

HFC S

NEWS

Issue 07
Autumn 2024

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HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the first edition of HFCS News for this academic year! Each half term, we round up the news about all of the exciting things that have been happening in our school to share with you - it's always a huge pleasure to look back on the half term and let you know what is going on here at Holy Family. This academic year has got off to a very good start. Student behaviour has been exemplary across the school, and I was delighted to have a lovely email from Mr. Michael Connell, a visitor to Our Lady and St George's church, where the Sixth Form welcome back Mass took place in September. Mr. Connell wrote:

Dear Head Teacher,

I was at the 9.15am Mass this morning at Our Lady and St George with your Sixth Form students. I am visiting the area from Yorkshire.

What a wonderful group of young people: respectful, engaged: a credit to you, your school, the parish and the Walthamstow community.

Just wanted to say how impressed I was by your students, their staff and the school.

As usual this half term has been a busy one, with our open evening in September and open mornings running throughout October - coming up in November is our Sixth Form open evening, so please save the date in your calendar if your child is in Year 11, and tell your friends and family with children in Year 11!

A special mention must also go to our new Year 7 students who have settled into secondary school extremely well, supported by their fantastic pastoral team of Mr. Freeman, Ms. Ozpalas, Mr. King and form tutors.

I am sure that you will enjoy reading this edition as much as I did; next term promises to be just as packed, as we move towards Advent and the joy of Christmas.

I wish you and your families a restful half term break!

God bless,
Mrs Laws

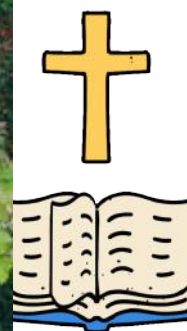


CHAPLAINCY



Year 7 Welcome Mass

It was a pleasure to welcome Fr. Freddy Warner SMA from St Patrick's to celebrate a special Mass of Welcome for our new students. It is wonderful that our Year 7's first day at Holy Family should close in God's presence.



Fairtrade Fortnight

During Fairtrade Fortnight, the Year 11 Justice & Peace group sent a letter to our local MP, Stella Creasy, asking her to sign a "Be the Change" pledge. This pledge reads, 'I commit to working with fair trade campaigners in my constituency, and in Parliament, to support farmers and workers affected by unfair trade all around the world and to build a fairer future.'

At the time of writing, Mr. Creasy is yet to respond.



Youth SVP

Youth SVP led assemblies across all year groups to mark the Feast Day of St Vincent de Paul and to recruit new members.



CHAPLAINCY

Liturgy Leaders

Our Liturgy Leaders also led assemblies across all year groups, highlighting the work of CAFOD and their Harvest Fast Day appeal. They told the story of Daniel, from the DRC, who benefits from a carpentry course supported by CAFOD, enabling him to provide for his family.



Years 7 and 8 were encouraged to wear bright colours for a small donation to CAFOD. We are still counting the donations.

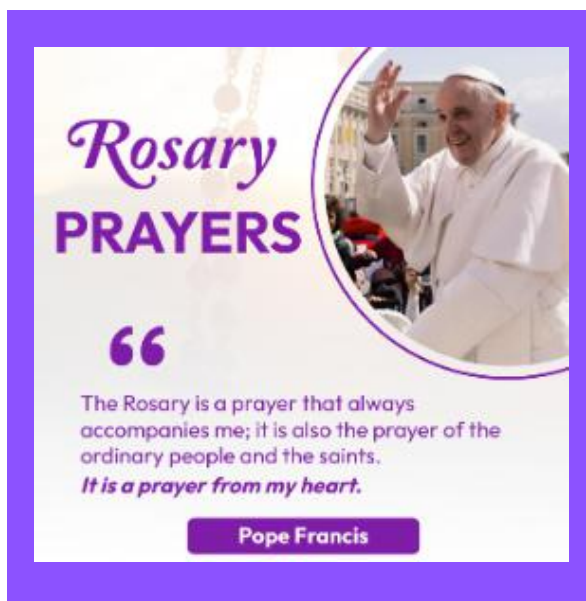
There has also been a Harvest tin collection for the local food bank.

CAFOD Young Leaders Celebration

Two students, Maria and Miriam in Year 12, have joined this year's CAFOD Young Leader programme. They have attended their first training day with schools from around the Brentwood Diocese and have exciting plans for Advent.

Month of the Holy Rosary

October is traditionally the Month of the Holy Rosary. The Rosary is prayed every Tuesday before school, led by Maria in Year 12.



Let us pray for rest as the half term holidays start, for protection of our children, that children are cared for and enjoy the week.

HFSIX

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

THURSDAY 7TH NOVEMBER
6-8 PM



- Presentations by Headteacher, Head of Sixth Form and Student Leaders.

- Tour our school and see our facilities.
- Speak to a wide range of subject specialist staff and current students.



Follow us online

SCAN QR CODE
TO REGISTER
YOUR INTEREST





15th Aug 2024

ANOTHER YEAR OF A LEVEL AND BTEC SUCCESS FOR HFSIX!

Many congratulations to all of our Year 13 students - we are incredibly proud of all of you!

Holy Family Sixth Form students gained their final A Level and Level 3 BTEC results today, with some fantastic outcomes representing two years of hard work. Overall attainment has improved, with a higher percentage of students achieving top grades compared to last year. The percentage of students gaining AAB or higher in the traditional 'facilitating subjects' increased compared to last year and a greater number of students gained entry to Russell Group universities.



Headteacher Carolyn Laws said, "These impressive results reflect the hard work, commitment and dedication of our students and their teachers. I am incredibly proud of them and of our high-performing Sixth Form. We were delighted that the majority of our students were able to access their first choice university, with many individuals achieving outstanding results and progressing to prestigious institutions including Russell group universities. HFSIX continues to go from strength to strength!"

Many congratulations to all of our Year 13 students - we are incredibly proud of all of you!

Explore Your Future at HFSIX. Unlock your potential and shape your future with an exceptional education at HFSIX. We are proud to offer a dynamic and enriching learning environment that empowers students to excel academically, develop important life skills, and prepare for the challenges of the modern world. Register your interest for our Sixth Form Open Evening on Thursday 7th November for September 2025 admission.



Top achieving A level students (with destinations)

Victoria Szlachta: A*AAB (Physics - King's College London)
Lora Baranovska: A*AA (Korean - SOAS University of London)
Arek Kuciel: A*AA (Modern Languages & Economics - University of Leeds)
Temi Balogun: AAA (Computer Science - University of Nottingham)
Precious Ofori: A*AB (Psychology & Cognitive Neuroscience - University of Nottingham)
Luca Da Conceicao: AAA (Destination to be confirmed)
Caroline Jonkute: AAA (Chemical Engineering - University of Southampton)
Lyan Wilhelms Sandoval: A*AB (Destination to be confirmed)
Stephanie Nwajagu: AAB (Neuroscience - Queen Mary University)
Natalia Luczkowska: AAB (Psychology - City University)
Rhys Evans: ABB (Chemical Engineering - University of Nottingham)

Level 3 BTEC Distinction stars (equivalent to A*)

Elizabeth Acheampong: D*D*D* and D* - (Apprenticeship at Amazon)
Elisjana Puci-Di Domenica: D*D*D* (Primary Education - University of Roehampton)
Ashlee Yap: D*D*D* (Nursing - King's College London)





HFCS STUDENTS CELEBRATE GCSE SUCCESS!

Year 11 students at Holy Family Catholic School were celebrating this week following their GCSE results.

Headteacher Mrs Laws said: "We are extremely proud of the hard work, commitment and resilience our students have shown in achieving their GCSE results. I am particularly pleased with our strong outcomes in creative subjects - at a time when many schools have cut back on a creative curriculum, our excellent results in Design Technology, Modern Languages, Media Studies and Drama highlight the importance of a broad subject offer."



Students achieving the top grades in their subjects increased from last year. We are proud of the achievement of all of our students - in particular, the following students' grades were exceptional:

- Pourandokht Jafari-Dizaji - 7 grade 8s, 3 grade 9s
- Vanessa Pallan - 1 grade 7, 3 grade 8s, 6 grade 9s
- Aaliyah Hill - 3 grade 7s, 3 grade 8s, 3 grade 9s
- Nicholas Niemczyk - 3 grade 8s, 7 grade 9s
- Berenise Dzah - 2 grade 7s, 5 grade 8s, 1 grade 9
- George Uzoma - 2 grade 7s, 3 grade 8s, 2 grade 9s
- Eveleen Drapalyuk - 5 grade 7s, 1 grade 8, 2 grade 9s
- Maria Benke - 2 grade 7s, 8 grade 8s
- Miracle Sossouvi - 6 grade 7s, 2 grade 8s, 1 grade 9
- Rory O'Corbaidh - 4 grade 7s, 4 grade 8s, 2 grade 9s



Last week we celebrated another set of strong results for our Year 13 students, and we are delighted that the majority of our Year 11 students will be continuing their studies at HFSIX. We congratulate all of our students on their outcomes and wish them luck for the start of their new courses in September.

HFSIX is our high-performing Sixth Form offering a broad range of post -16 courses, welcoming students from all faiths or none. We are enrolling now - please visit our website for further information and to apply.

For more photos and student reactions please visit our social media pages:

YEAR 7

Meet Our Year 7 Prefects!

We are very pleased to introduce you to our new Year 7 Prefects! Mr. Freeman and Miss Ozpalas were thrilled to receive so many applications; it really shows that Year 7 students are working towards the school motto to 'be more.'

To apply, students filled in an application form explaining why they are applying for the position, how they believe their faith will help them in the role, and giving ideas of what they would like to do to improve the school. Congratulations to all of the successful applicants!



WELL DONE!



Prefects



7A

Eliana
Amelia

7E

Sophie
Akshaya

7I

Mariam
Ameera

7lg

Dila
Albert
Ruby-Leigh

7P

Demi
Ian
Cai

7R

David
Akshan

7S

Mikaylah
Brianna

And finally, a special mention to our Prefect PA: Chioma (7A)

YEAR 7



Year 7 Achievements

The Year 7 students have made an excellent start to their journey at Holy Family. Students are awarded achievement points in school for good conduct. This could be for being polite, completing work to a good standard, or volunteering to help in the school community. We also closely monitor attendance to make sure all Year 7 students are aspiring to be more everyday.

A huge congratulations to our highest conduct achievers and top attendance stars for this half-term!

Mr. Freeman & Miss Ozplalas

Top Conduct Points

7A Joy	7S Mikayla	7P Ayrin Caleb
7I Mariam	7IG Albert	7E Sophie
7R Lewin		

100% Attendance

7A:

Jerrell, Oliwier, Cory, Sidharth, Ayana, Joy, Ledjon, Michelle and Ashanti

7R:

Michelle, Clara, Nicole D, Joshua, Ozan, Graceljoy, Lauren, Gabriella, Lorenzo, Milla and Lewin

7S:

Similoluwa, Peniel, Mikaylah Naana, Dagem, Alexandra, Alina, Kayden, Zolika, Muhammed Saim, ALina, Jaeshan, MIR Inayah, Success, Brianna, Princess, Maja, Naisa and Maciej

7E:

Akshaya, Jake, Blessing, Yonatan, Javontay, Leo, Lia, Deandra, Mirabel and Denisa Georgiana

7IG:

Chikamso, Joshua, Kaelan, Dila and Albert

7P:

Rose, Joviah, Daryna, Michaela, Caleb, Ugochi, Amari, Dominik, Anush, Ian, Lanuja, Julia R, Cia and Kavinayan

7I:

Mairma, Ameerah, Akinkunmi, Zara, Luca, Jessica, Sparkayla, Lidya, Fatuma, Scarlett and Reno

YEAR 12

Year 12 at HFSIX!

Our Year 12 students have had a busy start to their time at HFSIX. They began the year by joining Y13 at a Welcome Mass at Our Lady and St. George's Church. The students used the Mass to reflect and to consider what they would like to achieve in the school year ahead. Our students behaved impeccably, as a member of the public that attended the Mass noted:

“What a wonderful group of young people: respectful, engaged: a credit to you, your school, the parish and the Walthamstow community. I just wanted to say how impressed I was by your students, their staff and the school.”

The Year 12 students also took part in some teambuilding activities in order to bond with members of their form. Things got competitive as form groups battled it out in 'Pipeline' and the 'Bench Challenge.'

The students have made an excellent start to life in the Sixth Form and we can't wait to see what they achieve over the year!



Societies at HFSIX have launched. Students have been signing up to societies in:

- Law & Ethics
- STEM
- Sports
- Faith In Action
- Literature
- Chess/Gaming
- Creative Arts
- Enterprise
- Cuisine

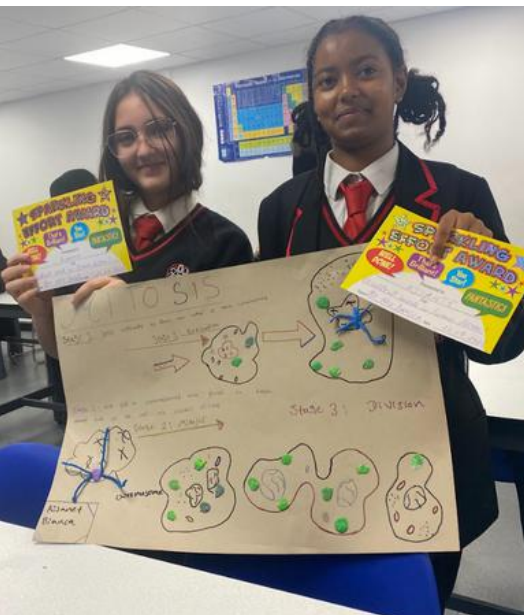


SCIENCE

Science Marvels

Science Marvels: Hands-on Mitosis with Miss Danila and Miss Johnson

In an engaging science lesson, students teamed up in pairs under the guidance of Miss Danila and Miss Johnson to explore the wonders of cell division by creating colorful and informative posters that visually represented the stages of mitosis. The task not only required students to accurately depict phases like prophase, metaphase, anaphase, and telophase, but also encouraged them to think creatively as they designed their posters. The classroom buzzed with excitement as students raced against the clock, and the first two pairs to complete their posters with both creativity and accuracy were awarded the prestigious Sparkling Effort Award Card. This fun and interactive activity brought the complex process of mitosis to life, helping students deepen their understanding of cell biology in an enjoyable, hands-on way.





Tottenham Inspires - Sixth Form

On Wednesday 9th October, 60 of our Y12 and 13 STEM students took part in a Tech Slam event hosted by Tottenham Inspires, led by the Hidden Genius Project. Students engaged in a series of workshops as well as an expo opportunity where they could speak to a range of industry experts and learn more about future career opportunities.



One of the organisers of the Tech Slam event was so impressed by a conversation with a HFSIX student that they invited her to come onto the stage and answer some questions from the group!



There were opportunities throughout the day for students to meet and talk to different companies, including KPMG. HFSIX students really gained a lot from the day and we can't wait to continue our work with Tottenham Inspires!



Spark2Life

On Wednesday 18th September, members of the Spark2Life team spent the day with us, starting with delivering an assembly to our year 7s, looking at rights and responsibilities as citizens, behaviour in the community and stop & search.



S P O R T S

Football Season begins!

We have had a successful start to the football season! Both our boys and girls teams across the year groups have demonstrated great team-work and resilience in the games that they have played over the last 6 weeks.

Please see below some of our results:



U16 Girls Football Team

HF - 4 - 0 - Lammas

HF 4 - 2 - Frederick Bremer

Year 9 Boys

HF - 8 - 2 - Leytonstone



Netball

October has been a busy month for our Year 9 netball team. On the 1st October they had a fantastic win (12-6) against Heathcote School, before joining the Year 11 team to attend the Borough Netball Rally on the 2nd of October. Here, our Year 11 girls finished in a respectable 4th place whilst our Year 9 team were runners up and received silver medals.



Table Tennis

On the 16th of October we had a competitive afternoon at the U13 and U16 Waltham Forest Boys Table Tennis Team Competition. Both teams demonstrated excellent team spirit and determination, putting in stellar performances. A huge congratulations to both teams, but a special mention to our U16 team - Justin, Simon, Brendon and Kosi - who reached the semi-finals!



THE LRC

Poetry Day 2024

We celebrated National Poetry Day on the 3rd October in the LRC! Students enjoyed reading poetry. They also participated in activities designed to enhance their knowledge around poetry terms.

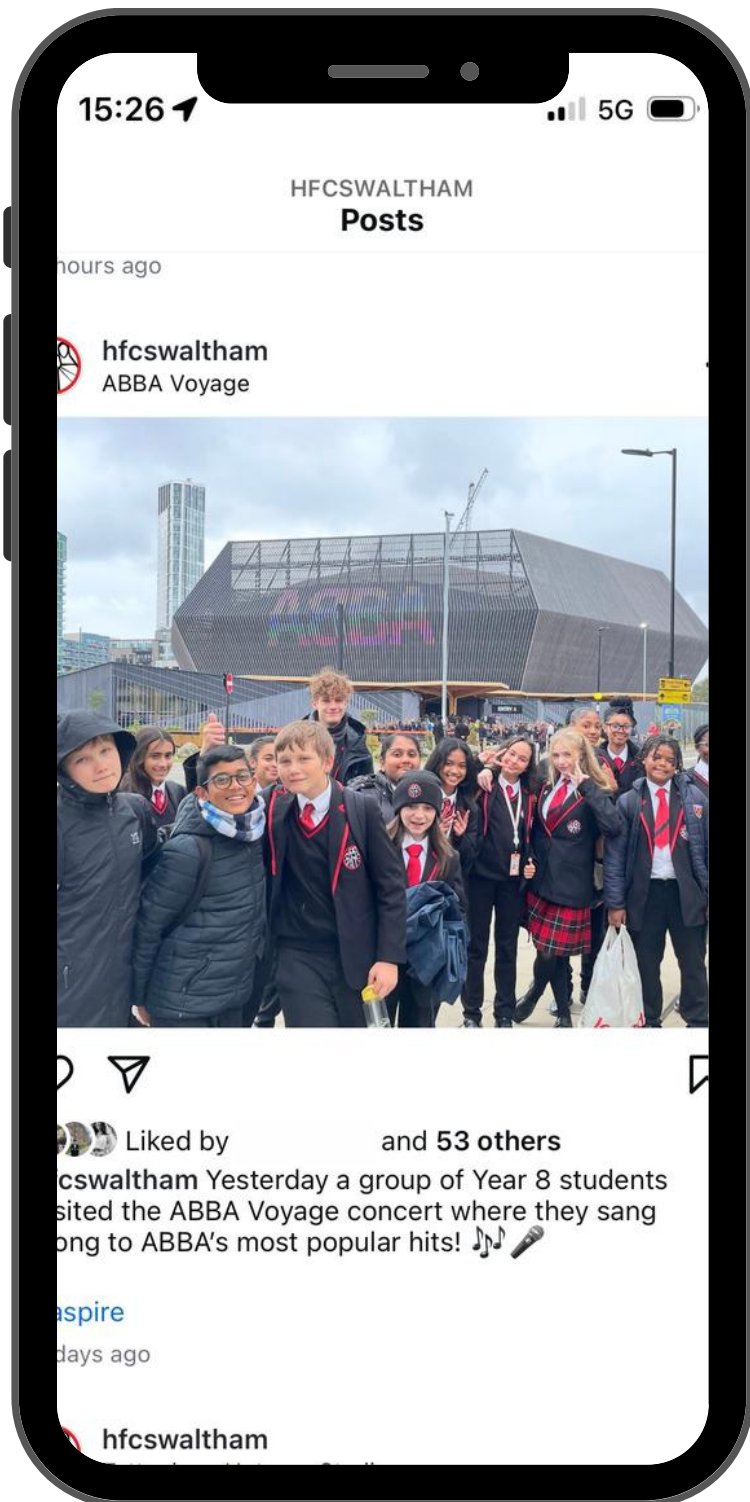


Library Book Donations

The LRC at Holy Family has been thrilled to receive a large amount of donated books for students to enjoy. Below, you can see books that have been donated this half-term by Miss Asante and Zara in 7I. We would like to say a huge **“thank you”** to everyone who donates books to Holy Family.



SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATES



KEY DATES

Forthcoming Events - Autumn Term 2

Monday 28th October - Back to School

Friday 1st November - PSD Drop Down Day

Friday 1st November - All Saints Holy Day of Obligation

Tuesday 5th November - GCSE English Paper 1

Wednesday 6th November - GCSE Maths Paper 1

Thursday 7th November - GCSE English Paper 2

Thursday 7th November - Sixth Form Open Evening 6-8pm

Friday 8th November - Sixth Form Applications Open

Friday 8th November - GCSE Maths Paper 2

Monday 11th November - Friday 15th November - Y13
Mock Exam Week

Monday 11th November - GCSE Maths Paper 3

Tuesday 12th November - Y10 Careers Evening

Monday 25th November - School closed

Tuesday 26th November - Friday 29th November - Y11
Mock Exam Week

Tuesday 26th November - Flu Vaccinations Y7/8/9

Wednesday 27th November - Flu Vaccinations Y10/11

Monday 2nd December - Friday 6th December - Y11 Mock
Exam Week 2

Friday 6th December - School UCAS Deadline

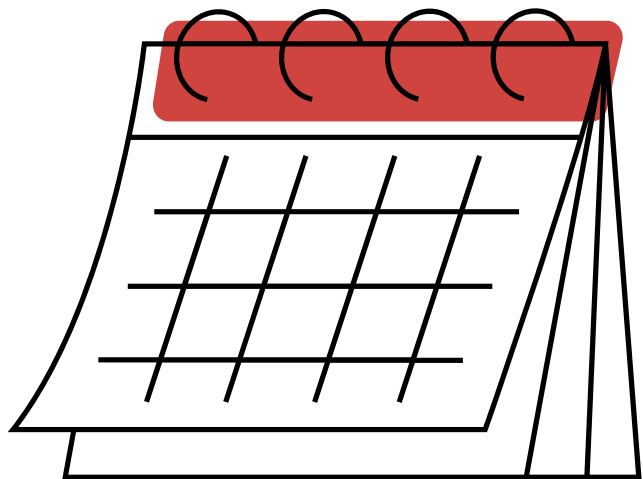
Tuesday 10th December - School Carol Service

Thursday 12th December - Y13 Parents Evening

Friday 13th December - Music Trip to the Royal Opera House (Y7-10)

Friday 20th December - Last day of term

Monday 6th January - Back to School



Please note that whilst these dates are correct at the time of going to print, they are subject to change. Don't forget that the calendar at www.holyfamily.waltham.sch.uk is regularly updated.

CONTACT US:

Walthamstow House Site (Years 7, 8, 12 & 13)
Telephone number: 020 8520 0482
Email: office@holyfamily.waltham.sch.uk

Wiseman House Site (Years 9, 10 & 11)
Telephone number: 020 8520 3587
Email: office@holyfamily.waltham.sch.uk