

23rd 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
26th – Y6 Parents SATs meeting

February
w/c 2nd – Topic Celebration week
3rd – Y3 Celtic Harmony trip
5th – Y1 online parent consultations
10th – Y4 class mass
11th – In person parent consultations
12th – Rec, Y2-6 online parent consultations
13th - Y5 Planetarium workshop

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

Please see our website:
www.holyfamily.herts.sch.uk

Facebook:
TheHolyFamilySchoolWGC

Twitter:
@holyfamilyWGC

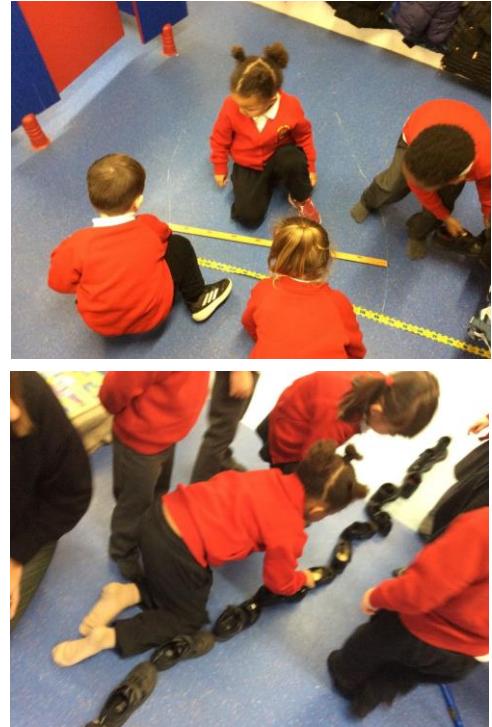
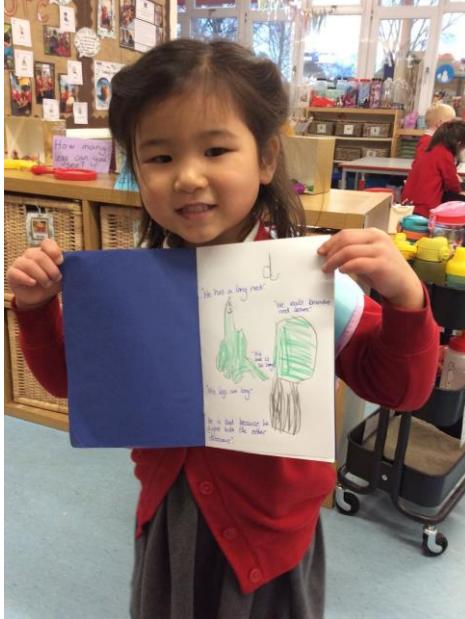
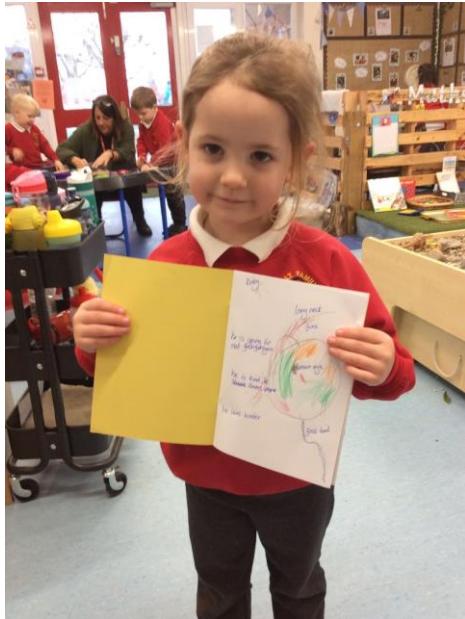


Stars of the week

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

HFFA Dates for your diary

**FRIDAY
23RD JAN**

3:15 Cake sale
Year 5 cake donations

**FRIDAY
13TH FEB**

3:15 Cake sale
Early Years cake donations

**FRIDAY
27TH FEB**

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

**MONDAY
2ND MAR**

Happy School Bag clothing
donation collection

**FRIDAY
20TH MAR**

3:15 Cake sale
Year 4 cake donations

**MONDAY
20TH APRIL**

Preloved Uniform Sale

**FRIDAY
8TH MAY**

3:15 Cake sale
Year 3 cake donations

**FRIDAY
26TH JUNE**

3:15 Cake sale
Year 2 cake donations

**FRIDAY
3RD JULY**

Family Colour Run

**MONDAY
13TH 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

Stevenage Cycling Hub

Fairlands Valley Park, Stevenage

Find out more: www.stevenagecyclinghub.co.uk

St Albans Cycle Hub C.I.C

Cottonmill Estate, St Albans

Course info: 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/

Dates for the Diary

January

26th – 3.30pm Y6 SATs meeting for parents

February

2nd – 2.45pm Y1 & Y4 Topic Celebration

3rd – Y3 trip to Celtic Harmony

3rd – 2.45pm Y6 Topic Celebration

4th – 2.45pm Nursery & Y3 Topic Celebration

5th – 2.45pm Reception Topic Celebration

5th – from 2pm Y1 online Parent Consultations

6th – 2.45pm Y2 & Y5 Topic Celebration

10th – 2.30pm Y4 Class Mass

11th – from 3.30pm in person Parent Consultations

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

13th – Y5 Astronomy Workshop

29th – HFFA School Discos

March

3rd – Y2 Pizza Express Trip

5th – Y6 British Schools Museum Trip

