



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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23rd May 2025

This has been a very short but busy half term! The children in Years 2-6 have completed both Maths tests and will undertake their reading tests the first week back after half term. Reminder that **Monday June 2nd** is an Inset Day.

School re-opens on **Tuesday 3rd June**- we look forward to seeing the children well rested after their half term break.



Catholic Life of the school

2025 is a Jubilee Year as ratified by Pope Francis. To mark this year all Catholic schools in Cardiff and the Vale are participating in a Pilgrimage Walk. On Tuesday we received the Pilgrim's Staff from pupils who had walked to us from Mary Immaculate High School. We had a welcoming ceremony to receive the pupils and the Staff. On Thursday 12 pupils myself and Mrs Osborn walked from school to St Joseph's School on North Rd. The walk took us 2 hours, the children were a credit to the school.







Class 4 Assembly

This will take place on **Thursday 5th June at 3pm**, we hope to see many parents in attendance.

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.

Be on time



at five to nine

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

Friday 23rd May 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

Inset days Autumn 2025

Monday 1st September 2025

Tuesday 2nd September 2025

Friday 24th October

3 further days- dates to be decided.

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



We've been busy bees in Class One this week. We celebrated International Bee Day on Tuesday. Mrs Stanford-Stroud showed us how to 'bee' a good beekeeper. We put on a special beekeepers suit, and looked at the honey frames that the bees will make into their honeycomb.



The honeycomb is so heavy.

The bees go and look for flowers. They drink up the nectar and collect pollen on their fluffy legs and tummies. They fly back to their hives and put the nectar in the honeycomb. They flap their wings to make delicious honey.



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PIC • COLLAGE



This week we have been learning about the Feast of Pentecost. We have found out the events of Pentecost and how the coming of the Holy Spirit changed the disciples. We explored artworks inspired by Pentecost from a range of cultures around the world. We used ideas from these to create our own Pentecost pictures. The details we have included are inspirational.



Inspired by the knowledge of the Holy Spirit and its powerful impact on the lives of the disciples, we felt moved to write prayers inviting the Holy Spirit to dwell within us, just as it did with them. The children worked in groups to create these beautiful prayers.



Class Three



This week in our Religion lessons we have been focussing on the Fruits of the Holy Spirit. We read the scripture carefully and explored how we can open our hearts to the Holy Spirit. God sent us the Holy Spirit to be with us when Jesus no longer was. By opening our hearts to the Holy Spirit and being filled with its fruits we open our hearts to God's love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

We created visual representations of each gift and then we created our own litanies using the Fruits of the Holy Spirit and the repeated line **Come Holy Spirit**. Here are Nathan and Tabitha's litanies.

Help us spread the good news and the message of Jesus.

Come Holy Spirit

Help us share the love with one and other as you loved us.

Come Holy Spirit

Help us spread the joy with one another.

Come Holy Spirit

Help us to be patient with our loved ones.

Come Holy Spirit

Help us to show kindness to everybody we meet.

Come Holy Spirit

Help us to be good and make the right choices.

Come Holy Spirit

Help us to be faithful in dark times.

Come Holy Spirit

Help us to have self-control and control our feelings.

Come Holy Spirit

Let us spread the good news and the message of Jesus.

Come Holy Spirit

Let us share the love with one and other as you loved us.

Come Holy Spirit

Let us spread the joy with one another.

Come Holy Spirit

Let us have peaceful lives.

Come Holy Spirit

Let us be patient and wait our turn.

Come Holy Spirit

Let us be kind and forgive one and other.

Come Holy Spirit

Let us show respect to one and other and do the right thing.

Come Holy Spirit

Let us show faith and trust in God.

Come Holy Spirit

Let us show self-control by making the right choices.

Come Holy Spirit



Class Four.



In Science the children have been learning about teeth. They know the names of all the different teeth and the role that each tooth plays. They are aware of the importance of keeping their teeth healthy and used ICT to create posters and fact files.

Keep your teeth clean

- Keep your teeth healthy
- Brush your teeth twice a day
- Don't eat sugary food
- Don't drink sugary drinks
- Visit the dentist every 6 months

Things you should eat and drink everyday

Things you should not eat or drink

Don't Forget to BRUSH YOUR TEETH!

Keep your teeth healthy and clean!

What causes tooth decay?

If you eat sugary snacks or drink sugary drinks too often this can cause tooth decay.

When sugar is put into your mouth, it is broken down by the bacteria in the sticky plaque film found on your teeth to make acid.

This acid then attacks your teeth and eats away at the surface causing decay.



Looking after your teeth

cut down on sugar

visit the dentist

eat healthily

brush your teeth

use fluoride toothpaste



How to keep your teeth healthy

Fact: To keep your teeth healthy you must brush them twice a day and also visit the dentist once every 6 months



Fact: You must brush your teeth for 2 minutes every day and say 'no' to sugary foods and drinks that will make teeth rot!

Fact: Only have sugary drinks and foods rarely for a treat not every day.

Did you know?: Lucozade is the most unhealthiest fizzy drink.



DIGITAL LITERACY IN CLASS 5

Class 5 have researched different rivers and used Google Sheets to create databases from given fields. Here are some examples from Ruby Rose, Katie and Jacob:

RIVER NAME	CONTINENT	SOURCE	MOUTH	LENGTH IN KM	COUNTRIES IT FLOWS THROUGH	FUN FACTS
River Nile	AFRICA	BLUE NILE RIVER.	Nile Delta.	6,650 km	Egypt, Sudan and more!	It reaches 4,000 miles.
River Taff	EUROPE	BRECON BEACONS.	Mediterranean Sea.	67 km	Wales.	It is known as the Afon Taf.
River Ely	EUROPE	TONYPANDY.	Cardiff Bay.	40 km	Wales.	The river is 24 miles long.
River Amazon	SOUTH AMERICA	MANTARO RIVER.	Atlantic Ocean.	6,400 km	Multiple South American places.	The Amazon has over 1000 know
River Thames	EUROPE	THAMES HEAD.	North Sea.	346 km	England.	The river is considered one of the
River Mississippi	NORTH AMERICA	LAKE ITASCA.	Gulf of Mexico	3,766 km	USA.	It spans ten whole American stat
River Colorado	NORTH AMERICA	LA POUVRE PASS LAKE	Gulf of California	2,334 km	US.	The Grand Canyon, a huge cany
River Indus	ASIA	TIBETAN PLATEAU	Arabian Sea	3,180 km	China, India, Pakistan plus Afghanistan.	Basin area: 1.165 million km2
River Columbia	NORTH AMERICA	COLUMBIA LAKE	Pacific Ocean.	2,000 km	US.	It has fresh water as the mouth i
River Tweed	EUROPE	TWEEDS WELL	North Sea.	156 km	Scotland plus mainly England.	It is significantly known as the Sa
River Red	ASIA	BUCK CREEK	Mississippi River	2,189 km	China plus Vietnam.	The river is called the Red River b
River Congo	AFRICA	LAKE TANGANYIKA	Atlantic Ocean.	4,700 km	Many In Africa!	It is the second longest river conr

1	RIVER NAME	CONTINENT	SOURCE	MOUTH	LENGTH IN KM	COUNTRIES IT FLOWS THROUGH	FUN FACTS
2	RIVER NILE	AFRICA	THE BLUE NILE RIVER	NILE DELTA	6,650 KM	EGYPT, SUDAN, SOUTH SUDAN ECT	There's more than one River Nile.
3	ELY RIVER	EUROPE	TONYPANDY	CARDIFF BAY	40KM	WALES	It is a 24-mile-long river in South Wales.
4	RIVER TAFF	EUROPE	BRECON BEACONS	MEDITERRANEAN SEA	67 KM	WALES	It is formed into two rivers.
5	THE AMAZON RIVER	SOUTH AMERICA	MANTARO RIVER	ATLANTIC OCEAN	6,400 KM	MULTIPLE SOUTH AMERICA	It's Named After a Greek Myth.
6	MISSISSIPPI RIVER	NORTH AMERICA	LAKE ITASCA	GULF OF MEXICO	3,766 KM	UNITED STATES	Rich musical heritage and cultural influence.
7	RIVER THAMES	EUROPE	THAMES HEAD	NORTH SEA	346 KM	USA	The River is around 20 metres at its deepest.
8	RIVER SEVERN	EUROPE	PUNLUMON FAWR	RIVER SEVERN	354 KM	WALES AND ENGLAND	The Severn is the longest river in the UK, stretching 220 miles.
9	RIVER COLORADO	NORTH AMERICA	LA POUVRE PASS LAKE	GULF OF CALIFORNIA	2330 KM	UNITED STATES	It originates in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado.
10	RIVER REDE	ASIA	BUCK CREEK	RIVER NORTH TYNE	51 KM	ENGLAND	It flows for 24 miles through forests and farmland, ultimately
11	MEKONG RIVER	ASIA	LASAGONGMA SPRING	MEKONG RIVER DELTA.	4,530 KM	Asian countries.	The river is home to numerous waterfalls, some of which are

A	B	C	D	E
NAME	CONTINENT	SOURCE	MOUTH	LENGTH IN KM
Nile River	Africa	Atbara	Mediterranean sea	6650 km
Amazon River	South America	Mantaro river	Atlantic ocean.	6400 km
Yangtze River	Asia	Quinhai	Shanghai	6300 km
River Thames	Europe	Thames Head	North Sea	346 km
Mississippi River	North America	River Itasca in North Minnesota	The Gulf of Mexico	3766 km
Jurua River	South America	Ucayali	Amazon River	3150 km
River Volga	Europe	Valdai Hills	Caspian sea	3530 km
Red river	North America	Prairie Dog Town fork Red River	Mississippi River	2190 km
Niger River	Africa	Guinea Highlands	Atlantic ocean	4200 km
Ganges River	Asia	Gangotri Glacier	Bay of Bengal	2525 km
Danube River	Europe	Brigach	Black sea	2730 km
Mekong River	Asia	Lasagongma Spring	South China Sea	4350 km
Salween River	Asia	Tibetan Plateau.	Andaman Sea	3289 km
Sao Francisco River	South America	Canastra mountain	Atlantic ocean.	2830 km
Maranon River	South America	Andes	Amazon River	1737 km
Putumayo River	South America	Andean Mountain	Amazon River	2063 km
Kingu River	South America	Mara Grosso Plateau	Amazon River	1640 km
Benue River	Africa	Adamawa Plateau	Niger River	1400 km

1	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	NAME	CONTINENT	SOURCE	MOUTH	LENGTH (IN KM)	COUNTRIES IT FLOWS THROUGH
2	NILE	AFRICA	Lake Victoria	Mediterranean sea	6650 km	Ethiopia, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, South Sudan, Brazil, Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname, and French Guiana.
3	AMAZON	SOUTH AMERICA	Mantaro River	Atlantic Ocean	6400 km	UK.
4	THAMES	EUROPE	Thames Head	Thames Estuary	346 km	UK.
5	CONGO	AFRICA	Lake Tanganyika	Atlantic Ocean	4700 km	Angola, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Republic of the Congo, the Central African Republic, Zambia
6	YANGTZE	ASIA	Qinghai	East China Sea	6300 km	China.
7	MISSISSIPPI	NORTH AMERICA	Lake Itasca	Gulf of Mexico	3766 km	USA.
8	VOLGA	EUROPE	Valdai Hills	Caspian Sea	3530 km	Russia.
9	RHINE	EUROPE	Vordenteln	North Sea	1233 km	Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Austria, Germany, France, and the Netherlands.
10	ZAMBEZI	AFRICA	Mwanitunga	Indian Ocean	2574 km	Zambia, Angola, Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, and Mozambique.
11	MEKONG	ASIA	Lasagongma	Mekong River Delta	4350 km	China, Myanmar, Laos, Thailand, Cambodia, and Vietnam
12	NIGER	AFRICA	Guinea Highlands	Atlantic Ocean	4200 km	Niger, Guinea, Cote d'Ivoire, Mali, Burkina Faso, Algeria, Benin, Chad, Cameroon, and Nigeria
13	SEINE	EUROPE	Sourcu-Seine	English Channel	777 km	France.

Class 6

CONFIRMATION



Confirmation

Confirmation is a Sacrament of Initiation. This special Catholic Sacrament is one of mature Christian commitment where a Christian is able to renew their Baptismal vows, previously taken for them by their parents and godparents. In England and Wales most people are baptised when they are babies and many people are Confirmed when they are older. You are usually confirmed by a Bishop. During Confirmation you receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit and you choose a name of a saint and this saint should then act as an inspiration to the candidate and they should try to live their own lives following their examples.

Gathering

Candidates gather together in Mass in readiness for this important initiation ceremony. They invite their family, friends and sponsors to join the parish family in this important sacrament. For the gathering the Bishop wears a mitre and carries a cross he also carries a long staff which is curved at the top like a shepherd's staff. Carrying the staff symbolizes his role of caring for all like a shepherd cares for its sheep.



Liturgy Of the word

The scripture readings are chosen and read. They speak of wisdom, open mindedness, discipleship, strength, hope and the role of the Holy Spirit. After the readings the candidates are brought to the Bishop and the gathered community. The Bishop usually addresses the candidates directly on this important day. He also reminds them of the day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples as Jesus promised them giving them the strength and courage to continuing fulfilling the mission of Christ Jesus.



Celebration of the Sacrament

The candidates are called together. The Bishop extends his hands over them. He prays that the Holy Spirit will strengthen them with special gifts.

Anointing with Chrism

The Bishop dips his right thumb into the oil of Chrism and makes the sign of the cross on the candidate's forehead. The Bishop then says "Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit". At this point the candidate will receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Wisdom, understanding right judgement, courage, knowledge, reverence and wonder and awe in God's presence.

One Body

The Bishop says, "Peace be with you", the candidate replies, "And with your spirit". Special prayers follow for those who have been confirmed as well as their parents, grandparents, sponsors and so on. The Mass will then continue in its unusual pattern.