

24<sup>th</sup> May 2024

# THE HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL

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

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We have reached the end of another successful half term here at Holy Family. The summer term is enjoyable in many ways, not least as this is the time that teachers are able to see how much progress the children in their class have made and continue to make on a daily basis.

Class topic celebrations have taken place this week. I hope you have enjoyed the opportunity to see your child's learning and take part in activities to celebrate your child's hard work and achievements.

Sports day was a great success today. The children were amazing and there were lots of smiles, and stickers, all round! The winning house in KS1 was St John Henry Newman and in KS2 was St Josephine Bakhita.

The overall winning house was St John Henry Newman. Thank you to all the staff involved and our families for their support at the event.

As the end of the academic year approaches, we have many community events and celebrations to look forward to, please try to attend these events and support our school where you can.

Have a restful half term with family and friends. I look forward to an enjoyable and busy final half of the summer term when we return to school on **Monday 3rd June**.

*'And so with the sunshine and the great bursts of leaves growing on the trees, just as things grow in fast movies, I had that familiar conviction that life was beginning over again with the summer.'*

**F. Scott Fitzgerald**

God Bless  
Mrs Linnane



## Upcoming Events JUNE

3<sup>rd</sup> – Back to school  
7<sup>th</sup> – Enrichment morning  
7<sup>th</sup> – International Day

### Families welcome in the afternoon

11<sup>th</sup> – Year 5 taster day JHN  
20<sup>th</sup> – Subject showcase 2.30pm  
28<sup>th</sup> – Thanksgiving Mass 2pm  
All welcome

**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  
Year 1  
Year 2  
Year 3  
Year 4  
Year 5  
Year 6

**Whole school attendance:**

## YEAR 3

We have been very busy in year 3 the last couple of weeks! We have done lots of exciting outdoor learning, including taking our guided reading sessions outdoors. We have just finished reading Flat Stanley and The Great Egyptian Grave Robbery. We loved being able to have our discussions outdoors. We have also been looking at 'plants and growth' as part of our science topic this term. We were very excited to be able to start growing our own runner beans to explore what plants need to grow. We have been caring for them and watering them as often as we can – especially when it does not rain! Finally, we have been learning about the Ancient Egyptians and what achievements they made during the Egyptian era. As part of our lessons, we looked at Hieroglyphs and artefacts. It was lots of fun!



## YEAR 4

We have had another busy term

in year 4. We have been enjoying the sunshine (when it has appeared) and in one lesson, we did an invertebrate hunt. This was linked to our science learning all about 'Living Things'. We have learnt about living things such as plants, animals and humans. We discovered the difference between a vertebrate and invertebrate. Invertebrates are largely made up of bugs and insects so the children completed a scavenger hunt to find and classify the insects. We went searching in our bug hotel, under rocks, under pieces of wood, in trees and in our vegetable patch. It was great fun! Miss Oudnie was very brave at picking some of them up and sharing with the children although some were a little bit wary too!



Year 4 have also been very busy preparing for their multiplication check this term, which is the first week after half term. Miss Pickering has been so proud of our progress and says: "Don't forget to practice over the break".

## Year 5

Year 5 have enjoyed learning about the scientist Mary Anning this term and wrote a biography about her life. In maths we have been learning about finding the area and perimeter of a rectilinear or compound shape. The children have been very enthusiastic about designing their own game in our computing sessions. They had to choose a theme, and how to win points or lose a life. We had an exciting visit from the astronomy roadshow planetarium to link with our science topic about space. We have been learning about day and night and different international time zones. In Geography Year 5 have been focusing on the topic of mountains and the pros and cons of visiting the Alps.



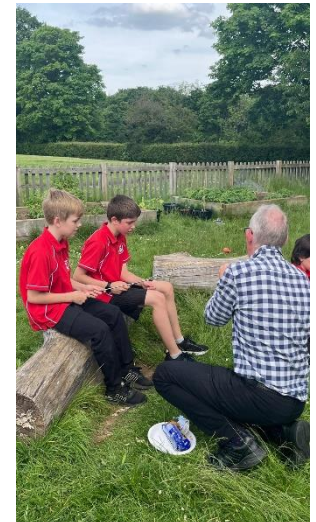
## Year 6

### Production

We are looking forward to beginning rehearsals for our end of year production – School – O -Vision.

### Post SATs FUN

We enjoyed games on our field and a visit to forest school making s'mores – mmmmm



# My Art Work Afterschool Club

Our art project "The Big Garden Birdwatch" has come to an end. The kids really enjoyed drawing this little garden snapshot. Their cats, birds, and flowers look fantastic and if you look just a little closer, you may see bees, butterflies, and spiders.



## There is a vacancy for a parent governor on the school's governing board.

### What is a Parent Governor?

The definition of a parent governor, is a person who is elected as a member of the Governing Board of the school, by parents of registered pupils at the school and who is a parent at the time of their election. Governors come from all walks of life and bring a rich variety of skills and experience to schools. What Governors at Holy Family School have in common, is a passion for education and a commitment to furthering the life chances of all of the young people we serve.

### **School governors have a varied and important role .....**

Helping the school run effectively. They have three core functions:

Planning the strategic direction of the school

- Overseeing financial performance of the school and ensuring money is well spent
- Holding the head teacher or school leadership to account

The governor role is strategic rather than operational. Governors don't get involved with the day to day running of a school, instead supporting and challenging the school's leadership team to drive school improvement.

Governors usually attend around six meetings a year. Governor visits are needed too. Being a school governor is a commitment and a responsibility but offers you the chance to see first-hand the impact you can make in improving education for children in your community. As a parent governor, your role is;

To bring a **parental perspective** to the issues discussed – you're not there to speak 'on behalf' of the parent body Apart from that, no different from other governors.

At the Holy family School we are committed to equality, diversity and inclusion for all applicants and the wider community. We want to create an environment which represents the surrounding communities. We would like anyone who is used to going to meetings and giving a viewpoint to consider applying. We encourage applications from all members of society, regardless of background, gender, ethnicity, disability or age (as long as you are over 18).

### Would you like to be a parent governor?

If you want to know more about governance have a look at this video.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SoMsVNRg3rc>

Please click [here](#) to complete the form for expression of interest.

You will need to ask another parent of a pupil to sign the form. Please be aware that regulations require everyone elected or appointed to a governing body to undergo a pre-appointment check which will include a criminal background check. This is to ensure the safety of the pupils. If you are elected and you subsequently decline to undergo such a check, you will disqualify yourself.

Please give brief details of yourself of no more than 80 words on the form. If an election is needed these details will be copied and sent to all parents with the ballot papers. Please note that the 80 word limit will be strictly enforced and result in additional wording being deleted. If the number of nominations is the same as or less than the number of vacancies, then the person nominated will be deemed elected unopposed. If there are not enough nominations, the governing body has the duty to appoint parent governors to fill the remaining vacancy.

The governing body has determined that the term of office for a parent governor is 4 years. If you are elected you may serve the full term of office even if your child leaves the school before your term of office finishes. If an election is necessary we will send you a ballot paper on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023, closing date Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023. Only parents of children registered at the school are entitled to stand or vote in the election. A parent who is paid to work at the school for more than 500 hours in a school year or is an elected member of the LA may not stand for election. Each parent will be sent one ballot paper regardless of how many children they have at the school, and each parent will have one vote per vacancy. The ballot will be secret and you will be notified of the result as soon as possible afterwards. In most cases it will be obvious whether you are a parent. For the purposes of the election of a parent governor, a parent is:

*Parents (including carers) of registered pupils at the school. "Parent" is defined for the purposes of the Constitution Regulations as including "any individual who has or has had parental responsibility for, or cares or has cared for, a child or young person under the age of 18". It includes a person who the child lives with or who looks after the child, irrespective of what their relationship is with the child. The reference in the definition must be someone involved in the full-time care of the child on a settled basis.*

The role of governor is voluntary and professional. You may want to access some information from this website before you nominate yourself.

<https://governorsforschools.org.uk/volunteers/about-the-role/>

If you have any questions about whether you are eligible to stand or vote in the election or about anything else in this letter, please contact me.



## Cyber Choices and Online Safety Events

For parents / carers of children aged 9 and up

You are invited to attend two **free** online sessions to discuss all things “cyber”.

These sessions will be suitable for parents/carers of children in Year 5 (age 9) and above. This will be a fantastic opportunity to learn and ask questions regarding your child’s online world and it shouldn’t be missed!

**Part 1** will introduce you to the Cyber Choices programme which will be delivered by the Eastern Region Cyber Choices Team. They will provide:

- An overview to parents and carers on what cybercrime is.
- What the risks to young people are.
- How the Cyber Choices programme supports at-risk individuals.
- How you can refer a young person into Cyber Choices.

You will also hear from Kent County Council’s Education Safeguarding Team, who will provide an overview of;

- Some of the potential risks that children and young people may experience online.
- Advice to support parents to make informed decisions and keep their children safer online.

Please visit the NCA website to find out more about [Cyber Choices](#)

Please register for **one** part 1 session only (as these will be duplicated), by clicking on the link below.

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2024 @ 1000 - Part 1  
[Book here](#)

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024 @ 1300 - Part 1  
[Book here](#)

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2024 @ 1600 - Part 1  
[Book here](#)

**Part 2** will be delivered by the Eastern Region Cyber Protect Team. They will provide:

- Advice on how to improve your personal cyber security.
- Identifying and protecting yours (and your children’s) key accounts.
- Threats and techniques that cyber criminals may use to target you / your family.
- Benefits of family accounts.
- Parental controls on your router.
- Signposting to useful resources.

The aim of the session is to provide you with tools and techniques to improve the cyber security of your family.

Advice and guidance from the session will be in line with the Government’s [Stop! Think Fraud](#) and the National Cyber Security Centres [CyberAware](#) campaigns.

Again, please register for **one** part 2 session only (as these will be duplicated), by clicking on the link below.

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2024 @ 1000 - Part 2  
[Book here](#)

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2024 @ 1300 - Part 2  
[Book here](#)

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2024 @ 1600 - Part 2  
[Book here](#)

If you have any questions or would like us to cover a certain topic within our sessions, then please complete our [online form](#).

## Warm weather

As the weather begins to get warmer, please ensure that your child has sun cream applied before the school day, a sun hat and a water bottle.



## Pre Loved Uniform

Get yourself ready for September. Has your child out grown their school uniform? Come and have a look to see if we have what you are looking for on our PRE LOVED uniform rail or have you got some good used items that you would like to donate. We accept logoed jumper/cardigans and polo shirts, PE tops and grey school trousers/skirts. Please note that we have lots of Summer dresses available if you are looking to get the next size. In return for the items we are asking for a donation. Uniform will be available to purchase on Friday afternoons in the school playground.

## JOB ALERT

The Saint John Henry Newman School is looking to recruit an HR & Events Assistant to join the school office. No formal qualifications are required, but office experience is essential. The successful candidate will be able to work 25-27.5 hours per week, and we are able to be flexible for the right candidate. The deadline is Sunday, 2nd June 2024. For more information, please visit Teach in Herts or email the school directly at [hr@jhn.herts.sch.uk](mailto:hr@jhn.herts.sch.uk).

## Nursery Places September 2024

We currently have a few places in our Nursery for September 2024. Part time or full time places available. Please share the information with the wider community. For more information contact the school office on 01707 375518



## Mid Herts Music service

We are pleased to invite children and families to our free taster sessions for our brand-new music ensembles starting at Mid Herts Centre for Music and Arts centre after half term.

We also have an **Open Evening on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 3.30-6pm** where you will be able to talk to our experienced teachers for advice and try out a variety of brass, percussion, woodwind and string instruments. Please register your interest

here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/887694487107?aff=oddtcreator>

No previous experience necessary and instruments will be provided for the following new music sessions:

### **Hoot and Honk!**

Calling all students interested in brass, woodwind or percussion from school years 3 onwards. These sessions are also suitable for students just starting on the Get Playing project, First Access (school class lesson) or have only just started playing.

**Thursdays 4.45-5.45 pm - Free session on 6<sup>th</sup> June.**

### **Junior Choir**

For pupils in school years 2–6. There will be regular opportunities for the group to perform to an audience which will build our students' confidence and allow them to showcase their progress throughout the year!

**Saturday 8.50-9.30am - Free session on 8<sup>th</sup> June.**

### **Community Steelband and Ukulele Club**

These sessions are fun, feel good and a great way for all ages to enjoy playing music together (children aged 11 and under must be accompanied by an adult):

- **Steel pans:** Mondays 4.45-5.25pm or 5.30-6.10pm - **Free session on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June.**
- **Ukulele Club:** Wednesdays 4.00-4.40pm - **Free session on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June.**

**If you would like to attend any of these free sessions, please sign up on our website: [Ensembles for all \(hertsmusicservice.org.uk\)](http://hertsmusicservice.org.uk).**

If you haven't already heard, we have our Wind Band Day upcoming on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May.

The workshop will be from 9.30am-2.45pm on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May. Sign up here:

<https://UKHERTFORDSHIRE.speedadmin.dk/registration?signupSchoolID=985#/Course/178/0/3362/985>

The following instruments are welcome: Flute, Clarinet, Saxophones, Oboe, Bassoon, Trumpet, Cornet, French Horn, Tenor Horn, Euphonium, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba, Electric Bass, Percussion, Drum Kit, Double Bass.

Please find further information on the flyers attached and feel free to contact us if you require any further information.



# PARTY IN THE PARK

**The Holy Family Catholic Primary School**

**Welwyn Garden City AL7 1PG**

**Saturday 6th July  
12pm to 3pm**

**Adult £1  
Kids free entry**

**JOIN US FOR LOTS OF FUN!**

**drinks, snacks, BBQ food**

**5 inflatables**

**games**

**music and dancing**

**entertainment**

**face painting**

**market stalls**

**and much more!**

**Please contact us on [holyfamilyfa@gmail.com](mailto:holyfamilyfa@gmail.com) to:  
hold an external stall or volunteer to help on the day**

## Dates for the Diary

### June

3rd – Back to school

7<sup>th</sup> – Enrichment morning

7<sup>th</sup> – International Day – Families welcome in the afternoon 1.30pm

11<sup>th</sup> – Year 5 taster day JHN

20<sup>th</sup> – Subject showcase 2.30pm

28<sup>th</sup> – Thanksgiving Mass 2pm All welcome

### July

1st – 3<sup>rd</sup> Year 6 residential trip

12<sup>th</sup> – Year 1 & 2 Seaside trip

17<sup>th</sup> – Summer Choir Concert

17<sup>th</sup> - 1.30-2.30pm Y6 Production

18<sup>th</sup> – 1.30pm Y6 Leavers Mass/Assembly

19<sup>th</sup> – School closes at 1.15pm for the Summer holidays

