

23<sup>rd</sup> January 2026

DoWAT



# THE HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL

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

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As we reach the middle of the half term, it has been wonderful to see the children fully engaged in their learning. So much has already been achieved, thanks to their hard work, curiosity and enthusiasm. Every classroom reflects a commitment to doing their best and taking pride in their learning.

Over the past week, I have spent time speaking with children about their writing, and it was a joy to hear how much they genuinely love to write and to be creative. In an age where computers and technology play such a significant role in our daily lives, it was reassuring to hear children speak with pride about the value of writing as a skill. Handwriting, in particular, remains something we hold in high regard, and the children spoke confidently about the craft of writing, planning, drafting, editing and finally publishing their work. They understand that writing has a purpose and an audience, and it was encouraging to see how much care and thought they put into their work.

This week we also came together to celebrate Mass for the Holy Family. During our Mass, we reflected on the importance of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, and the powerful example they set for us. It was a special opportunity to think about our own families and the love, support and guidance they provide. As family is one of our core values, it was heartening to see how proud our children are to belong not only to their own families, but also to our school community and family.

In addition, this week saw our second full governing body meeting of the year. Led by Fr Norbert, our Chair of Governors, our governors generously volunteer their time to support the school. They provide strategic direction, oversee the school's financial performance and ensure that the head teacher is effective in their role. We are incredibly fortunate to have such dedicated governors, whose wide range of skills and experience help to make our school the wonderful place it is.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable weekend

***'No one has ever become poor by giving.'* Anne Frank**

**God bless, Mrs Linnane**

## Upcoming Events

### January

26<sup>th</sup> – Y6 Parents SATs meeting

### February

w/c 2<sup>nd</sup> – Topic Celebration week

3<sup>rd</sup> – Y3 Celtic Harmony trip

5<sup>th</sup> – Y1 online parent consultations

10<sup>th</sup> – Y4 class mass

11<sup>th</sup> – In person parent consultations

12<sup>th</sup> – Rec, Y2-6 online parent consultations

13<sup>th</sup> – Y5 Planetarium 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 - Nolan

Year 1 - Parker

Year 2 - Luna

Year 3 - Bella

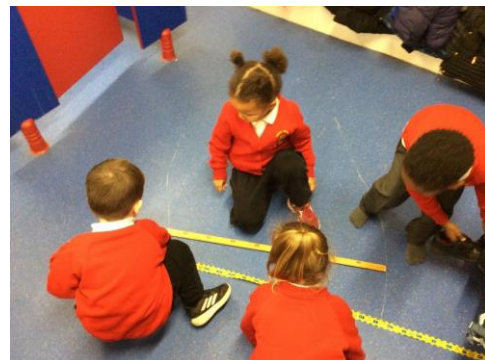
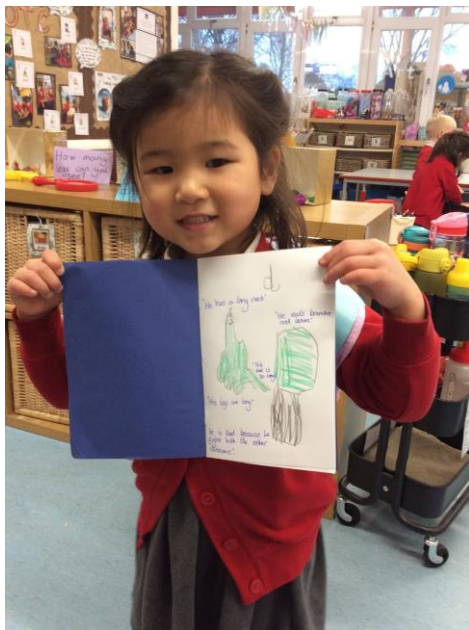
Year 4 - Jude

Year 5 - Sophia

Year 6 - Daniel

## Nursery

The children have been learning all about dinosaurs. We first found a dino footprint, measured it using our shoes then looked in non-fiction books to try and work out what dinosaur it may have been. Then the children made their own books about dinosaurs, they thought about the features of their dinosaurs and used some great describing words.



## Reception

In Reception, we enjoyed baking bread. We shared our bread with our friends in another class as well as school adults, even though we were tempted to eat it all ourselves. When sharing, we tried to copy Jesus' kindness in the story of Jesus feeding the 5000.





## Year 1

In Year 1 we are enjoying our dance and music lessons. We are looking at soundscapes and have been focussing on rough and calm seas. We have used our bodies, voices and instruments to make sounds and we have also danced to the music and to environmental sounds outside.



## Year 2

### DT - Building Structures – exploring the strength of different towers

In our DT lesson we were thinking about what the word strength means and understood that it means seeing how strong something is before it breaks. Miss Parmley showed us 3 different towers- a cylinder, square based prism and triangular based prism. We then had to guess which one would have the most strength and hold the most books. We added the same books to each tower and worked out that a cylinder was the strongest tower and held a total of 27 books before breaking.

We then worked in 3s to make these towers and test them to see how strong they were.





## OPAL appeal

**Donations needed!** If you have any of the following at home that you no longer require we would be very grateful if you would consider donating them to school for our OPAL playtimes.

- **Tables and/or chairs** to develop our mud kitchen into a mud cafe
- **Playdough tools**- rolling pins, kitchenware, cutters
- **Bean Bags** - for our new play playhouse



## SATs meeting – Year 6

We will be holding a Year 6 SATs information meeting for parents on **Monday 26th January at 3.30pm**. This session will explain the assessment process, outline what to expect in May, and share how you can support your child at home.

**This meeting is for year 6 parents only. Children are welcome to wait in the hall, where they will be supervised.**



## Parent Consultations – please book an appointment



This half term we are holding Parent Consultation evenings as follows:

- **All classes (Nursery - Year 6)** *in person* consultation on the 11th February from 15:30
- **Year 1** *online* consultation on the 5th February from 14:00
- **Reception, Year 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6** *online* consultation on the 12th February from 15:30

For all evenings, appointments should be booked via the School Cloud platform. Please login to School Cloud [here](#).

Appointment bookings will **open today Friday 23rd January at 5pm** and close on Wednesday 4th February at 12 noon.

## Clubs this half term

Please see a summary below of the school and external clubs that are running this half term:

|       | Organised by school<br>3.15-4.15pm<br>No charge<br><i>Booked via Arbor &amp; queries to school office</i>   | Organised by external providers<br><i>Check sign up details, times<br/>and prices for each club</i>   |
|-------|---|---|
| Mon   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Table Tennis Club – Yr 5 &amp; 6 (12<sup>th</sup> Jan – 9<sup>th</sup> Feb)</li> <li>• Times Table Rockstars Club – Yr 3 &amp; 4 (12<sup>th</sup> Jan – 9<sup>th</sup> Feb)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tetra Sports Football Club for Yr 1 &amp; 2 – details <a href="https://tetrasports.magicbooking.co.uk/">here or https://tetrasports.magicbooking.co.uk/</a></li> </ul>   |
| Tues  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multi-sports club Y1,Y2 &amp; Y3 (13<sup>th</sup> Jan – 10<sup>th</sup> Feb)</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Irish dancing for Y1-Y6 (<b>see flyer overleaf</b>)<br/>Contact Aislinn on 07716 306 909 or <a href="mailto:aislinn_b@hotmail.co.uk">aislinn_b@hotmail.co.uk</a></li> <li>• Chess Club – for Y2-Y6<br/>Contact Zahra Jaufarally @ Kings and Queens Chess Club<br/><a href="mailto:admin@kingsandqueenschess.co.uk">admin@kingsandqueenschess.co.uk</a><br/>07900 048446 or sign up <a href="#">here</a></li> </ul> |
| Weds  |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tetra Sports Football Club for all KS2 – details <a href="https://tetrasports.magicbooking.co.uk/">here or https://tetrasports.magicbooking.co.uk/</a></li> </ul>  |
| Thurs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Play Club – Reception &amp; Yr 1 (15<sup>th</sup> Jan – 12<sup>th</sup> Feb)</li> <li>• Homework Club – Yr 3, 4, 5 &amp; 6 (15<sup>th</sup> Jan – 12<sup>th</sup> Feb)</li> </ul>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Everyone Cooks for Y1-Y6<br/>Contact Louise Penn on 07946 303 213 or <a href="mailto:louise@everyonecooks.co.uk">louise@everyonecooks.co.uk</a> (see following page)</li> </ul>  |
| Fri   |   |   |



# HFFA Dates for your diary

FRIDAY  
23<sup>RD</sup> JAN

3:15 Cake sale  
Year 5 cake donations

FRIDAY  
13<sup>TH</sup> FEB

3:15 Cake sale  
Early Years cake donations

FRIDAY  
27<sup>TH</sup> FEB

After school Disco  
KS1 - 3:45 - 4:45 KS2 - 5:00 - 6:00

MONDAY  
2<sup>ND</sup> MAR

**Happy School Bag** clothing  
donation collection

FRIDAY  
20<sup>TH</sup> MAR

3:15 Cake sale  
Year 4 cake donations

MONDAY  
20<sup>TH</sup> APRIL

Preloved Uniform Sale

FRIDAY  
8<sup>TH</sup> MAY

3:15 Cake sale  
Year 3 cake donations

FRIDAY  
26<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

3:15 Cake sale  
Year 2 cake donations

FRIDAY  
3<sup>RD</sup> JULY

Family Colour Run

MONDAY  
13<sup>TH</sup> JULY

Preloved Uniform Sale



More details to follow!

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/holyfamilycatholicprimaryschool/>

## Notices and flyers from the local community which may be of interest



### **Does your child want to learn to ride a bike? Ready to boost their cycling skills? Missed out on Bikeability training?**

If you answered yes to any of these, we've got you covered this February half term! Cycle training sessions are running across Hertfordshire, with options for all ages and abilities. Check out what's happening near you:

#### **Watford Cycle Hub**

King George V Playing Fields, Tolpits Lane

More details: [www.watfordcyclehub.org.uk](http://www.watfordcyclehub.org.uk)

#### **Stevenage Cycling Hub**

Fairlands Valley Park, Stevenage

Find out more: [www.stevenagecyclinghub.co.uk](http://www.stevenagecyclinghub.co.uk)

#### **St Albans Cycle Hub C.I.C**

Cottonmill Estate, St Albans

Course info: [www.stalbanscyclehub.co.uk](http://www.stalbanscyclehub.co.uk)

#### **SEND Cycling Courses**

Various locations across Hertfordshire during most school holidays

In partnership with the Herts Disability Sports Foundation, we offer specialist 1 to 1 cycle training for riders with additional needs.

Find out more: [www.hdsf.co.uk/find-an-activity/cyclingactivities/](http://www.hdsf.co.uk/find-an-activity/cyclingactivities/)

## **Dates for the Diary**

### **January**

26<sup>th</sup> – 3.30pm Y6 SATs meeting for parents

### **February**

2<sup>nd</sup> – 2.45pm Y1 & Y4 Topic Celebration

3<sup>rd</sup> – Y3 trip to Celtic Harmony

3<sup>rd</sup> – 2.45pm Y6 Topic Celebration

4<sup>th</sup> – 2.45pm Nursery & Y3 Topic Celebration

5<sup>th</sup> – 2.45pm Reception Topic Celebration

5<sup>th</sup> – from 2pm Y1 online Parent Consultations

6<sup>th</sup> – 2.45pm Y2 & Y5 Topic Celebration

10<sup>th</sup> – 2.30pm Y4 Class Mass

11<sup>th</sup> – from 3.30pm in person Parent Consultations

12<sup>th</sup> – from 3.30pm Rec, Y2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 online Parent Consultations

13<sup>th</sup> – Y5 Astronomy Workshop

29<sup>th</sup> – HFFA School Discos

### **March**

3<sup>rd</sup> –Y2 Pizza Express Trip

5<sup>th</sup> – Y6 British Schools Museum Trip

