

6<sup>th</sup> December 2024

# THE HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL

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

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**Upcoming Events**

## December

- 10<sup>th</sup> – 2pm Advent Mass Year 1-6
- 12<sup>th</sup> – 9.30am EYFS Nativity
- 12<sup>th</sup> – 1.30pm KS1 Nativity
- 17<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Lunch and Christmas jumper day
- 18<sup>th</sup> – KS2 Advent Carol Service
- 19<sup>th</sup> – 9.15 KS2 Christmas Choir Concert
- 20<sup>th</sup> – Term Ends 1.15pm

The magic of Christmas has certainly arrived at Holy Family this week. Mrs Kelly and I had the pleasure of taking our school Chaplaincy Team to Westminster Cathedral on Wednesday for the Catholic Children's Society's Advent Service. It is an event we attend annually along with many other Catholic schools across Westminster Diocese that wonderfully marks the start of Advent.

This afternoon it is our school Christmas Fair from 3.30-6.30pm. We welcome all our families and the wider school community to join in some Christmas fun! A special thank you to the HFFA for organising the event and all the volunteers, including staff members that make these community events possible.

We have begun our annual reverse Advent Calendar. Thank you to those of you that have been able to donate so generously. We will continue to collect donations until next Friday and will then distribute what we have collected to the local charities we support.

As we continue with our Advent preparations we are looking forward to the nativity plays next week and the Advent Service at Holy Family Church on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December. There will be a collection at these events for the Catholic Children's Society, in support of the work they do for vulnerable children and families across Westminster Diocese.

2025 is a year of jubilee for the Catholic Church. Pope Francis has chosen the theme 'Pilgrims of Hope'. During this time of Advent as we prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ at Christmas we pray for renewed hope, particularly those suffering the impacts of conflict and war across the world.

*'Advent increases our hope, a hope which does not disappoint. The Lord never lets us down.'* **Pope Francis**

God Bless  
Mrs Linnane

**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**

- Year 1 - Eric**
- Year 2 - Esme**
- Year 3 - Victor**
- Year 4 - Kolade**
- Year 5 - Mari**
- Year 6 - Isla**

## Year 3

We have had a very busy few weeks in Year 3! The children have been learning all about forces and magnets in science. This week we conducted an investigation looking at whether materials were magnetic or non-magnetic. We had lots of fun testing and sorting the materials into groups! Ask us what we found out about our new key words – ‘attract’ and ‘repel’. In outdoor learning we have been making winter wreaths using natural resources. Each one looks completely different and beautiful. They are proudly on display in the year 3 classroom!



## Year 4

Year 4 have been really busy with our learning this half term. We have particularly enjoyed learning about the Romans in history and enjoyed our trip to Verulamium museum. At the museum we had the chance to look at the artefacts and be Romans at the market. We have also practised Roman drills and formations during outdoor learning. In Science we have been investigating circuits and different components. Our outdoor learning helped us to understand how a circuit works when we were components in a whole class circuit. We will use this knowledge when we build torches in design technology. We are thinking about the important time of advent and look forward to celebrating this in different ways.



## Year 5

Year 5 have had a busy few weeks! In maths we have been learning to multiply and divide 2 digit numbers. Children have been learning to use expanded noun phrases, simile and personification in their writing. In music this half term we have listened to blues music and learned to play a 12 bar blues. Children used natural materials to make a windchime in our LOTC session. We had our last swimming session this week and the children have been amazing and grown in skills and confidence in the water.





## Year 6

In PE we have been developing our gymnastic skills. We have learnt to combine and perform various gymnastic actions smoothly.

During our LOTC lesson, we took time to reflect on our primary school memories for our end-of-year yearbook. It was amazing to look back on all the fun we've had and to think about the exciting things we're looking forward to as we move on to secondary school.



## Did you know?

Holy Family has a mental health and wellbeing page on the school website. Have you read our policy on mental health? Please click [here](#) to read it.



## Westminster Carol Service

On Wednesday, the chaplaincy team attended an Advent Service at Westminster Cathedral, joined by other schools from the Westminster area. The service was organised by The Catholic Children's Society.



During the service, we listened to a homily by Bishop Paul McAleenan, who reminded us, "Whatever you do to your brothers and sisters, you do to me/Jesus." He explained that treating others unkindly is the same as being unkind to Jesus, while acts of kindness, such as donating to charity or helping those in need, are ways of serving and honouring the Lord. The experience was a meaningful way to prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus at Christmas.

Sonia, Sofia, Philip, Alice C, Matilda and Emma

### CLUBS – SPRING 2025

There are still places available should your child wish to sign up for **MT ART CLUB**, please see link below;

<https://www.myafterschoolartclub.com/holy-family-art-project>

**EVERYBODY COOKS COOKERY CLUB** has moved to a Friday, please see details below to sign your child up for this club;

**Workshops to start in January 2025** - To book please do contact me: Louise Penn 07946 303213 Email:louise@everyonecooks.co.uk



# The Holy Family Catholic Primary School Reverse Advent Calendar



<b>Reverse Advent Calendar 2024</b> 		<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December</b> Tinned food 	<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December</b> Tea/coffee/sugar 	<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December</b> Biscuits 
<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December</b> Breakfast Cereal 	<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December</b> Toothpaste/ Toothbrushes 	<b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December</b> Shampoo/ conditioner 	<b>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December</b> Deodorants/shower gel 	<b>Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December</b> Sanitary products 
<b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December</b> Meat & Tuna (tinned) 	<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December</b> Fruit and Veg (tinned) 	<b>Various toiletries Gift sets</b> 	<b>Adult socks and gloves</b> 	<b>NEW bed linen (for single beds); Duvets, Pillows, Towels</b>

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**Herts  
Parent  
Carer InVolveMent**  
[www.hertsparentcarers.org.uk](http://www.hertsparentcarers.org.uk)



## PARENT CARER MEETING

Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity In schools (PINS) project

You are invited to the 2nd PINS parent meeting with Mrs Angela Micklethwaite (Inclusion) where you will hear an update about the PINS project so far and the areas of focus at your school, Mrs Micklethwaite will also share details about SEN support at the school and there will be time for questions and discussion.

**Location: The Holy Family  
Catholic Primary School**

**Date: 15th January 2025**

**Time: 2:15-3:15pm**

**Sign up using the QR  
code or link below**

You may also drop in on the day  
but this helps with our planning  
for teas, coffees and biscuits

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PINSSignUp2>

**CONTACT US**

[contact@hertsparentcarers.org.uk](mailto:contact@hertsparentcarers.org.uk)

Website:  
[www.hertsparentcarers.org.uk](http://www.hertsparentcarers.org.uk)



# Dates for the Diary

## December

- 6<sup>th</sup> – HFFA Christmas Fayre
- 10<sup>th</sup> – 2pm Advent Mass
- 12<sup>th</sup> – 9.30am EYFS Nativity
- 12<sup>th</sup> – 1.30pm KS1 Nativity
- 17<sup>th</sup> – Christmas lunch and Christmas jumper day
- 18<sup>th</sup> – 5.30pm KS2 Advent Carol service
- 19<sup>th</sup> – 9.15am Christmas Choir concert KS2
- 20<sup>th</sup> – **School finishes 1.15pm**

## January

- 6<sup>th</sup> – Inset Day
- 7<sup>th</sup> – Pupils return to school 8.40am

