



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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School website address – <https://www.holyfamilyprm.co.uk>

20th February 2025

Catholic Life of the School

This week in Assembly the children listened to the Gospel of St Luke- The Beattitudes . We thanked God for being blessed in our everyday lives, and said this prayer:



**Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.**

**Blessed are you who are hungry
now, for you shall be satisfied.**

**Blessed are you who weep now,
for you shall laugh.**

**Blessed are you when people hate
you, and exclude you on my account.**

**Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy,
for your reward is great in heaven.**

Amen

**Reminder there is an Inset Day Friday 21st February,
the school will be closed to children.**

Eisteddfod 2025.

March 1st is in half term, we will celebrate St David's Day on **Friday March 7th**. We look forward to seeing the children dressed in their traditional costumes or wearing red, white or green, the colours of the Welsh flag. Please encourage your child to take part in the home competitions over half term



St David's Day



Eisteddfod Home Competition

As part of our St David's Day Eisteddfod celebrations on **Friday 7th March** we are once again asking the children to take part in our home craft competition. All children who enter will receive a certificate for their participation. All entries will be judged by the staff during our Welsh Week and the winners will be announce during our Eisteddfod on St David's Day.

This year we would like:

Reception (Class One) to create a model daffodil.

Year 1 (Class Two) to make a model Welsh dragon.

Year 2 to make a model Welsh lady.

Year 3 to create a Welsh themed wreath.

Year 4 to make a Welsh shield.

Year 5 to create a 3D model of an iconic Welsh building.

Year 6 to design and make a Welsh inspired t-shirt.

All entries need to be returned to school by **Monday 3rd March** for judging.

Eisteddfod Cooking Competition

All children are also invited to take part in the cooking competition. Show off your cooking skills by making a Welsh themed biscuit/cake/pizza etc.... All entries need to be in school on **Friday 7th March** for judging. Cooking entries will be returned after judging.



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.

Be on time



at five to nine

Diary dates 2025

These will be regularly updated:

February

Friday 21st February Inset Day. School closed to children. Half term begins

March

Monday 3rd March children return to school after half term

Wednesday 5th March Ash Wednesday Lent begins

Friday 7th March St David's Day Celebrations

Monday 10th March World Book Day

Tuesday 11th March individual and family school photographs

Monday 17th March children in Year 6 attend Llangrannog Residential Centre
 Wednesday 19th March children in Year 6 return from Llangrannog Residential Centre
 Thursday 20th March Class 3 Assembly 3pm
 Monday March 24th Swimming course for Year 6 begins – 2 weeks
 Monday 24th March 3.30pm information meeting for parents of children in Year 5 attending the Manor Adventure Residential Centre

April

Friday 4th April Y6 swimming course finishes
 Monday 7th April Class 1, 2 and 3 Palm Sunday Assembly 3pm
 Tuesday 8th April Class 4 Last Supper Assembly 3pm
 Wednesday 9th April Class 5 The Agony in the Garden and Trial of Jesus Assembly 3pm
 Thursday 10th April Class 6 Crucifixion of Jesus Assembly 3pm
 Friday 11th April Easter Raffle **and school closes for the Easter holidays at 3.30pm**

Monday 28th April children return to school after the Easter holidays

Monday 28th April Y5 children attend Manor Adventure Abernant Residential Centre
 Wednesday 28th April Y5 children return from Manor Adventure Abernant Residential Centre

May

Monday 5th May school closed for Bank Holiday Monday

Wednesday 7th May Class photographs
 Thursday 8th May Class 4 Assembly 3pm
 Monday 12th 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 12th June Class 2 Assembly
 Thursday 19th June Sports Day
 Thursday 26th June reserve Sports Day if weather is poor on June 19th

July

Thursday 3rd July Class 1 Assembly 3pm
 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



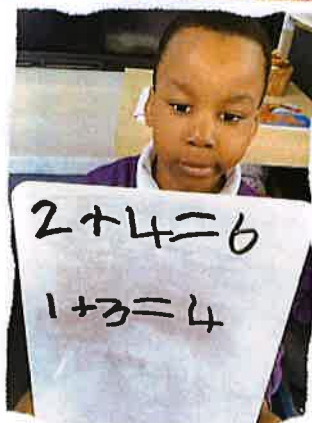
Class One



In Class One we have been reading the story of 'Little Red Riding Hood'. We have listened to lots of different versions and thought about how they were different.



We used Grandma's cakes to help to add numbers and record addition sentences.



We thought of describing words for the characters and wrote BEWARE posters to warn people about the Big Bad Wolf. We painted amazing wolf pictures.



Noah

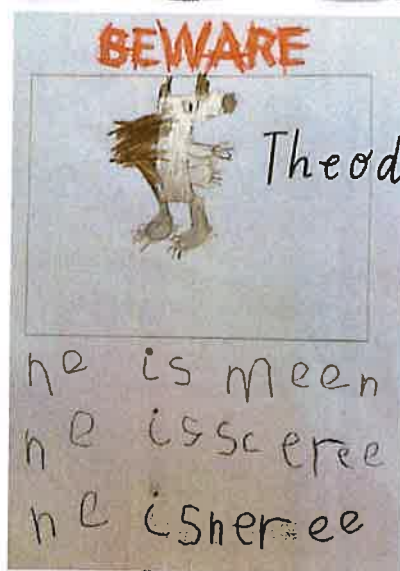
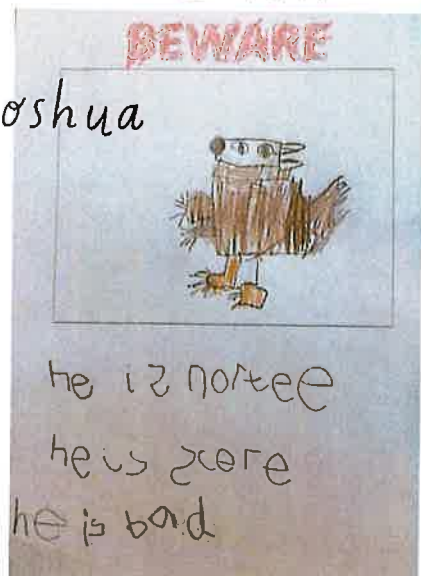


Nia



Eva

Joshua



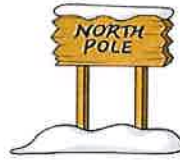
Theodore

Sidhroopa





Class 2



This week we have reached the end of our Polar Explorers Context for Learning and have been thinking about all of the interesting things that we have learned. We ended our topic by finding out about some explorers who have been to the North Pole. We learned about a man called Matthew Henson who is thought to have been the very first person to reach the North Pole. We have written some wonderful information about him and his achievements.

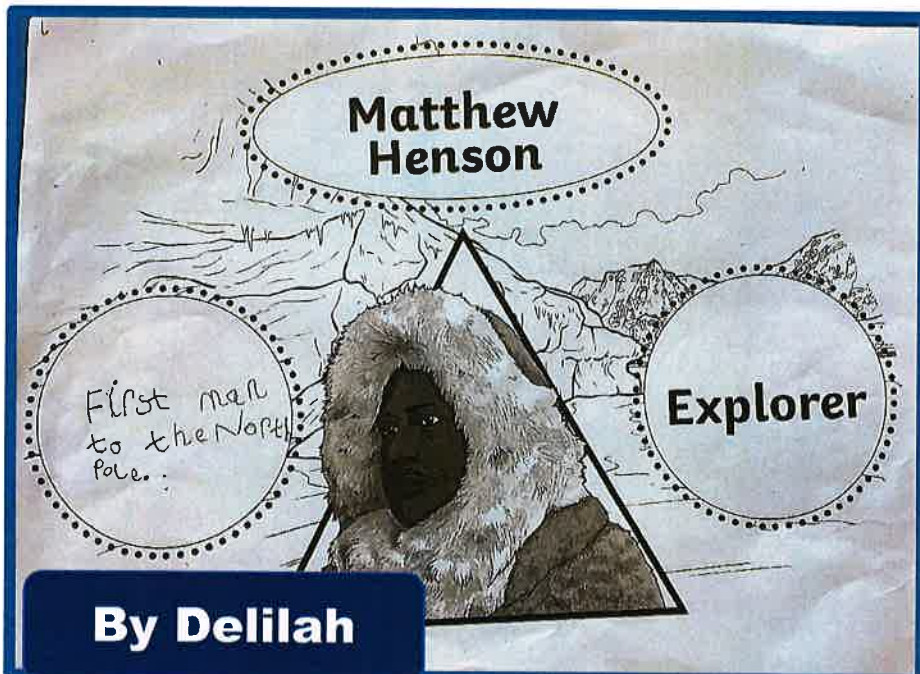
**MATTHEW HENSON WAS AN EXPLORER.
HE WAS FAMOUS FOR GOING TO THE
NORTH POLE FIRST. HE HAD A JOB ON
A SHIP. HE DID NOT GET A MEDAL
BECAUSE HE WAS BLACK.**



By Katelyn

**Matthew Henson is
an explorer. He said,
"I am the first
person to sit on top
of the world!" He
got to the North
Pole.**

By Winnie





CLASS 3



As part of our religion topic Galilee to Jerusalem we have been learning about how Christians say sorry. We have learnt that God loves and forgives and that being sorry helps us to change and become better people. We thought about our own sins and what we are sorry for. We then wrote our own sorry prayers.

Lord God,

Thank you for my wonderful family. I am sorry for being so rude to my family. I ask you for forgiveness. I promise to be kind to my family and I will never do it again. Thank you God for always loving me.

Lord hear my prayer.

Amen

Tim

Dear God,

I come to you Father to say thank you for my kind friends. I am truly sorry for being unkind to my friends. I ask for forgiveness. I promise to not be unkind again.

Thank you, God for always loving me.

Amen

Thea

We have also been learning about when Jesus chose his disciples. We listened to the 'The choice of the twelve (Lk 6:12 – 16)'. We thought carefully about the characteristics of the disciples and created WordArt to show them. Here are WordArt creations from Riley, Raven and Group Glas.



20.02.2025 CLASS 4



WE HAD A GREAT TIME ON OUR TRIP TO CAERLEON. THANK YOU TO MR. HAYES FOR TEACHING US SO MANY INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT LIFE AS A ROMAN.



WE WERE ABLE TO TRY ON THE ARMOUR OF ROMAN SOLDIERS (IT WAS REALLY HEAVY)!



WE SAW SO MANY INCREDIBLE ROMAN ARTEFACTS!



WE EVEN HAD A ROMAN FEAST!



Spy story writing in class 5

Class 5 have been learning about the spy-action/espionage genre in literacy. We have looked at stock characters, gadgets, crazy stunts and other features of the genre. Here is an example from Layla – Ann:



Agent Lauren Croft- super spy



Count Von /Krieg – the evil genius!

Invisible spy

Hiding in a tree line, Agent Lauren Croft (Codename Special Agent 21) looked through her night vision binoculars. She had noticed the well-hidden secret base. She spotted multiple armed guards in white and black jumpsuits with fierce pit bulls at the entrance. There were cameras everywhere.

The base was well hidden in an old coal mine. It was in the middle of nowhere on a random mountain. *How am I going to get in? There's one entrance also, there are two guards with pit bulls right in front of it* thought Croft. She made her way round the back to see if there was another entrance. There was no entrance but.... Then it came to her.... *My watch can make a really high pitch noise that will scare the dogs and make them run off.* She pressed a button on her spy watch and - as she expected - the dogs ran off, the guards started chasing them.

Perfect.

Next, Agent 21 - Lauren Croft - crept slowly, steadily down the steep hill in the mine staying crouched, close to the wall just in case of any guards. She went down, there were three ways to go: forward, left or right. She didn't know what to pick so she asked Agent 01 in her headset microphone,

"Hey old man, (Agent 21's nickname for agent 01) should I go left, right or straight ahead?" Agent 01 replied with,

"I'm not old. Although, if you go right there is the canteen. which then leads to the control room with lots of guards. If you go left, that is the guards' bunk rooms -there are about 120 guards in total. If you go forward you will find two more ways to go, one leads to the main room with a nuclear bomb: 45 minutes until the bomb goes off. After the main room there is the power room. The other way to go would lead to Count Von Krieg's office." Croft replied,

'Great. I will go to the main room to disarm the nuclear bomb and then go from there.'

Staying in the shadows

Agent 01 radioed to Agent 21 and said,

"You are 20 kilometres from the main room. There are 15 guards from where you are to the control room. Look at your watch map and it should tell you where the guards are. I have sent you a map of the cave and also make sure you keep on checking how long you have till the nuclear bomb goes off. Over."

Class 6's visit to Cardiff Castle!

On the 11th of February, Class 6 went on a visit to Cardiff Castle to enhance our topic, WW2. We saw many things, we learnt so much more information and we experienced how it really was in the 1940s. We heard many sounds, we felt what it was like back then, we thought about the struggle people had to endure during war. This experience has really extended our knowledge about WW2, We will never forget this marvellous trip.



I learnt:

- That we are really privileged to be living in a time where there is no war in our area. I learnt that you would be fined if you didn't go to the air raid shelter you were assigned. I also learnt that there were lots of different bombs and gas masks such as, one for toddlers, one for babies and an average sized one. We examined the different types of bombs and we were amazed at the destruction and impact they could have.



I saw

- Air raid shelter
- Bomb
- Gas mask
- ARP uniforms
- Propaganda posters
- Incendiary bombs
- Toddler sized gas mask
- Baby sized gas mask
- Ration books
- Ration options
- Air Raid warden hats
- Blackout instructions and signage

Class 6's visit to Cardiff Castle!



I experienced:

- What it was like walking down to the air raid shelters while hearing the alarm.
- The terrors of waiting there patiently for the bombing to stop.
- Being a young child terrified for your father, uncle, older brothers, etc.
- Only having to eat a certain amount of food per week due to rationing.
- Wearing the same clothes for a long time until you had enough coupons to afford more.

I thought:

- I thought that it must have been really difficult living in those times.
- I thought that simple things now must have been really rare back then.
- I thought that the songs by Vera Lynn were terrific.



I heard:

- Bombs dropping
- Vera Lynn singing 'We'll meet again'.
- Emergency rattle
- An ARP Warden telling us all about war in a specialist workshop.

I felt:

- It felt realistic
- It felt scary when we are in the air raid shelter
- It felt like bombs were actually dropping
- It felt terrifying.
- It felt like we were actually in those times

