



9th June 2023



## Newsletter

### Reflection on the week:

This has been a great first week back to school and we have finally begun to see the sun appear which has lifted everyone's spirits. We were delighted this week, to celebrate some of Year 3 children making their First Holy Communion with a Going Forth Mass and it was wonderful for the whole school to join in this happy occasion. The First Holy Communion candidates were very proud of this special achievement.

We have been reflecting on the Gospel this week which focused on the importance of the Most Holy Trinity of Father, Son and Holy Spirit in our lives. We are reminded that when we think of the Most Holy Trinity, that God is with us always and that when we follow the example of Jesus His Son, we are pleasing Him. We know that this is not always easy and we must remember that we are blessed to have the guidance and strength of the Holy Spirit in our lives to guide us on our path to the Father.

Have a wonderful weekend,

*Mrs Kerrell*

Headteacher



### Congratulations Father Bernard

Huge congratulations to Father Bernard who is celebrating 30 Years as an ordained priest on Monday 12th June. This is a wonderful and special achievement and we wish him many more years as our Parish Priest. We are thankful for all that he does to support our children, our families and our school.

### Warm, sunny weather

We are scheduled to have some very warm weather next week. Please make sure that you are following our summer uniform policy. Children must have sun cream applied before they come to school and we recommend the long-lasting sun cream. If not this, then they must have a named bottle of sunscreen in their bag and be able to apply it themselves. Please teach your child to do this over the weekend if they cannot already. Your child must have a named hat and a named water bottle in school every day. Sunglasses are not part of our school uniform.

Personal hygiene is also very important in the warmer weather so please encourage your child to take a daily bath or shower and to use deodorant.

### Scooters and Bicycles

When coming onto the school path that leads up to the school and when leaving at the end of the day, please do not ride bikes or scooters. We had an accident at the end of the day today and we ask that everyone follows this to avoid anyone being injured. Thank you for your understanding

### Toileting

Many of our children are not flushing the toilet after they have used it and are not washing their hands. We are also noticing a lot of urine on the floor. It is very important that you talk to your child please about good toilet hygiene so that everyone can use the facilities in a sanitary way and avoid the spread of germs.

### Prime Drink

We have noticed that children are bringing in Prime drink. Please remember that children are only allowed water in their water bottle to drink during the day and must not bring this in.



### Year 3 Trip to Harlow Town Centre

On Tuesday as part of our Geography topic, Year 3 went on a trip to Harlow Town Centre. We completed lots of different activities including; a survey of the shops, a survey of the different people in town, interviews with members of the public, using data loggers to find out how loud different locations around town are and making a map of Harlow. The children had a great day and enjoyed all of the activities, they were all very polite to members of the public and spoke confidently when asking them questions.



### First Communion Going Forth Mass and Party

On Thursday, Year 3 celebrated those children who have made their First Holy Communion this year. We started the day with a Mass, which the whole school attended. In the afternoon, we had a fun time playing games, drawing and we had a bouncy castle on the field. We also had lots of party food and cake, it was really lovely to celebrate the day with friends and family members.



### Hares - Battle of Bosworth

During our sports week, year 4 Hares were racing around the school field re-enacting the famous battle of Bosworth, where Henry Tudor and his army defeated King Richard III and was then crowned Henry VII. This happened on the 22nd August 1485 and signalled the beginning of the period of time the Tudors were famous for. It was amazing to see the children bringing this topic to life!



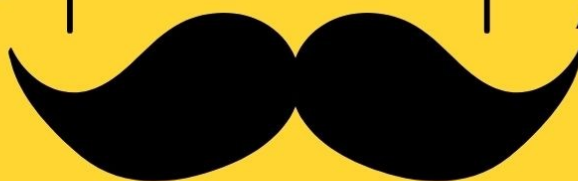
# GIFT SALE

# FATHER'S

## DAY

£3 FOR A  
WRAPPED  
GIFT

CASH, CARD OR  
PAYMENT LINK  
AVAILABLE



YEARS 5 AND 6 - MONDAY 12TH JUNE

RECEPTION, YEARS 1 AND 2 - TUESDAY 13TH JUNE





YEARS 3 AND 4 - WEDNESDAY 14TH JUNE

## ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Congratulations to the winners of the KS1 Attendance Award, Squirrels, achieving 96% attendance. Well done! The winners of the KS2 Attendance Award, are Eagles, attaining 97% attendance. Well done!

Please ensure you are sending your child into school everyday, unless they are not well enough to attend. Attending school is so important and makes a huge difference to your child's learning. The gates open at 8:30am until 8.50am.

It is essential you notify us of your child's absence by 9am either by telephone or using the Pupil Asset report absence option on every day of absence. We need full details of why your child is unable to attend school. We are frequently having to contact parents, to find out why their child is absent from school. If you do not notify us of the reason for your child's absence it may not be authorised.

Butterflies	93%
Ladybirds	94%
Dragonflies	95%
Grasshoppers	95%
Hedgehogs	94%
 Squirrels 	96%
Badgers	95%
Foxes	96%
Hares	95%
Rabbits	96%
Kingfishers	96%
Robins	96%
 Eagles 	97%
Owls	95%



### Times Tables Rockstars

Congratulations to the following children for trying really hard with their times tables this week.

Hedgehogs:	Freddie Wink	Squirrels:	Albie Gardner
Badgers:	Liana Sereikaite	Foxes:	Sid Cundins
Hares:	Roxanne Hand	Rabbits:	Leah Stopplecamp & Ella Stopplecamp
Kingfishers:	Zoe Staines	Robins:	Mark Adjaye-Kwofie
Eagles:	Christopher Annobil	Owls:	Caitlin Masambique

### **Gospel Values Awards**

The Gospel Value this week is...

## **Humility**

### **Trust in God**

"God be merciful to me a sinner." (18:13)

"I am among you as one who serves." (22:27)



Congratulations to the following children who received the Gospel values certificate this week.

Butterflies:	Samuel Baffour	Ladybirds:	Jacob Kluska
Dragonflies:	Kyren Laidly	Grasshoppers:	Neave Clennell
Hedgehogs:	Roman Kelly	Squirrels:	Summer Edmonds
Badgers:	Miruna Viliman	Foxes:	Ciaran Canavan
Hares:	Erin Page	Rabbits:	Oliwier Slawikowski
Kingfishers:	Heather Owusu-Kumi	Robins:	Pola Bubetty
Eagles:	Arlo McGhee	Owls:	Rhea Baker



# Save THE Date

## FEAST OF HOLY CROSS FESTIVAL



SAT | **SEPT  
16  
2023** | 3pm  
till  
9pm

COME AND CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF  
HOLY CROSS WITH ENTERTAINMENT  
FOR ALL THE FAMILY

Use code **HOLYCROSS**  
to get 15% off your booking

# Wyvern WOOD

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[wyvernwood.co.uk](http://wyvernwood.co.uk)



GET YOUR TICKETS FOR

# ***ADVENTURE ISLAND*** ***SOUTHEND ON SEA***

£15 PER PERSON FOR A DAY  
TICKET AVAILABLE FROM  
HOLY CROSS SCHOOL  
OFFICE





Based on the gospel for Sunday 11 June, The Most Holy Body and Blood of the Lord: John 6:51-68

**"Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life."**

The feast of Corpus Christi reminds us that we are all equal in dignity before God, as Jesus welcomes anyone into life with him. We are all in critical need of the Eucharist, as we "will not have life" in us without Jesus.

The "Eucharist commits us to the poor" (Catechism 1397) and unites us as we "form one body" (1329) in Christ. Our strength in loving others, corporal works of mercy, caring for the poor and building God's Kingdom of justice, comes from receiving Jesus himself.

As we love our neighbour, through prayer, donations or actions of solidarity, we are reminded of Christ's words: "As you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." (Matthew 25:40)

As Jesus gives himself humbly as food, let us pray that our generosity will increase as we "recognise Christ in the poorest" (1397) and love him in our global brothers and sisters.

Saint Mother Teresa gives a beautiful prayer:

Nowhere on earth are you more welcome. Nowhere on earth are you more loved than by Jesus living and truly present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. The time that you spend with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the best time you will spend on earth... Jesus, I love you with my whole heart, with my whole being... Help me love you in others.  
Amen.



### **The Words of Pope Francis**

Dear parents, never tire of talking about your faith to your children: may you always have the strength to be mediators of the faith you received from your parents. #GlobalParentsDay



**Encountering Christ**  
Prayerfully preparing for the  
Sunday Mass and praying in  
particular for our school families



Preparing for the Mass of Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2023 - The Body and Blood of Christ

**1** Relax & Remember

Set aside 10 -15 minutes and create a suitable environment by removing any distractions. Make sure that you are comfortable. Perhaps light a candle. Make the sign of the cross † and remain still for a minute of settling silence. **Call to mind the love that God has for you. Remember that through this scripture our Lord is truly present.** Then read the Gospel, preferably aloud and slowly, and pay attention to any words that stand out. If any do, meditate on them for a few minutes and be invited into a dialogue with God.



**2** Read

Taken from the Gospel for Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2023 - The True Bread of Life (John 6:51-58)

Jesus said to the Jews: 'I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.' Then the Jews started arguing with one another: 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' they said. Jesus replied: 'I tell you most solemnly, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you. Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life, and I shall raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him. As I, who am sent by the living Father, myself draw life from the Father, so whoever eats me will draw life from me. This is the bread come down from heaven; not like the bread our ancestors ate: they are dead, but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.'

**3** Reflect

After spending a few minutes considering this Gospel, continue by reading Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection.

*This is the final section of Jesus' great discourse in the gospel of John on the Eucharist, delivered in the synagogue at Capernaum. It is in the form of a synagogue-sermon, commenting in turn on the phrases of Psalm 78, 'He gave them bread – from heaven – to eat'. Jesus explains that these words are truly fulfilled not by Moses' historic gift of manna in the desert, but by the Father's continuous and repeated gift of Eucharistic bread. The discourse has the same pattern as the Mass, instruction followed by eating. The first two sections of the discourse were about God's gift of revelation in Christ, which is accepted and assimilated by belief in the teaching of Jesus. Now we come to the final section on God's gift of Christ as food. Particularly striking are two points. Firstly, the stress on eating: the word used for 'eat my flesh' is full of the reality of eating; it really means 'chew', and designates the sacramental eating as a real assimilation of the nourishing food. The second point is that 'my flesh for the life of the world' links firmly to the Last Supper: the Christ that we receive is the Christ at the very moment of his redemptive act of self-offering, an act which continues throughout time and into eternity.*

**What is the best way to prepare for Holy Communion?**

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB



**4** Respond & Request

Now slowly and prayerfully read the Gospel once again but this time in silence. Consider how this Gospel could apply to your life in general. Then thank God for any insight you may have received. Conclude by asking God to bless you with one of the following spiritual gifts to help you act on any resolution you have made: love, understanding, wisdom, faithfulness, peace, self control, patience, or joy. Please remember to pray for the Church and particularly our school families. **Then conclude by requesting the prayers of Our Lady & St Joseph.**



**The Wednesday Word is under the patronage of St Joseph, Patron Saint of Families and Protector of the Church  
Within the tradition of the Catholic Church, each Wednesday is dedicated to St Joseph**

# WEDNESDAY WORD PLUS +

Fr Henry's reflections on the first and second readings of Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2023



## First Reading: *Manna from Heaven*

### Deuteronomy 8:2-3. 14-16

Moses said to the people: 'Remember how the Lord your God led you for forty years in the wilderness, to humble you, to test you and know your inmost heart - whether you would keep his commandments or not. He humbled you, he made you feel hunger, he fed you with manna which neither you nor your fathers had known, to make you understand that man does not live on bread alone but that man lives on everything that comes from the mouth of the Lord. Do not then forget the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery: who guided you through this vast and dreadful wilderness, a land of fiery serpents, scorpions, thirst; who in this waterless place brought you water from the hardest rock; who in this wilderness fed you with manna that your fathers had not known.'

Here the Church sets before us the model for the Eucharist, that is, God's care in feeding his people during the forty-year desert trek of the Exodus from Egypt. During this time the Israelites were fed with manna; they called this 'bread from heaven', so that it has become the model for the Eucharistic bread. As in all folk-tales, the story has gradually grown in the telling, but originally manna seems to have been the wholly unexpected and seemingly-miraculous provision of a sweet substance exuded from a tamarisk bush. The Hebrews did not know what it was, and, with a word-play typical of the Bible, etymologized it as 'man-hu', the Hebrew for 'What is it?' The reading also stresses that this heavenly gift was a symbol of divine Wisdom, God's revelation of himself given from heaven. Hence the saying, quoted by Jesus to Satan during his Testing in the Desert, 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.' The manna became the symbol and reminder of God's unfailing care for his people throughout their journey, just as the Eucharist is the expression of God's care for his people today.

*How does the Eucharist reveal God's love?*

## Second Reading: *The One Body of Christ*

### 1 Corinthians 10:16-17

The blessing-cup that we bless is a communion with the blood of Christ, and the bread that we break is a communion with the body of Christ. The fact that there is only one loaf means that, though there are many of us, we form a single body because we all have a share in this one loaf.

Paul, in writing to that difficult and divided community at Corinth, chides them for their disunity and selfishness. There were some rich members of the community, who got to the Eucharist early, took all the best places, and proceeded to unpack their hampers and feast, while the later comers – presumably the workers and slaves – justifiably felt excluded and remained hungry. In the strongest terms Paul insists that the Eucharist must be the symbol and expression of unity, and that those who prevent it being so are making themselves 'answerable for the body and blood of the Lord'. Paul seems to use 'the body of Christ' interchangeably of both the Eucharistic bread and the Eucharistic body which is the community, united in the celebration of the Lord's Supper. It is difficult to see when he means one, and when the other. He obviously regards them both as equally important and equally sacred. Later in the letter he will explain that the community is an organism, in which everyone has their own, individually special part to play, all living with the Spirit of Christ as the life-giving principle. Unless this life is truly shared, it is distorted and fails in its purpose.

*How is it possible to make the Eucharist an expression of unity?*

“...the Eucharist must be the symbol and expression of unity.”

The Wednesday Word: *Connecting Home, School & Parish through the Word of God*  
w: [www.wednesdayword.org](http://www.wednesdayword.org) e: [info@wednesdayword.org](mailto:info@wednesdayword.org)

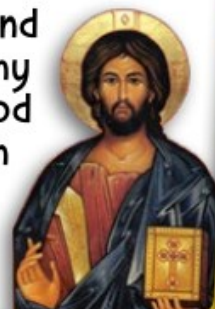
**Wednesday**  
**7th June 2023**

**Good News  
for Families**

**1**

## Enjoy reading this Sunday's Gospel

Jesus said, "I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Those who eat this bread will live forever. Now the bread which I will give is my flesh, and I will give my flesh for the life of the world. Those who eat the bread which is my flesh have eternal life now, and I will raise them up on the last day. My flesh is true food; my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood live in me and I live in them. So my flesh is the bread which comes down from heaven. It is not like the bread which our ancestors once ate in the desert - they died, but those who eat this bread will live forever."



Taken from the Gospel of Sunday 11th June 2023. John 6:51-58 (The Feast of Corpus Christi, Year A)

Which words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? What does the picture make you think about? Now enjoy exploring this Wednesday's word, which is **NOURISH**.



To colour the picture for this Sunday's Gospel, please see the back page.





**"Jesus is the Bread of Life for our families. Let us be united to Jesus, nourished by daily prayer, by listening to the Word of God"** *Pope Francis*

What did Jesus call himself? To nourish means to feed and help grow. In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus is offering to nourish us. Jesus continues to nourish us through the Church today. He offers us eternal life through the gift of himself which we receive in Holy Communion. Ask your child what the word 'nourish' means to them. Then, each of you talk about something, other than food, that nourishes you and helps you grow. Perhaps it is: a special friendship, being praised, praying, your faith, the love and care you receive, a hobby or sport, the Church and the sacraments. Who gives you these things?

**"Let us be nourished by daily prayer."** *Pope Francis*

With Jesus' love we will always be nourished. Just as we eat bread to nourish our bodies, Jesus (in Holy Communion) nourishes our souls - to help us to keep growing in goodness and love. Who else should we remember to thank for nourishing us? Perhaps parents, carers, teachers, priests, grandparents or friends. Which people can we nourish in this coming week and how can we nourish them? Perhaps we can: encourage someone; give hugs to parents or carers; give something to a food bank; help and offer hope to others.



Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread...



**WEDNESDAY**  
**WORDSEARCH**



Cross out the letters  
**C S U**  
in the 4 jumbled words to find 4 real words.

**SMARTSEARCHERS** FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER **ACROSS** OR **DOWN**

**JESUS**  
**CHRIST**

**LIVING**  
**BREAD**

**FROM**  
**HEAVEN**

**LIVE**  
**FOREVER**

**SUPERSEARCHERS** FIND THE WORDS **BACKWARDS** OR **DIAGONALLY**

P	D	E	E	V	I	L	O	L	O	N	S
E	A	S	T	D	L	I	V	I	N	G	T
S	E	S	L	I	V	N	E	V	A	E	H
P	R	T	V	F	Z	R	V	E	C	L	G
O	B	I	B	R	T	S	I	R	H	C	O
C	N	N	F	O	R	E	V	E	R	G	S
G	L	T	M	M	B	E	T	B	I	U	U
M	A	B	O	S	F	I	V	E	S	U	S
S	B	R	R	O	C	N	N	E	T	P	E
C	F	E	E	T	P	G	J	L	R	C	H
H	E	A	V	E	N	T	N	P	T	O	T
O	S	D	E	B	J	E	S	U	S	G	F

**cugisve swocruld bruesacd slicfue**

Jesus said, "The \_\_\_\_\_ I give is my \_\_\_\_\_,  
which I \_\_\_\_\_ to be the life of the \_\_\_\_\_."

**Jesus wants to nourish and strengthen us.**

He wants us to be closer to him and closer to each other - he is the Bread of Life.

**Write** a promise and then **draw** a big smile on Smiley

This week I will try my best to...

.....



## Happy Birthday this week to...

Indiana Haughton Sinclair, Eliona Koranteng, Lucas Patasius, Maisie Sinyakin, Natalie Harmas, Elizabeth Kingston-Hyde, Caiden Aboagye-Manu, Lehna Ajong, Luciann Henry, Nicholas Nikolov, Ava Asare & Darcie Bethell.



## Golden Awards:

Butterflies:	Reginald Ruxton, for fantastic knowledge and contributions to our work on the past, exploring a range of resources Filip Owczarz, for working hard to form letters
Ladybirds:	Amelia Edmonds, for her enthusiasm for writing recently
Dragonflies:	Oskar Skowron, for doing really well with his Pentecost card in R.E.
Grasshoppers:	Ava Asare, for her fantastic effort in all areas of her learning
Hedgehogs:	Isla McNamara, for excellent work on world habitats and microhabitats
Squirrels:	Albie Gardner, for working hard in science
Badgers:	Amelia Owusu-Boateng, for a fantastic attitude to learning
Foxes:	Emmanuella Boateng, for a fantastic attitude to learning
Hares:	Charlee Vanderhyde, for her amazing attitude in Sports Day
Rabbits:	Annaliesa Osei-Flint, for being an amazing young lady
Kingfishers:	Ethan Smith, for always trying his best
Robins:	Jake Sinyakin, for trying hard and having a positive attitude to learning
Eagles:	Athena Harrison, for working hard in all lessons
Owls:	Luciann Henry, for an amazing narrative poem

## Menu week 2

## Diary Dates

<u>Monday 12th June</u>	<u>Tuesday 13th June</u>	<u>Wednesday 14th June</u>	<u>Thursday 15th June</u>	<u>Friday 16th June</u>
Kingfishers Swimming	Year 1 Reading Zone	Year 5 Eucharistic Service 9:00	Year 1 Reading Zone	KS2 Assembly 9:00
Years 1 & 2 Drawing 3:10 - 4:10	Year 3 & 4 Football 3:15 - 4:15	Year 2 Colchester Zoo Trip	Year 1 Football 3:10 - 4:10	KS1 Assembly 2:30
Years 1 & 2 Cosmic Yoga 3:10 - 4:10	Year 5 & 6 Football 3:15 - 4:15	KS1 Karate 3:10 - 4:10	Year 2 Football 3:10 - 4:10	KS2 Dodgeball 3:15 - 4:15
Years 3 & 4 Cosmic Yoga 3:15 - 4:15	Choir 3:15 - 4:15	Year 2 and 3 Gardening Club 3:15 - 4:15	KS2 Karate 3:15 - 4:15	
Year 3 International Club 3:15 - 4:15		KS2 Rounders 3:15 - 4:15		
KS2 Basketball 3:15 - 4:15				

Please download our News & Events App for dates for the year. Details are available on the schools website under News & Events at [www.holycross-pri.essex.sch.uk](http://www.holycross-pri.essex.sch.uk)

*Mrs A Kerrell* *Mr S Kelliher*

Wishing everyone a lovely weekend.

Mrs A Kerrell

Mr S Kelliher

## House Points

Congratulations to the winning house St Andrew's