

13<sup>th</sup> September 2024

# THE HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL

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

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Welcome back and a warm welcome to the new families that have joined us this year across the school and to our new reception and nursery families. It has been a busy and productive couple of weeks back and the children have settled well with their new teachers, in their new classes and with new routines and expectations.

At the end of the academic year we received our school **KS2 SATS** results and I am very pleased to let you know that this year's results were the best that the school has had in a number of years, including before the pandemic. 97% of pupils reached the expected standard or better in maths, compared to 73% nationally. 93% of pupils reached the expected standard or better in reading compared to 74% nationally with 48% of those pupils reaching the greater depth standard. 83% of pupils reached the expected standard or better in writing compared to 72% nationally and 79% of pupils reached the expected standard or better in reading, writing and maths compared to 61% nationally. These fantastic results are testament to the hard work of all our staff over a number of years and I would like to extend my thanks to them and in particular the Y6 team. I would also like to thank our Y6 parents for their support and our pupils for their dedication to their work and commitment to achieve their potential. I will share all our statutory test results from across the school when they are fully validated later this half term.

Thank you to those parents who attended the Meet the Teacher meetings this week. If you were unable to attend the information shared will be shared the class page of the school website and emailed to you via the class email.

On Monday at 2pm Fr Norbert will lead our Welcome Mass for pupils in Y1-Y6, families are warmly welcomed to join us.

*'Let us remember: One book, one pen, one child and one teacher can change the world,' Malala Yousafzai*

God Bless  
Mrs Linnane



## Upcoming Events September

- 16<sup>th</sup> – 2pm Start of year Mass year 1-6.  
Parents welcome
- 18<sup>th</sup> – 9am Coffee morning for new parents and HFFA
- 19<sup>th</sup> – Year 5 Swimming commences
- 19<sup>th</sup> – Year 3 Egyptian workshop
- 24<sup>th</sup> – Individual and sibling photos
- 25<sup>th</sup> – 9am-10am Phonics and early reading parent workshop

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

**Please see our website:**  
[www.holyfamily.herts.sch.uk](http://www.holyfamily.herts.sch.uk)  
**Facebook:** [TheHolyFamilySchoolWGC](https://www.facebook.com/TheHolyFamilySchoolWGC)  
**Twitter:** [@holyfamilyWGC](https://twitter.com/holyfamilyWGC)



### Stars of the week

Rec	Whole Class
Year 1	Oliver
Year 2	Olivia
Year 3	Lettie
Year 4	Chimamanda
Year 5	Alice S
Year 6	Lily

**Whole school attendance: 97.6%**

## Nursery

The children in nursery have had a fantastic start to the school year. From their first day, they have shown great confidence coming in by themselves and getting used to their new routine. They have been making friends and showing consideration towards others.

This week we have been learning about the Saint Martin's cross and how Saint Martin shared his belongings with others less fortunate. The children had a good understanding of what sharing is and they were able to demonstrate this in their play.



## Reception

Our new reception class have been busy settling in, making new friends and getting familiar with the new environment. We enjoyed our first Art and PE lessons but most of all, we loved learning outside the classroom, picking up beautiful leaves, flowers and feathers for our nature collage artwork.



## Year 1

In Year 1 we have been learning about the artist Bridget Reilly and how she used different lines in her paintings. We created lines using string and then chalk.



## Year 2

In Maths this week we have been working hard to develop our understanding of numbers to 100 through a variety of different activities.

We have learnt that 10 ones is equal to 1 ten and used ones cubes and tens rods to regroup our cubes to make different amounts easier to count.



## Punctuality

The school gates open at 8.40am and close at 8.45am. All children should be through the gates between these times. If you arrive after 8.45am you must come down to the Reception area with your child and sign them in. This includes Year 6 children.

## Parking

- Please walk, cycle or scoot to school if you can.
- Please park away from Crookhams and Rowans where possible and walk.
- Please use the hard standing carpark located at the lagoon .

Please do not park on the grass verge around the residential areas. We will be keeping a vigilant eye on parents parking on the grass verges and taking photos to report to the relevant authorities.

Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

## Coffee morning

We would like to welcome new parents and families to the school to join us at our coffee morning on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September from 9am. Mrs Micklethwaite, Assistant headteacher (inclusion) and our school Family worker will also be available for an informal chat. We hope to see lots of you there.



## Ten Ten Prayer and Liturgy

Here is a link to the Prayer and Liturgy: Loving Jesus monthly parent newsletter so you can have an overview of the content children will experience in school throughout the month and suggestions of ways for you to engage with them about it.

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/>

## Herts Parent Carer Involvement

You should have received an email today from the HPCI team. They would really appreciate it you could take 5 minutes to complete the survey attached or click on the link below.

Please complete our survey:

[www.surveymonkey.com/r/HertsPINS1](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HertsPINS1)



### School reading books and library books

Please can you ensure that all reading and library books are returned in the condition that they were issued. Lost and damaged books will incur a charge for replacement books.

### Goodbye

Over the summer, we have said goodbye to Miss McDermott who has moved onto pastures new. We wish her the best of luck in her new role.

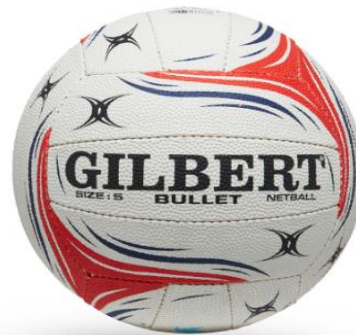


### Year 5 & 6 Girls

We are in the process of setting up a Holy Family netball team and after school club. In order to support the training involved, Mrs Connolly will be attending five netball coaching sessions run by a netball coach. She needs 5-7 children to attend these sessions, please complete the form sent out last week if you child is interested.

The first session starts on Monday 16th September at 3.30pm to 4.30pm at Stanborough netball courts. The final session is Monday 14th October with a festival then being planned on the 21st October for those who have attended. Parents can stay or drop off. We will then be planning to run the sessions at Holy Family after October half term.

The sessions are free. If you have any questions please contact Mrs Connolly in the school office.



# Dates for the Diary

## September

- 16<sup>th</sup> – 2pm Start of year Mass year 1-6. Parents welcome
- 18<sup>th</sup> – 9am Coffee morning for new parents and HFFA
- 19<sup>th</sup> – Year 5 Swimming commences
- 19<sup>th</sup> – Year 3 Egyptian workshop
- 24<sup>th</sup> – Individual and sibling photos
- 25<sup>th</sup> – 9am-10am Phonics and early reading parent workshop

## October

- 4<sup>th</sup> – Year 6 Aylesford trip
- 18<sup>th</sup> – 9.15am Harvest Mass year 1-6 Parents welcome
- 23<sup>rd</sup> – 3.30 -7pm Parent consultations face to face
- 24<sup>th</sup> – 3.30 – 7pm Parent consultation online
- 25<sup>th</sup> – Finish for half term 3.15pm

