



# The Holy Family Catholic High School Newsletter 17 December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We reach the end of term thankful for our amazing staff and students and our wonderful community. Our students continue to demonstrate all the qualities and virtues that are at the heart of the Holy Family Catholic High School.

Growth	 Resilience	 Love of Learning	 Prayer
Wisdom	 Reflection	 Self-Control	 Compassion
Grace	 Respect	 Love of Neighbour	 Service

We have thoroughly enjoyed our final day of the term today. Our liturgy focused on the true meaning of Christmas and the joy of this season. We celebrated our students in each year group by the giving of awards from subject teachers and tutors, then each year sat down to eat together and enjoy Christmas lunch as a family. In the afternoon, we had our virtual talent show: a fabulous showcase of our students and their skills... plus some very entertaining performances from our staff!

We thank our Y11 students who have pulled all of this together into the final edit and our staff and students who have prepared and taken part in our virtual carol service.

Mrs Oliver and our Christmas elves have been delivering our Christmas hampers which were full of all your kind donations and some handcrafted snowmen from our students!

Our Mother and Baby appeal items are being distributed by Catholic Care. We are all extremely grateful for your wonderful donations. Please see inside for photographs.

**Mrs Mitchell's letter continues on the back page**



## SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

### SENIOR CITIZENS' CHRISTMAS HAMPERS



Once again this year, due to Covid we were unable to hold our annual senior citizens' Christmas party. A much loved event which is sorely missed by guests, staff and students alike. Instead, our KS3 students and staff have very generously donated lots of lovely gifts to make up hampers for our elderly local community. Thank you to all who have contributed to the Christmas hampers.

Mrs Oliver & Mr Walker delivered the gifts on Thursday this week with the help of some Y10 pupils.

Mrs Mitchell received a phone call on the same day from a lady who is currently unwell and had received one of our hampers. She said it had really made her day and given her some brightness in a difficult time. She also wanted to let us know that the students; Harry, Rudy, Ashley and Paige were wonderful ambassadors for our school.

Trixie Hartley Y7, Gracie Grey-Nicholson Y8 and a few friends have all hand made some fabulous snowmen to go in the hampers to add an extra special festive note. They are both pictured on the right showing off their wonderful handiwork.



Pictured left are some of the "Mother and Baby" donations collected by KS4 for the "When a child is born" charity which will be distributed by Catholic Care.





# SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

## PSHCE Department - Holy Family Carlton

In the Spring term we will start to deliver the RHSE programme to students.

Relationships, Sex and Health Education is delivered at Holy Family using resources provided by Ten:Ten called "Life to the Full" which teaches RHSE within the context of a Christian understanding of human sexuality rooted in the wisdom and teaching of the Catholic church.

Ten:Ten provide an online Parent Portal where you can access more information about the programme. Use the following link and use the following username and password to access the resource.

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal> User name: opp-holyfam-14 Password: rse-parent-purple



A picture of the netball club (right) from all year groups preparing for Spring term fixtures.



## Climate Conference (Above)

Y7 students took part in a Climate Conference in November where they shared ideas for actions that could be taken across the schools within our academy.



## (Right)

### Recycling Club

The Holy Family Recycling Team raised £35 this month with a cake sale to buy bird food for feeders that they made from recycled materials.



*Sounds of the Season*

## Virtual Carol Service:

Available from Thursday 16 December

Staff and students have been working hard to prepare our annual carol service. Again this year we were unable to meet in person, so you can access a pre-recorded video of the event at your convenience by using the following link :

<https://vimeo.com/657455850>

and using the password which will be sent to you via Groupcall text.

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You will have heard in the news about the struggles in schools with staff absences and a national shortage of supply teachers. We have had similar issues but it is with the good will of our staff that we have managed to stay open to all years groups in these last few weeks. Staff have gone above and beyond to ensure that absences are covered and that our students continue their education in school

Who knows what the New Year will bring but we will pray and remain hopeful.



We wish you all a happy and holy Christmas

God bless you all

*D Mitchell*

Mrs D Mitchell  
Headteacher

## Diary Dates

Thurs 16 December	Virtual Carol Service
Friday 17 December	School closes 3pm
Tuesday 04 January	Staff Inset / School Closed
Tuesday 04 January	Y7,8 & 11 Lateral Flow Testing
Wednesday 05 January	School open to Years 7,8 & 11
Wednesday 05 January	Y9 & 10 Lateral Flow Testing
Thursday 06 January	School open Years 9 & 10
Thursday 13 January	Y8 Online Parents Evening
Thursday 27 January	Yr 11 Online Parents Evening
Thursday 10 February	Y7 Online Parents Evening
Friday 18 February	School closes for half term

**“Together we step out in faith, knowing Christ is with us and united as a Holy Family”**

**Staff News** – This term we said goodbye to three long serving members of staff: Mrs Armstrong, Mrs Billington and Mrs Cooke. Thank you all for your years of service and dedication to our school. You will be sorely missed.

On a happier note, we have been joined by Mrs Grey Nicholson and Mrs Mayes. We hope that you will enjoy your time at Holy Family.

*The staff and governors of our school wish you and your families  
a safe, peaceful and happy Christmas.*

*We look forward to seeing our students return in  
January 2022*