

Holy Family School's entrance gets a colourful upgrade.

Thanks to the support of our wonderful Parents Association (PA), we have been able to install some beautiful new coloured window panels into the main entrance doors to the school. The stunning artwork shows the Annunciation in the upper panels and The Holy Family in the lower panels. A fabulous stained glass skylight in the school colours compliments the windows. We hope that all visitors to our school will feel immediately uplifted as they walk through our front doors and they will know just how proud we are of our one happy and Holy Family.

Lenten Corridor Display

As we approach the start of Lent, we have begun work on our fantastic Lenten display in the main corridor. This year every child has made a Holy Family Flame with their Lenten promises written on the back. These will be hung from the ceiling. Year 6 were amazing in helping all the children make their flame in The Space on Thursday showcasing yet again the way service of others is embedded within our school. Our Lenten display will show the Easter story from the Last Supper through to the resurrection of Jesus. Check the next issue for photos or have a look in the corridor next time you are in school. On Wednesday this week, we also welcomed Mrs Gala, a teacher from Cardinal Newman School, who worked with the Year 4,5 & 6 liturgy leaders to create a fantastic mosaic of The Holy Spirit. This masterpiece will adorn the wall outside the school office. This is another great example of the collaboration between our Catholic schools within The Xavier Catholic Education Trust.

Liturgy Leaders lead Friday Collective Worship

On Friday 15th February Adam and Thomas volunteered to lead the Friday assembly. They read the story of the Good Samaritan to the rest of the school and explained why they decided to choose that particular story from the Gospel of St Luke. They also led prayers for those people in our school community who are sick, particularly those currently in hospital.

The Wednesday Word... is coming soon to every child and every family!

Thanks to the generosity of the Parish and the Parents Association, every family in the school will be receiving a weekly copy of The Wednesday Word starting on Ash Wednesday. This is a colourful leaflet allowing families time to reflect on the meaning of the weekly gospel. Thank you to Father Richard for supporting the school with this initiative.

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In the next special Lent edition:

Value of the month: Sacrifice

HF Garden Project

Miracles of Jesus

Pope Francis

And much more!



THE FLAME



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Holy Family Catholic Primary School, Addlestone



Cardinal John Henry Newman

Inside this Issue...

February Holy Family Flames!

Preparing for Lent

The Miracles of Jesus

Our Lady & St Bernadette of Lourdes

Community Garden

Wednesday Word

This month's key value...Respect!

Pope Francis Watch...what has our beloved Pope been up to lately?



'Living each day as one happy and Holy Family'

We know that the love of Jesus is alive in our school as we know that God made us all and He loves us all. We each carry the flame of The Holy Spirit and it is our responsibility to share the gifts of The Holy Spirit with everyone we meet. Our school is a very happy place and this makes us all proud. Some ways that we live each day as one happy and Holy Family include:

- Sharing with others
- Including everyone in our games
- Helping others when they are sad or upset
- Showing respect towards each other
- Being good role models for the younger children and for each other
- Praying and celebrating together
- Being kind and forgiving towards each other
- Thanking others when they help us
- Using our talents and gifts to serve other people

We feel especially proud that visitors to our school always talk about 'the special feel of Holy Family.' This 'special feel' is the presence of God. He guides us and supports us in all that we do so we feel confident to work and play happily together. In our school we live each day as one happy and Holy Family.

This month Pope Francis confirmed the canonisation of Cardinal John Henry Newman, which makes Cardinal Newman the first English saint since St John Ogilvie in 1976. Pope Francis gave the go ahead after claims that a miracle occurred due to prayers offered to Newman were approved by The Vatican. Cardinal Newman was a great scholar and wrote the famous words "God has created me to do Him some definite service. He knows what He is doing. My role is to trust Him and serve Him in the best way I can."



Value of the month: Respect

Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves Romans 12:10

CAFOD Assembly

On Friday 1st March we had a CAFOD assembly telling us all about CAFOD's work across the globe. CAFOD stands for Catholic Agency For Overseas Development. This year CAFOD are supporting children in Bangladesh that do not have enough to eat. They taught us about how to give up things for lent and then donate the money to CAFOD. The CAFOD rep (Nicola) taught us that for £200 we can buy a pond stocked with fish, 26 ducks and enough rice seeds to allow a whole family to become self-sufficient. We have decided we will definitely raise £200 during Lent to help a family in Bangladesh.

Jesus the miracle maker—Jesus cures the leper

Jesus was a miracle maker and many of his miracles involved curing the sick. Leprosy was a horrible disease and the people who had this disease were called a 'lepers'. Jesus helped everyone who asked for help and one day a leper came to ask Jesus if he could cure this horrible disease. Jesus replied with "Of course I will help you!" All of a sudden the leprosy disappeared and because the man had faith, he was cured. The man was so happy and excited that he went around telling everyone about it. Soon everyone who had Leprosy allowed Jesus and asked him to cure them. This is a wonderful example of Jesus' kindness and generosity and we should all follow him to be like him.

Holy Family Flames

Each class has a Holy Family Flame chosen by the teachers or pupils every month. Holy family flames are chosen because they have been recognised for sharing the light of Jesus.. There is also a special head teacher flame for those who have not just impressed the teachers but have also amazed the head teacher! Towards the end of the month the flames have a special lunch in the library with Mrs O'Neil and or Mr Tindall. The Holy Family flames for February will be awarded during assembly on Friday 8th March and published in the next edition.

Lent...a time to prepare for Easter

Lent is a special time in which we reflect on all the blessings we have in our life. During Lent people begin to prepare for Easter, the most special feast of the Christian calendar. Lent is very important as it marks the time in which Jesus began the journey to fulfil the words of the great prophets. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and is celebrated for forty days and forty nights is because this is how long Jesus spent in the desert (without food or water) after being baptised by his cousin John.

During Lent, a lot of Catholics like to give up some of their favourite foods in memory of Jesus who sacrificed so much for us all. During the forty day period, Jesus was often tempted by the devil who was trying to bribe Jesus into eating food and turning his back on His Father. The liturgical colour for Lent is purple. In school during Lent we always think about and support those less fortunate than ourselves. Along with all schools in the diocese, we support the charity Missio who help children in poor countries around the world. We also support Cafod through enjoying a special fund-raising Lenten lunch together. During Lent we also visit the church to follow the stations of the cross and hold a very special stations of the cross assembly in the hall.



Saint of the month: The story of Our Lady & Saint Bernadette of Lourdes

St Bernadette was a very kind and loving person but she was also a very blessed as she had many visits (or apparitions) from Mary which helped her in life. The first of these visits took place on 11 February 1858. After this visit, Bernadette told her mother all about her encounter with Mary. Although at that time she only saw her as a normal lady, over time Bernadette began to feel safe with this lady. The apparitions took place in the cave of Massabielle which was actually a kilometre and a half from the town she was living in, this all happened while Bernadette was gathering firewood with her sister and friend. Bernadette Soubirous was born on 7th January 1844 and died on 16th April 1879. Bernadette was the first of seven siblings, her brothers and sisters were called Toinette, Justin, Pierre, Jean, Louise and Jean-Marie. Her parents' names were François and Louise. It was the 8th December 1933 the Pope Pius XI officially made Bernadette a saint of the Catholic Church community and her feast day is celebrated on the 18th February (this is because on this day Mary promised her happiness in the next life) as well as 16th April (which is the day she died on).

Bernadette was buried in Saint Gildard, Nevers and her body has not become corrupt, instead staying forever pure. She is the patron saint of sick persons and a great shrine was built in Lourdes which welcomes millions of pilgrims each year. Bernadette was only announced a saint in 1933 (long after her death in 1879) under Pope Pius XI.

The Holy Family Community Garden Project has begun!

After many hours of planning and discussion, work on our new community garden begun on Wednesday 13th February. The project aims to transform a barren, unused piece of land into a vibrant, sensory space for our whole community. The dream for this project has been turned into a reality thanks to the support of St George's College and The Xavier Catholic Education Trust who have provided between them the majority of the funding, expertise and labour. We are truly grateful for their support. We were also fortunate to receive a grant of £2,000 from The Tesco bags for help scheme. And we thank everyone who put a blue token into the Holy Family drum during November & December. The garden will incorporate different seating areas, mixed planting, landscaping, sculptures and a water feature. We plan to install our own child-friendly stations of the cross funded by the PA, along with a beautiful statue of Our Lady. Salesian School Art department are also supporting us with the design and painting of some outdoor murals within the garden.

The final main feature of our garden will be a beautiful decked seating area and a community café which is being funded by the school. We are hoping the project will be complete by the beginning of the summer term with an official opening of the garden planed for our feast day celebrations at the end of June.



The Holy Family CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL