Newsletter Autumn Term Week 8 Friday 24th October 2025

Holy Family Catholic Primary School

Jesus said "Let the children come to me" We live and learn and love in his way.

Spotlight on Year 3





















Newsletter — Friday 24th October 2025 - Week 8

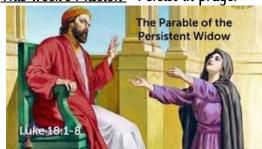
Holy Family Catholic Primary School

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Catholic Life and Mission

This week's Mission - Persist in prayer



This week we listened to Luke's Gospel and the parable of the persistent widow. We heard how she did not give up until she got what she wanted. The widow knew that the judge did not care about her, but she never gave up asking and he eventually helped her.



In the parable, Jesus tells us that God isn't like the judge for these reasons:

- God loves us and wants to lsten to us and answer our prayers
- Jesus encourages us to be persistent in prayer and never give up
- The more we pray the closer or friendship with God will be.



Fr Charles Induction Mass

Fr Charles would like to extend his thanks to everyone who attended his induction Mass on Tuesday evening. He was delighted to see so many people there and to join him after Mass for tea & cake in the Parish Hall. A big shout out to Miss Taylor and all the other parishioners for all of their hard work in to making such beautiful cakes for the event. We hope Fr Charles feels settled in our Parish.

I'm delighted to share that our school have purchased new signs for our Parish, using money raised at our 70th festival. On Thursday Fr Charles, myself & our Y6 and Y3 Chaplaincy team went over to the view the new signs and Fr Charles gave them a blessing and we all prayed together for our church and Parish that it is a place of welcome for all.









Sacrament of Confirmation



We are delighted to confirm that the date for the Sacrament of Confirmation, for Y6, will be held on Thursday 11th June pm, times to be confirmed. Please see the attached program for Parents meetings & Masses that will be taking place during the year as part of your commitment and preparation to receive this Sacrament.













Diwali Celebrations

We hope that all of our families & friends enjoyed celebrating Diwali on Monday 20th October. Also known as Deepavali, it is the Hindu festival of lights. It symbolises the spiritual "victory of light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance". The children in reception had a lovely experience celebrating this week & tasting some lovely food.





Poppy Appeal

Thank you to our wonderful Year 6 children Jessica, Saraiyah, Ella-Rose, Karessa & Caitlin . Who have been going around the school selling items for the Poppy Appeal. We will continue this the week we come back to school. Thank you all for supporting this appeal.

<u> Using your special gifts and talents - Amazing achievements!</u>

I would like to congratulate, Annie in Y5, who danced a fabulous three rounds at the Great Britain Championships in London and finished in an amazing 5th place overall with a 2nd and 4th in the solos. She was the top UK girl in a competition entered by 71 dancers across the world. The entries included 29 from the UK, 27 from Ireland, 1 from Germany and 13 from USA and 1 from Canada.

I would also like to congratulate Oscar from Y5 who took part in the British Open Taekwondo Championship on Saturday and won a bronze medal.

Well done to you both keep up the hard work, we are all so proud of you here at Holy Family.



Please click this link for the Wednesday word Link for Parish newsletter -

<u>Autumn Parent's evenings</u>

Parents evenings for YN To Y6 will be on:

Tuesday 11th November 5.00pm -7.00pm & Thursday 20th November 3.30pm-5.30pm

The parent evening appointment system has now opened. All appointments should be made via the online booking system. we ask that you click this link when the bookings are open. Please note, if your child is on the SEND register, you do not need to make a booking. A separate appointment will be arranged directly with your child's class teacher.

Merit Certificate Competition Extension

Just a reminder that the closing date has now been extended to Tuesday 4th November, to give children the opportunity to use the half term break to design a new certificate. We look forward to seeing all of their designs.















CHILDREN IN NEED 2025

The School Council would like to invite everyone to wear their favourite colour to school on Friday 14th November, in exchange for £1 (or more!) Please do NOT buy anything new for this occasion. The School Council just want to give everyone a chance to come in feeling comfortable, wearing a colour that they love. You can donate using cash or via the Just Giving page - scan the QR code on the poster or follow this link: Holy Family Catholic Primary School is fundraising for BBC Children in Need



New Admissions 2026.2027

We can confirm our two show round dates for Parents of new pupils is Thursday 13th November or Monday 17th November at 3.30pm. If you would like to book, please contact the school office.

Secondary School Applications

Please can we remind Y6 parents that the closing date for your child's secondary school application is Friday 31st October.

Star Vision Discount

Please remember to have all orders in as soon as possible for star vision, they have an offer on at the moment to receive a £5.00 discount if you order before 09/11/2025, this is for a minimum spend of £35.00. Orders will be returned the first week back after half term



FREE BACKPACKS



We have still got plenty of bags available in the designs that you can see.

If your child is in KS2 and needs a new

backpack, please pop into the office. This will be a first come, first serve basis. Thank you to Costco!







Scholastic Book Fair



We are delighted to announce that the Book Fair will be returning to school on Monday 3rd November to Monday 10th November. This is a fantastic opportunity for the children to purchase their very own books with such a wide range of choice and new titles. This is a cashless Book Fair please do not send money in with the children. The Book Fair will be open in KS2 hall first thing from Monday 3rd at 8.30am until 9am and after school from 3.10pm until 3.45pm

Dodgeball Competition

On **Wednesday 22nd October**, eight of our Year 5 pupils represented our school at the **annual Values Dodgeball event**. The competition wasn't just about skill and speed — teams were also judged on three important values: **respect**, **teamwork**, **and honesty**.

Our children showed fantastic sportsmanship throughout the day, working together brilliantly and demonstrating all three values with pride. Their efforts were rewarded with an impressive 3rd place out of 10 schools!



Well done to our amazing Year 5s for their hard work and positive attitude. Mr Newell and Mrs McCreath were incredibly proud to support the team and celebrate their success.

Flu Vaccines











The NHS Will be contacting you directly, via email, regarding your child's annual Flu Vaccination which will be taking place in school on <u>Wednesday 26th November</u>. Your child will ONLY receive the nasal flu vaccine if you have completed the portal. It is really important to get this done to protect them!

Casual Supervisory Assistant Vacancy

We are looking for a casual, reliable and caring Supervisory Assistant to supervise our children during lunch times. We currently have one vacancy to cover sickness absence. The hours could be up to 6.25 hours per week, Monday to Friday (term time only). If you are interested or wish to find out more, please call the school office and ask for an application form.

Be Careful

As Halloween and Bonfire Night approaches, West Midlands Police would like to encourage you to talk to your child about staying safe and sensible during this time.

Remember...

- Stay visible at night by wearing fluorescent clothing or head torches
- Supervise children with sparklers and at firework displays
- Warn your children about stranger danger and only trick or treating in well-lit, known areas
- It is illegal for anyone under the age of 18 to possess a firework, flare or smoke bomb.

You can download our free parents' guide of safety tips here: https://www.westmidlands.police.uk/police-forces/west-midlands-police/areas/campaigns/campaigns/darker-nights/

If you want to report something suspicious call 101 or 999 in an emergency. For more information about how West Midlands Police are helping keep you safe this Halloween, search 'WMP Darker Nights'.

Please see that attached Police Letter about robbery, anti-social behaviour and personal safety over half term.

Mental Health

Please see attached poster for more support for Tips & Wellness being.

October Half Term Fun

Please see attached poster for some fun activities that you can do with the children during the break.



Coventry Rocks

We have been advised that Coventry Rocks also have some fun events in our local area. Please click this link for more information https://www.coventryrocks.co.uk/

Soccer Rockz

Please see the below flyer which is for children aged 2-4 either of nursery or preschool age at SoccerRockz Totz.

Music Appreciation



This month we have focused on Black History Month and have been listening to the Light House Family song, 'I wish I knew how it feels to be free'.

This song served as an anthem for the Civil Rights Movement in the 1960s.

A widely played version was recorded by Nina Simone in 1967 on her Silk & Soul album. Lighthouse Family covered it as

https://youtu.be/TeCAkrg4fNE (I Wish I Knew How It Would Feel to Be) Free/One, a medley with U2's "One".

Remember Monday 3rd November is a teacher training day! Have a lovely half term & see you all <u>Tuesday 4th November</u> Mrs G Griffiths Headteacher













GREAT	Atte V	_	Control of the Contro				
	YR	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Attendance	96.8%	91.7%	97.5%	88.7%	95.3%	97.7%	93.9%
	Well done to	y5 for 97.7	% the highe	st attendan	ce this week		_











HEAD TEACHERS MERIT

Y6 Mrs Tompkins

Marcel Sara Evie Knight

Y6 Miss Thompson

Caitlin Boland Lena Dabrowska

Y5 Mrs Corr-Wilson

Iessica Downey Leah Pote

Y5 Mrs Mariadoss Max Swiderski Krystal Sebastiyan

Y4 Mr Richardson

Janelle Egboja Órla Grove

Y4 Mrs Ward Ruairi Giddings Alina Stapor

Y3 Mrs Nicholls & Mrs Newman

> **Jack Stokes** Iga Rozanska

Y3 Miss Clyde

Charlie Gough Thea Stephenson

Y2 Mrs Marlowe

Arlo Reynolds-Gough Ada McGuire

Y2 Mr Newell

Kacper Lyszczak Isla Williams

Y1 Mrs Parkes & Mrs Twycross

Erina Cengu Nathan Filmon

Y1 Miss Brown

Tinashe Ngoma Arthur Madeira

Nursery Superstars

Travis Aneke Maple Healy

Well done to all of you for your hard work this week!











Holy Family Parish and Catholic Primary School





Sacramental Preparation Programme for Year 6 Confirmation 2025/2026

This information details the Masses and meetings for the parents and children in preparation for receiving this special Sacrament.

We look forward to working with you and promise to keep you and your children in our prayers as you start the next step on your journey of handing on the Faith to your child. All of these meetings and Masses will be held in Holy Family Church, led by Fr Pat. Your child will be prepared in school for receiving this Sacrament and will be asked to complete some research on their chosen Saints name at home.

Topic	Date	Time
1 st Confirmation Enrolment Parents meeting	Thursday 27 th November	6.30pm
1 st Confirmation Enrolment Mass	Sunday 30 th November	10.00am
2 nd Confirmation Commitment Parents meeting	Thursday 26 th February	6.30pm
2 nd Confirmation Commitment Mass	Sunday 1 st March	10.00am
3 rd Confirmation Commitment Parents meeting	Thursday 4th June	6.30pm
3 rd Confirmation Commitment Mass	Sunday 7 th June	10.00am
Confession	Tuesday 9 th June	10.30am
Sacrament of Confirmation Mass Y6CT	Thursday 11 th June 2026	Time tbc
Sacrament of Confirmation Mass Y6ST	Thursday 11 th June 2026	Time tbc

^{*} to be confirmed by the Bishop

Fr. Charles Miller
Mrs Griffiths, Mrs Tompkins & Miss Thompson



































October Half term

This is a message from West Midlands Police for parents and carers about robbery, antisocial behaviour, and personal safety for young people.

Police and schools across the West Midlands are committed to working together to protect our young people from becoming victims of robbery and violent crime. We also want to reduce antisocial behaviour around fireworks, especially in the darker nights.

As we head into October half term, we are urging everyone to talk to their child about staying safe over Halloween and Bonfire Night.

We have seen an increase in criminals targeting young people who carry iPhones, wireless headphones or digital devices. Thieves are forcing young people to log out of their iCloud to prevent the phone being tracked after it's stolen. By enabling two-factor authentication on iCloud or your child's phone, can make thieves lose interest in taking their phone.

Increasing the security on your child's iPhone and iPad:

- 1. Firstly, talk to your child about enabling two-factor authentication on their devices to help keep them, and their phones, safe from theft and exploitation.
- 2. Reassure them that turning on location and enabling better privacy settings allows them to communicate with their friends and family safely and securely.
- Turn on two-factor authentication for your child's Apple Account: On your iPhone or iPad: Go to Settings
 [your name] > Sign-In & Security. Tap Turn on Two-Factor Authentication. Then tap Continue and follow the onscreen instructions.
- 4. Discuss with your child who they would like to add to their 'trusted contact list' and encourage them to save these numbers in their emergency contacts list in case they get into trouble.
- 5. Add your child's devices to your 'Family' by heading to your Apple ID settings and adding the devices.
- 6. From the 'Family' group you can enable content and privacy restrictions and two-factor authentication, as well as location sharing.

For further information visit: Use parental controls on your child's iPhone and iPad - Apple Support

If your child has an Android phone there are additional security settings, you can put in place to make sure the location of their phone and data is secure. Visit your phone provider website for further crime prevention advice.



Staying safe around Halloween and Bonfire Night:

We want everyone to go out and enjoy the festivities of Halloween and Bonfire Night, but this can be a worrying time for those most vulnerable in our communities. Before your child heads out with their mates, be sure to talk to them about how to respect others and how to get help if they find themselves in trouble.



Working in partnership, making communities safer west-midlands.police.uk















You can download our <u>parent's guide</u> to Halloween and firework safety. Here are some top tips to give your child:

- 1. Plan a safe and familiar route and stick with friends.
- 2. Make sure phones are charged, location on, and kept out of sight.
- 3. Wear high-visibility clothing or something recognisable so friends and family can spot you in a crowd.
- 4. Attend a public firework display when you can and never handle adult fireworks.
- 5. Organise a safe meet-up place in case you lose each other at an outdoor event.
- 6. Never point fireworks at people, animals, emergency service vehicles, buildings, or roads.
- 7. Tell them that police can arrest and prosecute anyone using fireworks dangerously.
- 8. If someone has a 'no trick or treating' card in their window do not approach the property or ring the bell.



What to do if you are concerned about your child or a young person you know:

Talk to them in a safe and quiet location that feels comfortable for both of you.

You may wish to contact a member of the Pastoral Team at school if you feel your child isn't listening or is at risk. You can reach out your school's officers to seek advice. They can talk through your concerns and plan a way forward together.

If you or your child has been a victim of crime or their life is in danger, call 999 immediately. Alternatively, you can call 101 if the crime has happened and you want to report this to the police.

You can contact Crime stoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or via www.crimestoppers-uk.org

Thank you, West Midlands Police.



Working in partnership, making communities safer west-midlands police uk





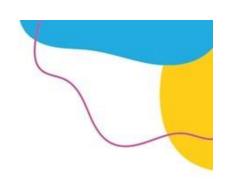












Digital Detox

Taking a digital detox is important to give our minds and bodies a break from screens and technology. Too much screen time can lead to tired eyes, difficulty sleeping, and feeling stressed or distracted. Stepping away from devices helps us to recharge, focus better, improve our mood, and spend more quality time with family and friends. It also encourages healthier habits like playing outside, reading, and being creative, all of which support overall wellbeing!

Our tips for taking a digital detox:

- Set yourself clear limits for screen time Set specific time limits for screen time, such as an hour after school or 30 minutes of games or social media. Try setting limits on your device, or a visual reminder.
- Create Scree-Free Zones When you are eating meals with your family or friends, leave your phone or devices in a different room. This allows you to talk and enjoy your food without distractions and improves your quality of connections with others.
- Avoid screens at night Try to avoid using devices in your bedroom, most importantly for at least 30 minutes before bed. Keeping your bedroom a peaceful space can help you to fall asleep more easily.
- 4. Do fun activities without screens Try drawing, playing a game with your family, playing a musical instrument or reading instead of your usual device. Spend time outdoors if you can!
- Take small breaks from screens After playing video games or watching TV for a while, get up and move around. Try to take short breaks where you move between rooms, stretch or walk around.
- 6. Turn off notifications This can reduce the number of distractions and help you focus on what is important to you. You might even discover a new activity you enjoy!
- Find mindful alternatives Try meditating or doing breathing exercises to reduce feelings of stress, rather than screen use.

In Coventry and Warwickshire, for any urgent mental health concerns, contact the RISE Crisis Helpline available 24/7, by calling NHS 111. Alternatively, call 999 or visit A&E in an emergency, for example if medical attention is required.

MHST are available to support you and your school throughout the school year including term time and school holidays.

Please contact your school's Mental Health Lead for information and advice.























