



Holy Family RC Primary School Newsletter

"Working together as a family, following in the footsteps of Jesus, always giving our best."

Mrs L. Mills, Headteacher- holyfamilyprm@cardiff.gov.uk

Priest in charge: Father Solomon

Weekend Mass times- Saturday 6.00pm, Sunday 9.30am

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2nd May 2025

Welcome Back!!!

I hope that you all enjoyed the Easter Break. The children have settled back into their routine really well and working really hard. The children will undertake Welsh Government National Tests, and internal tests from **May 19th – June 5th**. It is vital that the children are in school everyday and on time so that we can assess their progress to date. Unless your child is genuinely unwell, please ensure that your child is in school every day, thank you. **If your child misses the test they will need to sit the test on their own on their return to school.**

Reminder that Monday May 5th May is a Bank Holiday. Monday June 2nd is an Inset Day.

Manor Adventure

We had a fabulous time, the weather was fabulous. The children's behaviour, team work and enthusiasm was exceptional. Myself and Mrs Jones were very proud of them.







V.E. Day 80th Anniversary Celebrations

This will take place on Thursday 8th May,. To celebrate this special day we are having a special picnic lunch provided by Cardiff Catering. The menu for that day will be:

Ham, Cheese or Tuna Sandwich.
Finger Slice of Pizza
Sausage Roll/Vegan Roll

Jelly and Mandarin Oranges
Shortbread Biscuit.

There will not be an alternative choice of a hot meal that day. If you don't want your child to have this option **you will need to provide a Packed Lunch.**

It would be lovely to see the children wearing **red, white, blue,** or a combination of those colours to celebrate this special event.



Class Photographs

These will take place on **Wednesday 7th May**. Please ensure that your child is wearing appropriate school uniform. Thank you.

Early pick ups at the end of the day

There are an increasing number of children being collected early from school in the afternoon. School finishes at 3.30pm, unless you have a medical appointment children should not be collected early.

Attendance

You have probably noticed the banner outside the school. We are working alongside Cardiff Council to try and get our attendance back to where it was pre-pandemic. We regularly had attendance of 95% each day, currently we are lucky to achieve 90% each day. Please make every effort to send your child to school every day unless they are unwell.



Late in the mornings

This has become a problem again, in many of the Classes. It is extremely disruptive when children are late for the following reasons:

1. They miss the vitally important introduction to the day's learning
2. The Teacher has to get the Register back out to record the late mark (this stops them from teaching)
3. The Dinner register has to be changed (this stops the teacher from teaching)
4. Miss Jenkins/ Mrs Chivers/ Mrs Mills has to leave the Office to escort children to their Classroom, particularly if they are in the Foundation Phase. This leaves the Office unstaffed; the telephone and door unanswered and important administration work interrupted.
5. Some children receive additional learning interventions from the Teaching Assistants, these begin at 8.55, your child would then miss these short but very important daily sessions. They cannot be rescheduled as the Teaching Assistants work to very tight timetables.



Most importantly they miss out on valuable learning opportunities and, they are often very embarrassed if they are regularly late.

Please make every effort to ensure that your child is in school for 8.55a.m.

Thank you.

Diary dates 2025

May

Monday 5th May school closed for Bank Holiday Monday

Wednesday 7th May Class photographs

Thursday 8th May V.E. Day Picnic Lunch

Monday 19th May National tests begin for Classes 3-6

Friday 23rd May National tests finish. School closes for half term 3.30pm

June

Monday 2nd June school closed to children for an Inset Day

Thursday 5th June Class 4 Assembly 3pm

Thursday 12th June Class 2 Assembly

Thursday 19th June Sports Day

Monday 23rd June Transition Day 1 at Corpus Christi High School for children transferring to Year 7 in September

Thursday 26th June reserve Sports Day if weather is poor on June 19th

Monday 30th June Transition Day 2 at Corpus Christi High School for children transferring to Year 7 in September

July

Thursday 3rd July Class 1 Assembly 3pm

Monday 7th July Year 6 Leavers' Mass at St David's Cathedral

Tuesday 8th July Class 5 and 6 Play 2pm

Wednesday 9th July Class 5 and 6 Play 2pm

Tuesday 15th July Year 6 Leavers' Party 5-7pm

Thursday 17th July Year 6 Leavers' Mass and Assembly

Monday 21st July Inset Day – school closes for the summer holidays

Inset Days 2025

Monday June 2nd 2025

Monday 21st July 2025

Term Dates 2024/25

Term	Term begins	Half Term begins	Half Term ends	Term ends
Autumn Term	Monday 2/9/2024	Monday 28/10/2024	Friday 1/11/2024	Friday 20/12/2024
Spring Term	Monday 6/1/25	Monday 24/2/25	Friday 28/2/25	Friday 11/4/25
Summer Term <small>*5/5/25 May Day Bank Holiday</small>	Monday 28/4/25	Monday 26/5/25	Friday 30/5/25	Monday 21/7/25

Term Dates 2025/26

Term	Term begins	Half Term begins	Half Term ends	Term ends
Autumn Term	Monday 1/9/2025	Monday 27/10/2025	Friday 31/10/2025	Friday 19/12/2025
Spring Term	Monday 5/1/26	Monday 16/2/26	Friday 20/2/26	Friday 27/3/26
Summer Term <small>*4/5/26 May Day Bank Holiday</small>	Monday 13/4/26	Monday 25/5/26	Friday 29/5/26	Monday 20/7/26



Class One



This week we've been really busy!
We worked hard in the edible garden, weeding and preparing the soil ready to plant some new vegetables.



We planted some peas and broad beans.



We planted some herbs for our mud kitchen.



We gave the seeds plenty of water.



What a wonderful week of weather and work we have had for the first week of the Summer Term. The children have settled back into school very well and all seem to have grown over the holidays!

We started the week with an introduction to our exciting new Handwriting Books and using the 4 line structure to help improve our letter formation.

On Wednesday we were lucky enough to have a visit from Grow Cardiff to support us with our work in the Edible Playground. We planted beans, squash and sunflowers. We are looking forward to watching them grow.



Spring has definitely sprung and we loved creating these mixed media Cherry Blossom Trees, resulting in a wonderful Spring display for our classroom.





This week in Class 3 we enjoyed our Edible Garden session. In preparation for our session we spent time clearing our patch of all the weeds.



One group planted pumpkin seeds. We can't wait to see how they grow!



We explored the herb garden. We smelt and tasted the different herbs that were planted last



We planted dwarf beans. We searched for small sticks to support the beans as they grow.



We raked the soil and then made a





Class Four.



Welcome back to you all after the Easter Break! What beautiful weather to come back to! The children enjoyed preparing the Edible Garden on Wednesday with the help of the team at Grow Cardiff. The beds were weeded and carefully prepared for planting. Class four decided that they would sow sweetcorn, tomato, lettuce and leek seeds for a bumper crop to be harvested in a couple of months. They need to work hard to ensure that the seedlings thrive.



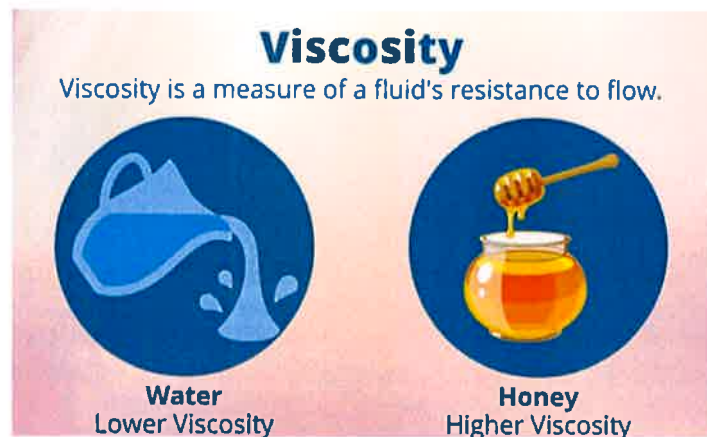
PIC • COLLAGE

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN CLASS 5

Class 5 are learning about materials in science and technology. We researched "viscosity" in liquids in preparation for a practical investigation in to the different viscosities of different liquids. Here is an example from Cyrus:

What is viscosity?

Viscosity is a property of **liquids/fluids**. It shows the resistance of how **liquids** flow. **Viscosity** shows how quickly or how slowly **liquids** flow. Water can flow very quickly, showing that it has a very **low viscosity**. On the other hand, if you pour out syrup, tar or honey, they will flow very slowly. This shows that these fluids have a **high viscosity**. **Viscosity** can also show how thick or thin **liquids** are.



What affects the viscosity of liquids (what are the three factors)?

There are three factors that affect **viscosity**. The first one is temperature. - imagine a river that flows during the summer. But then, the winter comes and freezes the river. This is because the **molecules** start to bond more closely together and **change state back into a solid**. However, when spring comes it warms up and the **molecules vibrate** and disperse more changing state back to water. The second factor is the type of **liquid**. This is important as **liquid** can be found almost everywhere and in different types. For example, honey is more **viscous** than water because **molecules** inside the honey are very closely bonded. This makes the **molecules** hard to move past each other. The third factor is pressure. The effect of pressure affecting **viscosity** is rare. However, it can happen. It happens when the pressure in the liquid increases, it also makes the **viscosity** increase.

Examples:

High Viscosity	Medium Viscosity	Low Viscosity
Honey, motor oil, tar, grease and gasoline. etc.	Syrup, vegetable oil, dish soap and paint etc.	Water, JUST oil, milk and alcohol and juice.

Fun Facts

- The word "**viscosity**" comes from the Latin word "**viscum**," which means sticky.
- **Viscosity** of a **liquid** depends on the: strength of attractive forces between molecules.

Source:

<https://kids.kiddle.co/Viscosity>

Class 6

WHAT IS PRAYER?

PRAYER IS A TIME TO COMMUNICATE WITH GOD, THANK HIM AND ASK FOR HIS FORGIVENESS. PRAYER IS ALSO A TIME WHERE YOU FIND A QUIET SPACE, TALK TO HIM AND SHARE EVERYTHING THAT IS IN YOUR HEART. IT IS A TIME WHERE YOU CAN TELL GOD WHAT MAKES YOU HAPPY AND SHARE YOUR TROUBLES/WORRIES TOO. IN PRAYER WE WORSHIP GOD,



THANK GOD AND SHARE OUR FEELINGS. PRAYER IS A TIME TO SPEAK TO GOD ABOUT ANYTHING THAT IS ON YOUR MIND. AS IT STATES IN THE BEATTITUDES (MATTHEW 5:3-12) "BLESSED ARE THE PURE IN HEART, FOR THEY SHALL SEE GOD", THIS MEANS THAT IF YOU ARE LOVING AND SAY SORRY FOR THE SINS YOU HAVE COMMITTED, THEN THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN WILL BE OPENED TO YOU AND YOU WILL RECEIVE ETERNAL LIFE IN HEAVEN WHEN YOU DIE.

WHY IS PRAYER IMPORTANT?

PRAYER IS REALLY IMPORTANT BECAUSE IT BUILDS A BETTER AND MORE POSITIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH YOURSELF AND GOD. PRAYING HELPS US REALIZE THAT WHATEVER GOES WRONG FOR US WE ALWAYS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO TURN TO GOD. IT ALSO CLEARS OUR MINDS AND GIVES US A FRESH START. PRAYER IS ALSO IMPORTANT SO THAT WE FULFIL THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT OF ALL. AS IT STATES IN MATTHEW 22:36-40, "YOU MUST LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND." THIS TELLS US THAT AS LONG AS WE LOVE THE LORD OUR GOD WITH ALL OF OUR HEART, SOUL AND MIND AND LIVE A GOOD LIFE THEN WE WILL BE GRANTED ETERNAL LIFE IN HEAVEN.

WHY DO CHRISTIANS PRAY?

CHRISTIANS PRAY BECAUSE IT'S A WAY TO BUILD A BETTER BOND WITH OUR FATHER. IN PSALM 23 IT STATES, "I FEAR NO EVIL, FOR YOU ARE WITH ME; YOUR ROD AND YOUR STAFF THEY COMFORT ME." THIS QUOTE EVIDENCES WHY CHRISTIANS PRAY, SO THAT WE HAVE THE POWER TO NOT FEAR BECAUSE WE KNOW THAT GOD WILL COMFORT AND PROTECT US. CHRISTIANS ALSO PRAY BECAUSE GOD IS NOT JUST YOUR FATHER BUT YOUR FRIEND, THE TYPE OF FRIEND YOU CAN SPEAK TO AND TELL ALL OF YOUR WORRIES. CHRISTIANS CAN ALSO PRAY BECAUSE GOD CAN GIVE YOU ADVICE AND GUIDANCE WHEN YOU NEED IT. PSALM 23 STATES, "THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD, I LACK NOTHING." THIS MEANS THAT THE LORD IS MY FATHER, MY FRIEND AND MY SAVIOUR AND BECAUSE HE IS NEXT TO ME I WILL NOT WANT FOR ANYTHING.



WHY DOES GOD WANT US TO PRAY?

GOD WANTS US TO PRAY SO THAT WE CAN BUILD A MORE POSITIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM. GOD ALSO WANTS TO GIVE US HIS LOVE AND GUIDANCE. AS IT STATES IN THE TEN COMMANDMENTS EXODUS 20:1-17, "YOU SHALL HAVE NO OTHER GODS BEFORE ME", THIS MEANS THAT GOD WANTS US TO HAVE A STRONG RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM AND NO OTHER GOD. GOD WANTS US TO PRAY TO ENRICH OUR SPIRITUALITY.

HOW SHOULD WE PRAY?

WE SHOULD PRAY WITH REVERENCE AND RESPECT AND FOCUS OUR MIND ON GOD THE FATHER. IN MATTHEW 6:7-13 WE READ THIS IMPORTANT AND SPECIAL PRAYER, THE OUR FATHER "OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN, HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME, YOUR KINGDOM COME, YOUR WILL BE DONE, ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN. GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD. AND FORGIVE US OUR DEBTS, AS WE ALSO HAVE FORGIVEN OUR DEBTORS. AND LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION, BUT DELIVER US FROM THE EVIL ONE." THIS IS THE PRAYER THAT JESUS TAUGHT US TO SAY. SAYING THIS PRAYER MEANS THAT YOU ARE PRAISING GOD, PREPARING TO RECEIVE HIM THROUGH THE



EUCHARIST IN MASS, RECOGNISING YOUR SINS AND ASKING TO NOT BE TEMPTED BY THE EVIL ONE. IT IS A PRAYER THAT WE SAY TO CLEANSE OUR SOULS BEFORE UNITING WITH CHRIST THROUGH THE EUCHARIST. WE SHOULD ALSO PRAY BY FIRSTLY GIVING GOD PRAISE, SECONDLY THANKING GOD FOR ALL HE DOES TO SUPPORT AND PROTECT US, THIRDLY CONFESSING OUR SINS AND ASKING FOR FORGIVENESS. WE CAN THEN ASK GOD TO SUPPORT US, TAKE CARE OF US AND ASK HIM FOR HELP. WE CAN PRAY

ANYWHERE BUT WE MUST ALSO TRY AND MAKE TIME TO PRAY IN A QUIET/SILENT SPACE, PERFORM MEDITATION, KNEEL DOWN AS A MARK OF RESPECT, LIGHT A CANDLE SO WE REMEMBER THAT JESUS IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD. WE CAN BURN INCENSE TO CREATE A PRAYERFUL AMBIANCE.

HOW DO CHRISTIANS ACT TO ANSWER THE CALL IN LENT?

TO ANSWER THE CALL IN LENT CHRISTIANS SHOULD, FAST, GIVE ALMS AND TRY TO BECOME A BETTER PERSON. WHEN YOU FAST DURING LENT ALL OF THE MONEY YOU WOULD SPEND ON THAT ITEM SHOULD BE GIVEN TO CHARITY/GIVING ALMS. WE NEED TO ENSURE THAT WE FOLLOW THE BEATITUDES AND MAKE PEACE WITH ONE ANOTHER. AS IT IS WRITTEN IN MATTHEW 5:1-12, 'BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS, FOR THEY WILL BE CALLED CHILDREN OF GOD.'

WE NEED TO GO TO MASS AND SAY 'YES TO GOD IN OUR LIVES. DURING LENT GOD WOULD WANT US TO FOLLOW THE EXAMPLE OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN, AS IT STATES IN LUKE 10:25-37, "BUT A SAMARITAN, AS HE TRAVELLED, CAME WHERE THE MAN WAS; AND WHEN HE SAW HIM, HE TOOK PITY ON HIM. HE WENT TO HIM AND BANDAGED HIS WOUNDS, POURING ON OIL AND WINE". THIS SAMARITAN WAS SELFLESS AND LOOKED AFTER HIS ENEMY. GOD WOULD WANT US TO FOLLOW THIS EXAMPLE ALWAYS, ESPECIALLY DURING LENT.

IN CONCLUSION, PRAYER SHOULD BE ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF A CHRISTIAN'S LIFE. PRAYER ENABLES US TO TALK TO GOD, LOVE GOD, ASK FOR FORGIVENESS FROM HIM AND SEEK SUPPORT FROM HIM.

BY ALASKA K

