Book fair
- 4th – Reception Topic Celebration 2.45pm
- 4th – Year 3 Celtic Harmony trip
- 7th – Enrichment Day

