

12th January 2024

THE HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL

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

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Welcome back and I hope that you had an enjoyable and restful Christmas break. This term is shorter than usual, however we still have much to do and school has been very busy this week. The children have returned rejuvenated and ready to learn, please see the class pages on the [school website](#) for information on what your child will be learning this half term.

A year ago I shared that the governors were in discussion with the Catholic Academy Trust (CAT) The Diocese of Westminster Academy Trust (DOWAT) about whether a move to join the trust would be beneficial for our school. These discussions are in light of Cardinal Vincent Nichols vision that all Catholic schools in the Diocese should become part of a CAT. The governors have been in contact with the Diocese to seek approval to move further with this and approval to enter the next phase has been given. We hope to consult with the wider community about this later in the term. In the meantime you can find out more about the Cardinals vision [here](#) and more information about DOWAT can be found [here](#).

This Sunday is Peace Sunday across the Catholic Church. Since the outbreak of war in the Middle East we have been praying for peace at school. Our mantra is to 'Fill the world with doves of peace,' and a beautiful, creative work with each child's hope for peace in the world is on display along the main corridor in school. We will continue to focus our prayers on peace and for hope, particularly for children who are affected by conflict across the world.

'Make peace, create peace, be the example of peace. We need peace in the world.' **Pope Francis**

God Bless
Mrs Linnane



Upcoming Events

January

- 15th – Reception application closes for September 2024
- 17th - Feast of Holy Family Mass (Rec – Y6)
2pm – All welcome
- 24th – Coffee morning with School family worker

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

Please see our website:

www.holyfamily.herts.sch.uk

Facebook: [TheHolyFamilySchoolWGC](#)

Twitter: [@holyfamilyWGC](#)



Stars of the week

Year R	Iylah
Year 1	Esme
Year 2	Hugh
Year 3	Elaina
Year 4	Wiktor
Year 5	Reggie
Year 6	Reilly

Whole school attendance this week:

97.6 %

No after school club 15th January 2024

Please note that due to essential staff training there will be no after school club on Monday 15th January 2024.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Parking

Please do not stop in the middle of the road to drop your child off as the road outside gets very busy and this causes a queue of traffic. Please be considerate to local residents when parking. Do not park on the grass verges, across resident's driveways, between our school parking signs or directly opposite the school gates. Hertfordshire Constabulary are monitoring this across the county and have advised schools that parking tickets will be issued.

We have also had reports of parents parking in Quickbeams which has resulted in a local residents disabled access being blocked. Please don't not park where you will obstruct local resident's access.

Please remember that we operate an unofficial one way system at pick up and drop off times entering from the Rowans end of Crookhams.

We encourage families to walk to school where possible. Alternatively, there is a hard standing carpark at the lagoon opposite the Crookhams turning.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the Richardson family on the safe arrival of their new baby daughter Bella. A baby sister for Flynn, Eva and Millie.

**BABY
GIRL**

Super Star Sports

There are still places on our after school clubs with Super Star Sports.

Gymnastics is at risk of being cancelled due to the low numbers.

If you would like to book a place on any of the clubs please use the link below.

Booking link

- <https://superstarsportuk.classforkids.io/term/433>



200 Club

If you were a winner in the December newsletter please remember to come to the office to collect your cheque.

N Rodrigues - £25

A Levett - £50

D Alves - £25

C Scott - £50

If you would like to join the 200 club, please complete a form from the school office

Are you looking for strategies to help your child cope with everyday worries?

Do you want to find out more about strategies to deal with anxiety?

Do you have a specific question about your child's progress or needs?

Join us on Tuesday 23rd January straight after drop off for a coffee and chat.

Angela Micklethwaite AHT (Inclusion)
Kelly O'Connell & Sarah Cafferty (School Family Workers)

Year 3

This week we have begun reading our new book in English 'The Iron Man'. On Monday, we looked at different metal items and the children had to decide where they might have come from and what words they would use to describe them. The children have built on this throughout the week, drawing pictures of what they thought the Iron Man might look like, and writing 1st person accounts of what it would be like to see him standing in front of them! We have decided as a class we are very curious to find out more next week!



In learning outside the classroom we have taken our science lesson outdoors! We are focusing on forces and magnets this term and this week the children were investigating 'push and pull'. They attached 3 elastic bands to a toy car and looked at how much force was needed on 4 different surfaces before the car would move. It was cold, but very fun!



Year 4

In LOTC this week, we created some drama pieces and scenes all based around the circus, which is linked to our text in English, 'Leon and the place between'. The children had to base their story around a circus scenario and present to the rest of the class. In music, the children have started to learn the song 'America' from 'West Side Story' which links to our new topic in geography, 'The Americas'.



Year 5

Year 5 have had a positive start to the spring term. The children have really enjoyed the mystery and suspense in our new book called the Watertower. We have been learning about materials and children investigated the properties and uses of different materials in our LOTC session and music this week. In maths this week we have been focusing on short division this week. We are learning about dance in PE



Year 6

We have begun our volleyball lessons in PE this week. We focused on throwing and catching the ball using high point catching and fast catch volley.



Dates for the Diary

January

15th – Reception application closes for September 2024

17th - Feast of Holy Family Mass (Rec – Y6) 2pm – All welcome

24th – Coffee morning with School family worker

February

14th – Parent Consultation (in person)

14th – Ash Wednesday

15th – Parent consultation (online)

16th – Finis for half term – 3.15pm