



17th May 2019



# Newsletter



Dear Parents

Please continue to remember in your prayers our First Holy Communion children who celebrated this Sacrament last weekend and also those who are about to make their First Holy Communion this weekend. We had a wonderful celebration on Saturday, thank you to all staff who were able to come along and support our children at this most important stage of their faith journey.



## SATs

Well done to all of our Year 6 children who took their SATs this week. We did our best to make the week as comfortable as possible for all involved and we are so proud of our children who really did give of their best. Well done to everybody.

## Packed lunch

Can we please remind parents about our healthy eating policy and in particular that we are strictly a no nut school. I am disappointed to report that several of our children are sneaking food into school - including chocolate bars containing nuts - and hiding them under their table at lunchtime before eating them! Apart from going against school policy and teaching children to break the rules, this is so dangerous for children who have nut allergies.

Please follow school policies for the welfare of all concerned.

## Congratulations

Congratulations to Miss Clark and her family on the safe delivery of a baby boy Jude yesterday weighing 8lb 6.5ozs.

## Sports Days

KS2 Sports Day is on Monday 20th May at 9.30 and KS1 Sports Day is on Tuesday 21st May at 9.30. Please ensure children have a t-shirt in their house colour and a bottle of water. Parents are welcome to attend and there will be refreshments served.

Next week is a busy week. Please refer to the separate email for details of events.

## Prayers please

Please also remember in your prayers Bernie Ryan RIP whose funeral was held this week. Bernie was a long standing member of this parish and well respected both within our community and within Harlow.

Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord  
And let perpetual light shine upon him  
May he rest in peace

Amen



### Frozen Fridays

Please remember Frozen Fridays, every Friday after school. Ice lollies 50 pence.

### Rosary

Thank you to Mr Long who is leading children in praying the rosary on Monday 13th May, Wednesday 15th May Monday 20th May and Wednesday 22nd May 8.30 to 8:50.

All are invited to join. You can buy a rosary from the school office priced at £1.

### Coffee Afternoon

This month's coffee afternoon will be an afternoon tea located in the Spiritual Garden 2 until 3.15. All are very welcome.

### Parish Youth Group

St. Luke's & Holy Cross Youth Group are meeting Friday 7th June and Friday 28th June at Holy Cross Parish Hall from 6.30pm to 7.45pm. Friday 28th June will be the last group of this academic year. The youth group will restart in September.

All children from Y4 and up can attend and cost is £1 per child (which includes snacks & drinks).

### Gospel Values Awards

Congratulations to the following children below:

Butterflies: Roxanne Hand Ladybirds: Jemie Kuttin

1D: Josie Ogbonze 1S: Kayla Umaru

2C: Gilda Bosopem 2HD: Julia Magryta

3G: Emilia Chapska 3N: Mitchell To

4C: Draven Crow 4E: Lily Tieu

5P: Oliver Smith 5S: Jenna Bennett

6CA: Jack Cater 6N: Liarna Kent



## ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Congratulations to **2C**, winners of the KS1 Attendance Award this week with **97.14%**. The winners of the KS2 Attendance Award are **6CA**, with **98%** attendance.

Attending school is so important and makes a huge difference to your child's learning.

**It is essential you notify us of your child's absence by 9am either by telephone or using the Parentmail report absence option. 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.**

Parents of children below attendance targets will be invited in for a meeting with the Educational Welfare Officer.

RB	96%
RL	96%
1D	95%
1S	97%
2C	97%
2HD	95%
3G	97%
3N	96%
4C	97%
4E	97%
5P	95%
5S	97%
6CA	98%
6ND	97%





What a wonderful way to end year 6 Sats week...a campfire and marshmallow toasting!





# RELIGIOUS LIFE AT HOLY CROSS



Based on the gospel for Sunday 19 May - John 13:31-35

**"I give you a new commandment: love one another"**

In this gospel Jesus says, "Now has the Son of Man been glorified" But how is he glorified? Through his victory and power; his honour and majesty? Or, rather, by his unshakeable love even in the face of rejection and betrayal? Perhaps his glory is his cross, that place to which love ultimately led him.

The setting of this week's gospel is the Last Supper and, with Judas having left to betray him, Jesus gives his final teaching on love and discipleship. It is a commandment to love as Jesus loves; a commandment that sets Christians apart, that glorifies them.

As I ponder my own reaction to this gospel, I could consider the quality of my own loving. There are those, family, friends, neighbours, work-colleagues, I may find easy to love. Maybe others for whom it is more difficult. But these are all places where God's glory shines: in my compassion for a sick neighbour or refugee; my tenderness toward a rough-sleeper; my concern for creation or my reaching out with generosity to the one who has hurt me.

God's glory is revealed in those places I am led to by love and in every place where compassionate care and loving justice is lived.

Lord Jesus, help me to stay close to you, being strengthened by your loving presence that I might go out to be lovingly present to others. Amen.



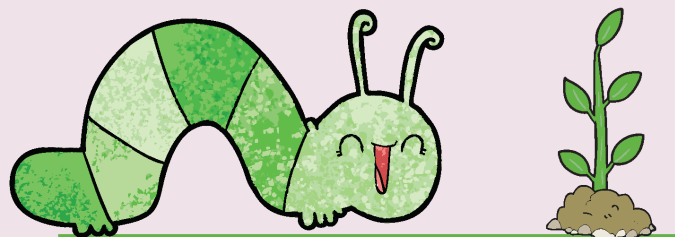
## The Words of Pope Francis

Let yourself be transformed and renewed by the Holy Spirit, in order to bring Christ into every environment and to give witness to the joy and youthfulness of the Gospel!

# The Hungry Caterpillar

## Tye Green Library

Tuesday 28 May, 10.30am-12.30pm



Create butterfly art and caterpillar crafts  
Join our cool caterpillar trail  
Find out what's good to eat

Supported by local partners

For further information contact  
Essex Libraries on 0345 603 7628  
or visit [libraries.essex.gov.uk/events](http://libraries.essex.gov.uk/events)



Essex County Council



Essex Short Breaks, Clubs and Activities  
invite you to the 2019 Family Fun Day

Come and try new activities and meet  
our Fantastic Providers



Visit the new Inclusive Playground at  
Harlow Town Park, visit Pets Corner,  
take part in activities including music  
and performance by the stage and in  
the storytelling area and messy play in  
the sensory garden

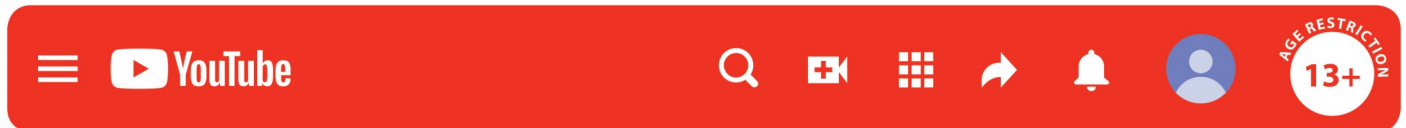
## Harlow Town Park on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> August

An inclusive event organised for families of children with special educational needs and disabilities. For more information contact Essex Short Breaks,

Clubs and Activities on 07540 919616 or email [essexshortbreaks@actionforchildren.org.uk](mailto:essexshortbreaks@actionforchildren.org.uk)







# What parents need to know about YOUTUBE

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT EASY TO ACCESS

Any child with a Gmail account can sign into YouTube & access videos. Some content is flagged 'age-restricted', but the platform relies on self-verification, meaning kids can get around the rules with a fake date of birth. This could enable access to vulgar, violent & dangerous videos.

### USERS CAN PRIVATELY CONTACT YOUR CHILD

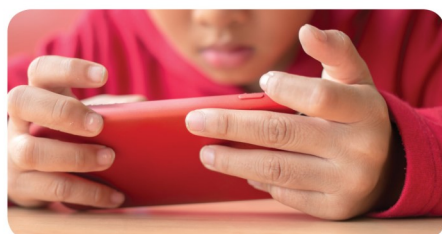
When your child is signed-in to YouTube with their Gmail account, there are various ways they can send & receive messages. This could be via the messages icon, or via the 'About' tab. There is scope here for users who your child does not know to make contact.

### YOUTUBE SUGGESTS RELATED CONTENT

YouTube will often 'auto play' videos based on your child's viewing habits. The aim is to show related & appropriate content. But the problem is: it's possible your child will be exposed to inappropriate content that isn't accurately related.

### 'CHALLENGE VIDEOS' CAN GO TOO FAR

Challenge videos refer to a stunt you're encouraged to recreate & film. Many challenge videos can be harmless & for a good cause, like the Ice Bucket Challenge. But some are dangerous & even life threatening, such as the Bird Box Challenge.



### SHARING VIDEOS RISKS YOUR CHILD'S PRIVACY

If your child has a Google account, they can upload their own videos. To do this, they must create a personal profile page known as a 'YouTube Channel'. The videos uploaded here can be viewed, commented on & shared by anyone. This could put your child's privacy at risk.

## Tips To Protect Your Child

### APPLY 'RESTRICTED MODE'

Restricted mode helps to hide any mature or unpleasant videos from your children. It uses YouTube's own automated system & looks at what other users flag as inappropriate content. It must be enabled in the settings menu on each individual device.

### CHANGE WHO CAN SEE VIDEOS

You can change who can view your child's content in the settings. Options include Public (available to all), Private (only available to people you share it with & cannot be shared) or Unlisted (available to people you share it with & can be shared further).

### BLOCK CONCERNING USERS

To help protect your child from cyber-bullies, harassment or persistent offensive comments, you can 'block' individual users. Doing so hides your child's videos from the user & stops the user being able to contact your child in any way.

### CUSTOMISE THEIR EXPERIENCE

Influence & control what your child watches using features such as Playlists (your videos play continuously rather than videos YouTube recommends) & Subscriptions (you choose channels your child can watch). It's also good to turn off auto play by toggling the blue button alongside the 'Up Next' title when viewing a video.

### CREATE A 'FAMILY' GOOGLE ACCOUNT

Create a Google account to be used by the whole family. This will allow you to monitor exactly what your child is watching, uploading & sharing. Plus, your child's YouTube page will display their recently watched videos, searches, recommended videos & suggested channels.

### GET YOUR OWN ACCOUNT

Create your own account so you can explore features yourself. Learn how to flag inappropriate videos, how to moderate comments & how to block users. This will help you feel more confident when providing advice & guidance to your children.

### BE MINDFUL OF CYBERBULLYING

Once your child has posted a video, a worldwide audience can see it. Strangers may choose to comment on the video, both positively & negatively. So, be careful to check comments & any other interactions your child is making through the platform.

### GET TO KNOW POPULAR CHANNELS

It's good to know which channels are most popular with your children. Some of the most popular channels right now are: PewDiePie, NigaHiga, Zoella, KSI, JennaMarbles, Markiplier, Smosh, ThatcherJoe & Casper Lee.

### DON'T ASSUME YOUR CHILD IS TOO YOUNG

YouTube and YouTube Kids are quickly becoming the chosen viewing platforms for children between the ages of 3-15 & it's likely this trend will only increase. It's also possible children will become familiar with the platform at a younger & younger age. So it's important to understand the positives & negatives of the platform.



### Meet our expert

Pete Badh is a writer with over 10+ years in research and analysis. Working within a specialist area for West Yorkshire Police, Pete has contributed work which has been pivotal in successfully winning high profile cases in court as well as writing as a subject matter expert for industry handbooks.

SOURCES: <https://support.google.com/accounts/answer/1350409>, <https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/6401182>, <https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/2802272?hl=en-GB>, <https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/7354993?hl=en-GB>, <https://www.youtube.com/intl/en-GB/yt/about/policies/#community-guidelines>, [https://www.ofcom.gov.uk/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0024/134907/Children-and-Parents-Media-Use-and-Attitudes-2018.pdf](https://www.ofcom.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0024/134907/Children-and-Parents-Media-Use-and-Attitudes-2018.pdf), <https://www.raisingdigitalnatives.com/youtube-parenting/>, <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/networks/youtube/>, <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2019/jan/16/youtube-bans-dangerous-pranks-after-bird-box-challenge>





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



Preparing for the Mass of Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2019 - The Fifth Sunday of Easter

**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 19<sup>th</sup> May 2019 - The Commandment of Love (John 13:31-35)**

When Judas had gone Jesus said, "Now has the Son of Man been glorified, and in him God has been glorified. If God has been glorified in him, God will in turn glorify him in himself, and will glorify him very soon. My little children, I shall not be with you much longer. I give you a new commandment: love one another; just as I have loved you, you also must love one another. By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples."

**3** Reflect

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

*From now until Pentecost the readings from St John's Gospel are taken from the great final teaching of Jesus at the Last Supper about the future of his Church and his disciples. From the sayings of Jesus the evangelist has composed a great discourse of Jesus about the obligations, duties and dangers which will come upon his disciples after his own death and resurrection. There were probably slightly different versions of this discourse, which were handed down by word of mouth; the impression of repetition in the discourse probably results from the evangelist recording three versions one after another. As we approach the Birth of the Church at Pentecost we need to listen to how Jesus envisaged his community. Today's reading gives the essentials. At the head of the Christian community stands the glorified Son of Man, in whom God is glorified. But this Son is no distant figurehead, for he will come to be present among his disciples. How will this happen? Answer: in the love which his disciples show for one another. One is reminded of the legend about the aged St John, wheeled into the church at Ephesus. When asked for the message of Jesus, all he would say was, 'My little children, love one another.'*

**How has Jesus shown his love for us? How do you show that same love for someone else?**

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 19<sup>th</sup> May 2019



## First Reading: *The End of Paul's First Missionary Journey*

### Acts 14:21-27

Paul and Barnabas went back through Lystra and Iconium to Antioch. They put fresh heart into the disciples, encouraging them to persevere in the faith. "We all have to experience many hardships," they said, "before we enter the kingdom of God." In each of these churches they appointed elders, and with prayer and fasting they commended them to the Lord in whom they had come to believe. They passed through Pisidia and reached Pamphylia. Then after proclaiming the word at Perga they went down to Attalia and from there sailed for Antioch, where they had originally been commended to the grace of God for the work they had now completed. On their arrival they assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith to the pagans.

Antioch was a big city, one of the largest in the ancient world. On the Mediterranean coast of the Roman province of Syria, it was at the end of the trade-route from the east. So it had a busy commercial life with a large colony of Jews among the traders. A considerable group of them accepted Jesus as Messiah and Lord, and it was at Antioch that the followers of Jesus were first called 'Christians' or 'Messianists'; other Jews thought that the Messiah had not yet come. It was at Antioch that the well-trained and eloquent Paul was appointed to accompany Barnabas (who at this stage was the leader) in spreading the Good News about Jesus as the Messiah. At the end of their journey they reported back to the community at Antioch. It is significant that Barnabas and Paul appointed elders in each community they visited; this was the normal way in which a Jewish community was constituted. A synagogue is still today ruled by a body of elders, one of whom is chosen to preside at services. Obviously, in spite of the bad reception Paul and other Christians sometimes received (as we read last Sunday), these Christian communities felt themselves to be like the other Jewish communities, though accepting Jesus as Messiah, and living by his Spirit.

*To what extent (as a Christian) should my behaviour be different from that of other people?*

## Second Reading: *The New Jerusalem*

### Revelation 21:1-5

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth; the first heaven and the first earth had disappeared now, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the holy city, and the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, as beautiful as a bride all dressed for her husband. Then I heard a loud voice call from the throne, "You see this city? Here God lives among men. He will make his home among them; they shall be his people, and he will be their God; his name is God-with-them. He will wipe away all tears from their eyes; there will be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness. The world of the past has gone." Then the One sitting on the throne spoke: "Now I am making the whole of creation new."

Like so much of the Book of Revelation, this prophecy of the New Jerusalem is heavily dependent on the prophets of the Old Testament. In the dark days of the Babylonian Exile the prophet Ezekiel had foretold that God would rebuild Jerusalem as a new city where God would dwell, a city named Hephzibah, that is, 'My pleasure is in her'. The prophets had long spoken of the relationship of Israel to God as that of a bride to her husband, a bride who was often unfaithful. Isaiah, however, had foretold a joyful marriage feast in which God would be the bridegroom and Jerusalem the bride, the final wedding of God to his people. God's bride, Israel, who had so often been unfaithful, would at last be wedded to him for ever in fidelity and happiness. This was the intended meaning of the marriage-feast at Cana and of the parables of Jesus about a wedding-feast of the great king, to which the poor and the outcasts would be invited. Here the Book of Revelation promises just such a festival to those who have sustained the grimness of Roman persecution. Now, as we celebrate Christ's triumph over death at Easter, we look forward to this same unalloyed happiness experienced in God's presence and his love.

*If God lives among us now, where and how can I most clearly find him?*

**"We look forward to the happiness of God's presence and his love."**

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)



Happy Birthday to... Hayden Fitzgerald, Lily Vetori, Callum Corrigan, Zachariah Gauci, Amanda Girciute, Maja Owczarz, Rohan Clennell, Patricia Ejembi, Steven Stewart-Evans, Finn Thomas



### Merit Certificates:

Butterflies: Aurora-Simone Boyce-Grace, for a great effort with her number work  
 Ladybirds: Taylan Jackson, for excellent number work  
 Ella Thorpe, for amazing reading  
 Teodora Fedeles, for super subtracting  
 1D: Eloise De-Souza, for her fantastic addition and subtraction work in maths  
 1S: Heather Owusu Kumi—for remembering her finger spaces  
 2C: James Jeffrey, for excellent rainforest work  
 2HD: Marian Marti, for a lovely tiger picture  
 3G: Lilly Dundridge, for improving and becoming more confident in her writing  
 3N: Samuel Enwere, for his excellent self-evaluation skills in R. E.  
 4C: Luke Canavan, for terrific history work on the Tudors  
 4E: Ekuba Insaidoo, for writing an excellent character description  
 5P: Kaylah Kuttin, for working hard and concentrating in numeracy this week  
 5S: Amy Matthews, for trying her best and persevering in numeracy  
 6CA: Abeku Insaidoo, for his efforts in sports and great team work  
 6ND: All of 6ND, for your hard work in the SATs this week  
 Learning Mentor: All of Year 6, for working so hard on their SATs  
 Lunchtime award: Jessica Wadding, for always being kind and caring towards other children

## Diary Dates

### Menu Week 2

#### Monday 20th May

Rosary Club 8.30-8.50  
 KS2 Sports Day 9.30  
 4C Swimming  
 Dance 3.15-4.15  
 KS1 Cricket & Rounders 3.15-4.15 Choir

#### Tuesday 21st May

KS1 Sports Day 9.30  
 May Procession 2pm  
 Multisport Club KS1 3.15—4.15  
 Year 1 Phonics Club

#### Wednesday 22nd May

Rosary Club 8.30-8.50  
 Year 2 Trip to Epping Forest  
 Eucharist Service 4C 9.10  
 Athletics Club KS1 3.15-4.15  
 Cricket & Rounders Club KS2 3.15—4.15  
 Karate 3.15- 4.15

#### Thursday 23rd May

Year 5 Library visit  
 Coffee Afternoon 2 - 3.15  
 Athletics KS2 3.15—4.15  
 Year 1 Phonics Club  
 Choir

#### Friday 24th May

Non-uniform Day  
 4E Library Visit  
 Sponsored Walk  
 Tennis Club KS2 3.15 -4.15  
 Karate 3.15 -4.15

### House Points

**Congratulations to the  
 winning house St David**

*S. McGuigan*

Miss S McGuigan

Headteacher

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)

*Seew Kelliher*

Mr S Kelliher

Deputy Headteacher