



NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2019

The Holy Family Catholic High School

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a very busy and productive first half term.

Our students have pro-actively taken part in many trips, visits and events.

We have been contacted on numerous occasions by activity providers and the public to praise our students on their conduct and kindness. We are incredibly proud!

Our exam results in the summer showed improved attainment for our Y11 students. Here are our headline attainment measures in comparison with last year's results and against national averages for England.

	2018: Holy Family	2019: Holy Family	National Average England (provisional)
English (grade 4 and above)	66%	71%	70%
Maths (grade 4 and above)	66%	71%	70%
English (grade 5 and above)	56%	56%	45%
Maths (grade 5 and above)	44%	56%	40%
Both English and Maths (grade 5 and above)	37%	45%	43%

We have introduced some new strategies this year to help our students further succeed.

Revised schemes of work which are more challenging in KS3

A mentoring programme for underachieving students

A revised assessment structure to focus on identifying gaps in key knowledge and understanding

'Aspiration' visits and speakers from colleges, universities and businesses

In partnership with you, we continue to go from strength to strength. As always, thank you for your support and encouragement. Have a relaxing half term.

Mrs D Mitchell, Headteacher

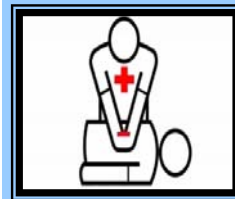


FARADAY CHALLENGE

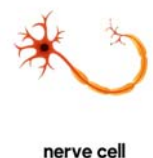
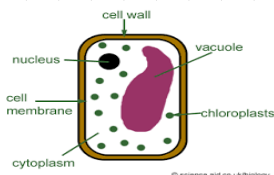
On Tuesday October 8th we welcomed Snaith School, Read School and Selby High School to take part in a local heat of the IET Faraday Challenge engineering competition in which we were national runners up last year. Holy Family fielded 3 teams of Year 8 students. Teams were charged with the task of creating an engineered prototype of a machine to aid with the rescue of passengers in the event of a plane crash. Impressive designs were created by all teams. Snaith School came away as heat victors but all teams should be very proud of their achievements and commitment on the day. A great day was had by all and a big thanks goes out to Mr M Dunne from the IET for running the event.



Restart a Heart



Year 7 pupils took part in a health & safety initiative called Restart a Heart in school on Wednesday 16/10/19 run by the Yorkshire Air Ambulance where they were taught life saving skills and how to respond in an emergency situation when CPR is required.



7-Bunsen had to get creative by using a variety of materials to make model cells in Science. We had all kinds of cells including nerve cells, sperm cells and palisade cells. We even had a mini show performed by Aimee and Poppy! Excellent work Year 7!



ATTENDANCE



Why is good attendance and punctuality important?

Education lays the vital foundations of a child's life. Regular and punctual attendance at school is key to both academic and social development, which in turn will improve the life chances of children and young people.

What does 90% attendance mean?

- ☐ **90% attendance** = $\frac{1}{2}$ school day missed every week!
- ☐ **One school year at 90% attendance** = 4 weeks of learning missed!
- ☐ **Over 5 school years of school** = $\frac{1}{2}$ school year missed!
- ☐ All children and young people nationally whose school attendance is **90%** or below are considered to be persistent absentees.



We are continuing to focus on attendance and punctuality and we are writing to remind you that we expect children's attendance to be at 98% - this is in line with governments expectations.

Currently, we are slightly below this and need your continuing support to ensure we hit this important mark.

THANK YOU SO MUCH to those families who have been working hard to ensure children's punctuality and attendance is high. THANK YOU for getting these important habits established early on in the new term as it will make a difference to their outcomes.

There is a link between attendance and achievement and therefore it is very important that your child attends school every day unless there are **exceptional** circumstances.

Punctuality Matters too!

Missed Minutes = Missed Learning = Missed Opportunities!

As a school, we are aware lateness can severely affect achievement. We monitor punctuality closely and have strategies in place to address late arrival. Awareness of the impact of lateness is raised with pupils, staff and parents regularly.

Registration begins at **8.45am** and all pupils are expected to be in their form room at this time. Pupils arriving after this time will be marked as present but arriving late (L). The register will close at 8.55am.

Family Holidays and Term Time Leave

Parents/carers should ensure that family holidays and any term time leave are arranged outside of school term time.

Parents/carers should not remove their child from school during term time without having first requested a leave of absence in writing from the Head teacher.

All requests for authorised absence will be responded to in writing and will only be authorised in the most extreme circumstances.

If permission is not granted, but the child is still absent, the absence is classed as unauthorised and parents/carers may be issued with a penalty notice.



ATTENDANCE REWARDS



Over half of the pupils in school have recently received outstanding achievement certificates for attendance.

We are rewarding pupils who reach the government benchmark of 98% or above.

SPORTING EVENTS & NEWS



SPORTS LEADERS

Panathlon Swimming Event

On Wednesday 23rd October, our Sports Leaders assisted at a Panathlon Swimming event at Queen Margaret's School in Escrick. They really represented our school in a very positive way. Here is what one of the organisers had to say:

"Thank you so much for attending the swimming on Wednesday. We really appreciate the support. Your leaders were superb, they listened really well, were keen to get involved and generally seemed like very rounded young people which is quite unusual these days!!!!"

During this half term, we have had some great sporting success. The girls' netball teams have performed brilliantly and won a great number of matches against local schools such as Selby High and Brayton Academy. The Year 8 boys football team have secured their place in the 2nd round of the English Schools FA Cup after beating Howden High School 6-0. The team are also unbeaten in the York Schools League and are eagerly awaiting their next fixture.

The Year 7/8 Girls football team played superbly against St Aidan's College, Harrogate but narrowly lost.



YEAR 7 NETBALL TEAM

SPORTS CLUBS TIMETABLE

Details		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
After School (3pm-4pm)	Boys	Badminton	Year 7 & 8 Football Training / Fixture	Year 9 & 10 Football Training / Fixture		
	Teacher Venue	Mr Wadsworth Sports Hall	Mr Wadsworth / Mr Wagstaff Field	Mr Wagstaff / Mr Neesam Field		
	Girls	Badminton	Multi - Sports	Netball Training All Years		
	Teacher Venue	Mr Wadsworth Sports Hall	Miss Schager Sports Hall	Mrs Corrigan Netball Courts		
	Mixed	Cross Country			Selby School Fixtures	Various Sports
	Teacher Venue	Mrs Barlow Turning Circle			Mr Wadsworth / Mr Wagstaff Mrs Corrigan Field	Mr Wagstaff Sports Hall

Upcoming Events

2nd Round of the English Schools FA Cup

York Cross Country Championships – 14th November

Girls & Boys 5-a-side Football tournaments at Barlby High .

Multi-sports club – Every Tuesday lunchtime in the

All pupils must wear their school PE kit to the clubs unless they are told otherwise by the club teacher.

CAREERS & ASPIRATIONS

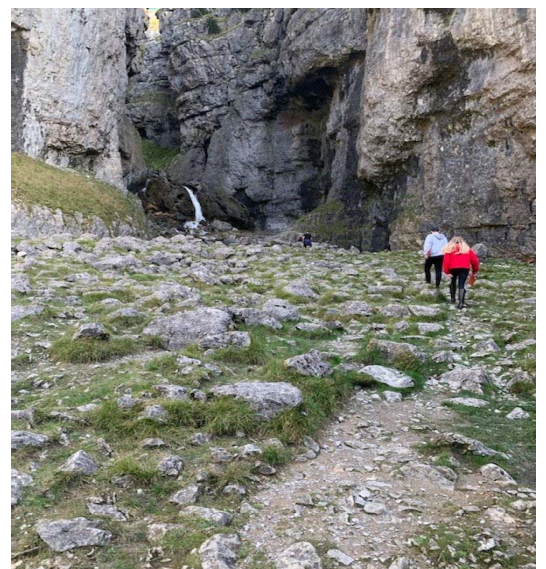
CAREERS UPDATE

This half term, Year 11 have received a series of assemblies from our local colleges and the National Apprenticeship Service. Hopefully these have given the students guidance to help them make the most informed decisions regarding their education when they leave Holy Family. On Thursday 24th October we had our second Careers Day of the year and in lessons students were given information about how the lesson directly linked to particular careers. The day ended with a Careers Fair for pupils in Years 8, 10 and 11.

Finally all students have access to an online careers platform called Unifrog which has a vast database of resources.



GCSE GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP



During this half term, Year 11 Geographers have taken part in residential field trips to Hartington in Derbyshire and Malham in North Yorkshire. Whilst one trip had to be postponed due to torrential rain and flood conditions, all students eventually made it into the field and thoroughly enjoyed the experience!

CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL



Harvest Thanksgiving Mass (Left)

Holy Family pupils attended the Harvest Thanksgiving Mass at St. Mary's Church, Carlton on Sunday 28th September. The pupils read bidding prayers, took the collection and took part in the offertory procession. Our school and the parishioners of Carlton donated Harvest produce which was sold at the end of Mass by our pupils. They raised over £130 for CAFOD.

Macmillan Coffee Morning (Below)

Year 11 Student Leaders and the 'Faith in Action' group organised the Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 26th September. Over £150 was raised for Macmillan.



Foodbank Donations (Above)

The 'Faith in Action' group encouraged pupils to bring in long life products which were donated to Selby Food Bank. Year 8 and 9 FiA members competed to see who could get the most products and year 8 won! Well done!



Year 7 Mass of Welcome (Below)

On Tuesday 24th September, Year 7 celebrated their Mass of Welcome. Pupils read, served and took part in the offertory procession. At the end of the service, in true Holy Family tradition, pupils performed the musical number 'My Lighthouse'. In preparation for this Mass, students created pieces of art work on the theme of "Following in Jesus' footsteps" whilst a pupil at the Holy Family Catholic High School.



Pilgrimage to Walsingham (Above)

Year 8 FiA pupils and other year 8 students took part in the annual Diocesan pilgrimage to Walsingham on Friday 26th & Saturday 27th September. They processed to Mass with other schools from Leeds Diocese, took part in reflective prayer and found time to meet up with Bishop Marcus.



OFF SITE VISITS



The Deep (Left & Above)

Back at the beginning of September, a group of year 9 pupils spent the day at The Deep in Hull. Besides seeing all the amazing marine life, students got to "Think like a Scientist" in a workshop where they learnt more about the weird and wonderful creatures of the deep.

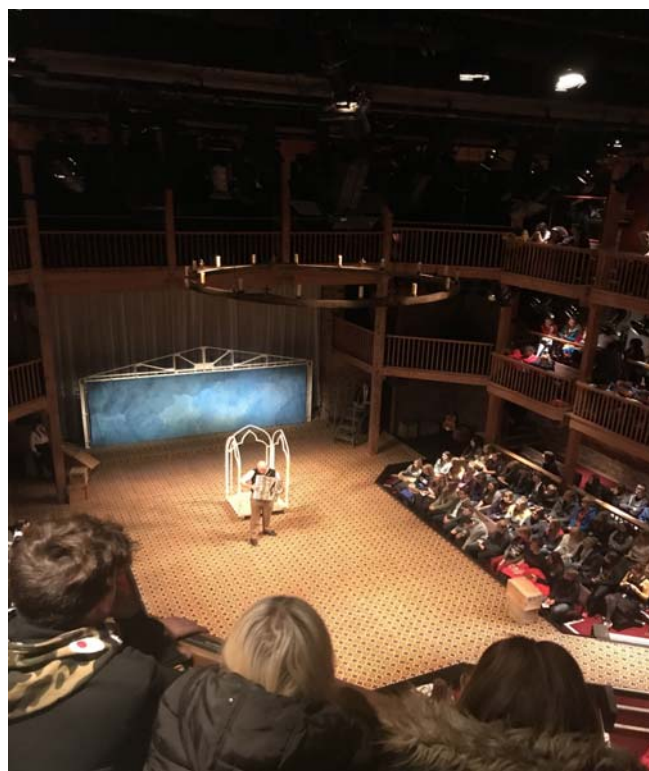
Mrs Tinning

The Merchant of Venice, Stratford Upon Avon (Below)

On Wednesday 02 October, a group of Year 8 pupils travelled to Stratford in the school minibus to see an RSC performance of *The Merchant of Venice* at The Swan theatre. The students loved the whole experience!

"It was a fantastic opportunity to see a Shakespeare play in the town where he was born. We also managed to fit in a brief visit to his birthplace and a look around the shops."

Miss Agar



KEY DATES & INFORMATION

The Holy Family Catholic High School

To grow in wisdom & grace

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UNIFORM REMINDER



**NO
HOODIES**

Please be aware that NO HOODIES should be worn on the school site. Please ensure that your child has a suitable winter coat. For clarity on all uniform issues, please refer to the school website or contact school direct for more information.

REMEMBRANCE DAY



Remembrance Sunday is almost upon us and this year, apart from the sale of poppies, we have a number of commemorative events in and around Holy Family. There will be a whole school assembly led by Mr Walter on Monday 11 November and pupil representatives will accompany Mr Moran to a special service in Selby Cemetery on the same day. Staff, Governors and form groups are also sponsoring knitted poppies to be displayed on the school perimeter fence.

**Prize Presentation
28 November 2019**

Diary Dates

Friday 25 October	School Closes
Friday 25 – Sunday 27 October	Yr 7 Residential Caythorpe Court
Monday 04 November	School Opens
Thursday 28 November	Prize Presentation Evening
Tuesday 17 December	Senior Citizens' Christmas Party
Thurs 19 December	Carol Service
Fri 20 December	School closes
Mon 06 Jan	Staff Inset / School Closed
Tues 07 Jan	School opens

VACCINATIONS

HPV (1st dose) - Year 8 - Thursday 5 December 2019 9.30am

MenACWY & DTP - Year 9 - Tuesday 5 May 2020 9.30am

HPV (2nd dose) - Year 8 - Monday 22 June 2020 9.30am

Year 8 HPV vaccinations: please follow the link www.hdft.nhs.uk/immsconsent SCHOOL CODE: 121718.



School Car Park

When dropping off or collecting your child, please do so outside the school site on Longhedge Lane. Our car park is small and over crowded and can only accommodate staff, visitors to the school and private hire transport for our SEN pupils. Barrier walkways are provided for pupils to safely exit the site and to avoid crossing the car park.