

FAMILY MATTERS

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER



The Season of Advent

**SANTA COMPETITION
WINNER INSIDE!**

**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**



@HFCSWaltham



www.holyfamily.waltham.sch.uk



@HFCSWaltham



HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Quotation of the week

‘For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given...and he shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace’ Isaiah 9:6

Sad news Miss Hodges RIP

Last week we received some very sad news. Former deputy headteacher Miss Hodges passed away in early December after a short illness. Miss Hodges was an institution at Holy Family spending over 20 years at the school. An excellent and devoted teacher as Deputy Headteacher she worked both with Mr Breen and myself. In this capacity she served first as Head of the Walthamstow site and then, latterly as Head of the Wiseman site. Miss Hodges also served as acting headteacher on more than one occasion.

Hugely committed to the school, and especially the students, Miss Hodges taught history and, more recently, a hugely popular course in GCSE Psychology. During her time at Holy Family she taught a number of other subjects and also ran a range of extra-curricular clubs and activities. Miss Hodges retired at Easter 2015 and it is very sad that she only experienced a short period of retirement.

Many generations of students and their families will join us in mourning her passing. There will be a special Mass of Thanksgiving for the life of Miss Hodges on Tuesday 21st January at 6pm on the Walthamstow site and all are very welcome to attend.

Carol service

We enjoyed a beautiful carol service on Tuesday evening in the parish church of Our Lady and St George. Highlights for me included a haunting version of In the Bleak Midwinter, the Christmas testimonials from members of staff and the finale of Spanish carols. Thank you to the chaplain, the RE Team, the Music Dept and all of our wonderful students who played music, sang, read and took part in the liturgy and thank you to all who came to support the event.

Hampers

A key element of our annual carol service is the blessing of hampers which are then given to the Christian Kitchen and to the SVP society in the parish. This year's collection of hampers set a new record and I want to thank you all for your generosity. It will make a real difference this Christmas.

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Yr 7 and Yr 8 tea

It was a pleasure on Thursday morning to enjoy tea and cakes with over 50 of our lower site students each of whom had received at least four stars during the course of the term. It was lovely to talk to many of them and hear about their favourite subjects, what they like most about Holy Family and their plans for Christmas. We have so many excellent young people who try their best, are kind and generous and a credit to their families.

The Feast of the Holy Family

This year the feast of the Holy Family falls on 31st December, New Year's Eve. It is always a bit of a shame that we are on holiday when the feast day is celebrated each year, but we shall mark the occasion when we return to school on Monday January 6th at the usual time.

Inset Day

Please note that Monday 20th January will be an inset day for staff.

Parents' surgery

Parents' surgery will resume in the New Year on the second Thursday of the new term. This is because Thursday 9th Jan is the Yr 11 parents' evening.

Please continue to remember us in your prayers and, on behalf of everyone at Holy Family, we wish you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Dr Andy Stone

Headteacher





Headteacher **COMMENDATIONS**

This week we have commendations for the following students in Yr 10 each nominated by Ms Nordon.

Leona Pacquette, 10P for having a consistently brilliant attitude to learning, showing determination to succeed and putting in excellent effort.

For **Carney Houston 10R** and **Vira Vitev 10A**. Both students displayed a dedication to their faith and the school community by choosing to attend the Carol Service and rehearsals instead of taking up their hard-earned place on the end of term reward trip.



Headteacher **COMMENDATIONS**

For **Nana Asante 10S** for showing resilience and dedication to learning. Nana has been especially helpful in English lessons and is using effective strategies to keep working consistently.

For **Jada Dowe 10S** for changing her English speaking and listening assessment topic to child soldiers following some reflection time on the year 10 retreat day. Jada gave an impassioned speech on her chosen topic and has supported others in the class too.

Congratulations to all our commendation winners this week!

Chaplaincy Corner

*The work of Christmas begins by
Howard Thurman*

*When the star in the sky is gone,
When the Kings and Princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,
The work of Christmas begins:*

To find the lost

To heal the broken

To feed the hungry

To release the prisoner

To teach the nations

To bring Christ to all

To make music in the heart.



During this final week of Advent we rejoice in the endless love that God has for us, which is made apparent in the birth of his Son. The final purple candle of love is lit.

Tuesday evening was our annual Carol Service. With music and readings, it was an excellent start to the Christmas season. The choir and Glee Club, accompanied by Ms Corlett and Ms Greenway, led us with wonderful singing throughout the evening. The Year 8 Spanish choir, organised by Ms Prada, brought our Service to a joyful close.

Thank you the readers, Kaylah-Lee (year 7), Vira and Carney (year 10), Nicole, Mary Jane and Joshua (year 13) for ensuring the smooth running of the Service.

During the Carol Service, the hampers that have been put together by tutor groups during Advent were presented to the Paul from the Christian Kitchen and Cliff from the parish SVP group. Some 63 hampers were presented. There will also be hampers going to the Salvation Army night shelter and toiletries to the Salvation Army refugee project. There was also a retiring collection for HCPT (Hosanna Children's Pilgrimage Trust).

This year we also heard Christmas testimonies from members of staff and "what Christmas means to me". Thank you to Ms Patel, Ms Carrick, Mr Keers, Ms St Aimee, Dr Stone and Mr McCollin.

I would also like to thank Anna, Chloe and Jesse from Year 12 for helping on the evening, Mrs Howard and Mr Beckett for the refreshments and last but not least Mr Norman for his support through the day. It was lovely to see so many students, parents and friends coming together to reflect, pray and sing together.

**The true joy of Christmas is in the everlasting love of Christ.
Wishing you a joyous Christmas and blessings in the coming
New Year.**



Holy Family Year of Sustainability – Live Simply Tip No.13
Recycle your Christmas cards. Many supermarkets will offer a collection box or you can put into your household recycling. Make it your New Year Resolution to reduce, recycle and re-use.

Pope Francis writes: "There is a nobility in the duty of care for creation through little daily actions" (211)

Mrs Grierson, Chaplain

Dear Jesus, may the light of your love always shine in our hearts. As Christmas draws closer, we marvel at your great love for us. Let your love transform every aspect of our lives and touch everyone we encounter. Our hearts are open to you, Jesus. Amen





KEY DATES FOR ADVENT 2019

Sunday 22nd December – 4th Sunday of Advent LOVE
Wednesday 25th December – Christmas Day
Thursday 26th December – St Stephen's Feast Day
Tuesday 31st December – Holy Family Feast Day



Monday 6th January - Return to school

This is also the Feast of the Epiphany, celebrating the revelation that Jesus was the Son of God. It focuses primarily on this revelation to the Three Wise Men. There will be no Mass in school, as whilst a Holy Day of Obligation, it is transferred to the adjacent Sunday when it falls on a Monday.

SOCIAL MEDIA CATCHUP



@hfcswaltham



@hfcswaltham

12 Social Media Online Safety Tips FOR CHILDREN WITH NEW DEVICES

With Christmas only a few weeks away, many of you will be using social media to share your excitement with friends and family. Being active on social media is a great way to show others how much fun you're having, but it's important that you know how to use these apps safely and securely so that bad things don't happen. By following our safety tips below, you can make sure that your personal information stays private, your postings are positive and that your social media use overall is responsible, healthy and most of all enjoyable.

1 DON'T ACCEPT FRIEND REQUESTS FROM STRANGERS

Make sure that you set your profile to private so that people you don't know can't find you online. Always tell a trusted adult if a stranger or somebody you don't know sends you a message or a friend request.

2 NEVER SHARE YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION WITH PEOPLE YOU DON'T KNOW

Keep your personal information personal. Sometime people online aren't always who they say they are and might ask you to share things that you don't feel comfortable sharing.

3 DON'T SHARE EMBARRASSING PHOTOS OR VIDEOS OF OTHERS ONLINE

This could really upset them and could get you into a lot of trouble. Always think twice before posting anything on social media and treat people online as you would in real-life.

4 NEVER SEND NAKED PICTURES OF YOURSELF TO OTHERS

This is illegal if you are under 18 and you could get into trouble with the Police. If you are being pressured by someone, always say no and tell a trusted adult. Even if you think it is innocent fun, the photo could be shared with other people and you won't be able to control who else sees it.

5 CREATE A POSITIVE ONLINE REPUTATION

Always be kind and polite when posting comments on social media and only upload pictures and videos of things you are proud of. This forms part of your digital footprint. Everything you do online can be tracked and monitored and could affect what people think of you in real-life if it is negative.

6 LIMIT YOUR SCREEN TIME

Social media can be addictive, and it is easy to keep checking newsfeeds or your notifications every 5 minutes which can affect your behaviour and stop you from doing other things. Remember to only use your phone at certain times of the day, turn notifications off at bedtime and go out and have as fun as much as possible. This will keep you fit and healthy and make you appreciate there's more to life than just what's on social media.

7 BLOCK ONLINE BULLIES

Sometimes people might say nasty things to you online or post offensive comments on your pictures or videos. If this happens, always tell a trusted adult who will help you block them from your profile and support you in taking further action.

8 REPORT INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

If you see something on social media that you don't like, offends you or upsets you, you should always report it to a trusted adult. You should also report it to the social media app who will be able to remove the content if it is against their user policy and can block the person who posted it.

9 ONLY USE APPS WHICH YOU ARE OLD ENOUGH TO USE

Before downloading any new social media app, always check the age-rating. If you need help, ask your parent or carer to make sure that the app is safe for you to use and never download anything which you are too young for as it may contain content that isn't safe for you to see.

10 ALWAYS SECURE ALL YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA PROFILES WITH A PASSWORD

This will help to keep your private information safe and won't allow others to access your profiles without your permission. Make sure your passwords are memorable and personal to you but something which other people can't guess, and always share them with your parents just in case you forget them.

11 ASK PARENTS TO SET-UP 'PARENTAL CONTROLS' FOR SOCIAL MEDIA

When you download a social media app, you should always ask a trusted adult to help you set it up for the first time. This will help you control who sees what you post, who can contact you and make sure you are able to enjoy using the app safely and securely.

12 ALWAYS TALK TO YOUR TRUSTED ADULT IF SOCIAL MEDIA IS MAKING YOU UNHAPPY

Sometimes, social media can make us feel bad about ourselves or sad that we aren't the same as someone else or doing the same things as someone else. Remember, if you ever feel this way, it's really important to talk to your trusted adult(s) like your parents, carers, other adult family members or a teacher, all of whom will be able to support you and discuss your feelings with you to help make you feel better.

SPORTS UPDATE

**Another win for the year 8 basketball girls .
An 18 - 04 victory over Walthamstow Academy .**

Fab - u - lous.



SPORTS UPDATE

Praying before tip off . He listened , the year 10 girls beat Frederick Bremer 22-18



Holy Family Votes...the results are in...

Thank you to the History and Politics Department for teaching our young people how to have a political voice & helping make it tremendously more likely that they will vote in the future.

Holy Family Votes



Holy Family Votes



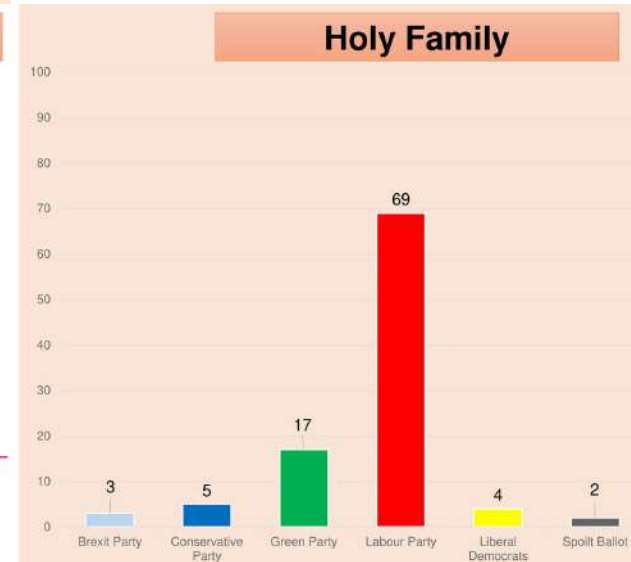
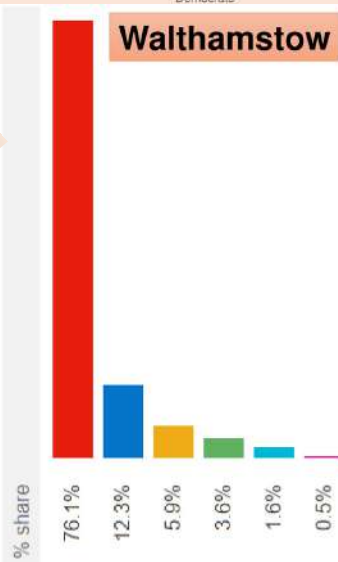
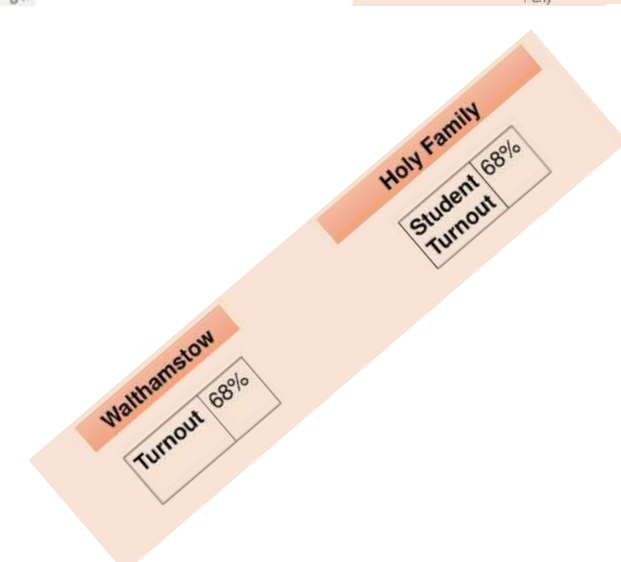
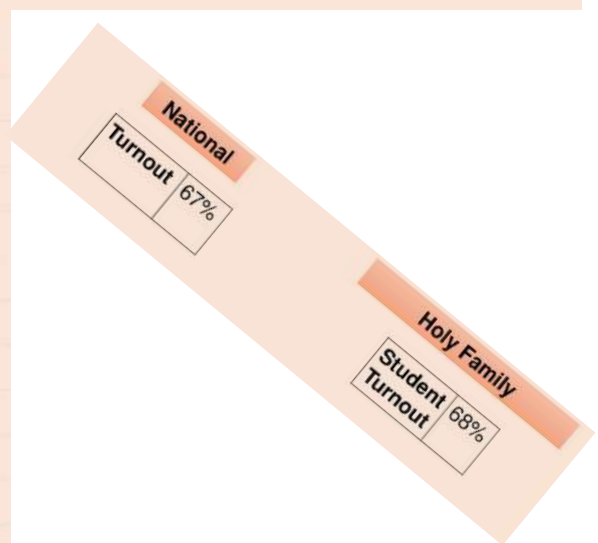
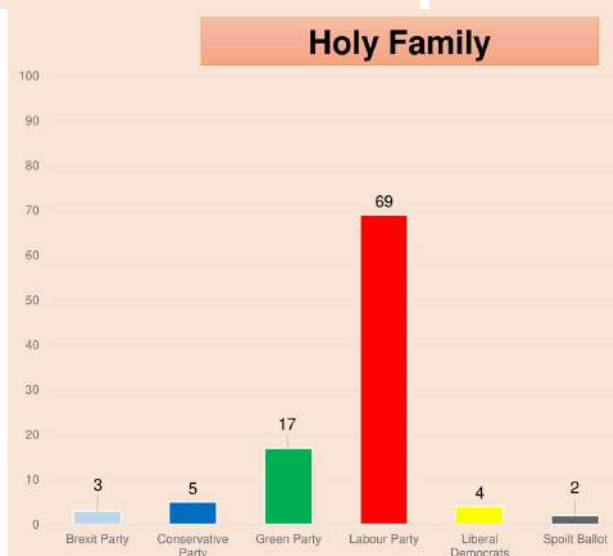
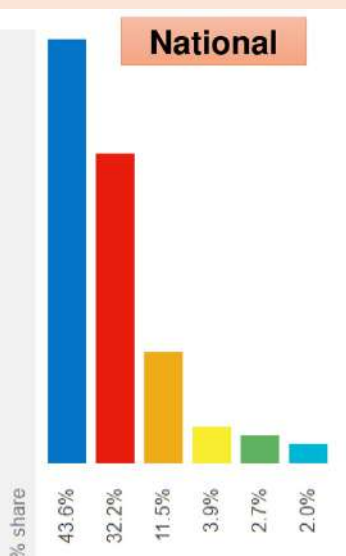
National results

VS

Our results

Make sure you make your voice heard in 2024!*

*the likely next general election





The Big Christmas House Quiz!



On Thursday 19th December the House Team hosted our annual Big Christmas House Quiz. Each house was represented by one student in each year group to compete for their House, as well as some Christmas treats. The quiz rounds tested the students' knowledge of all things Christmas. We had a Biblical round as well as music, cities and films.



Congratulations to House Elizabeth for a fantastic victory to kick start their Christmas Holiday!



A	51	2nd
S	46	5th
P	50	3rd
I	42	6th
R	48	4th
E	59	1st



Wishing all our students and their families a very Merry Christmas!

The House Team

End of year reward

AFTERNOON TEA



Year 7 & 8 4* Students Afternoon tea with
Dr. Stone



Wisreman Site 4* Students

STAFF GETTING INTO THE
FESTIVE SPIRIT THIS WEEK FOR
**CHRISTMAS
JUMPER DAY**



SIXTH FORM

Christmas Assembly

Presents VS Presence:

Making the Most of Your Christmas Season

Mrs Wilbraham presented the Sixth Form students with a beautiful message: What if you could receive only one Christmas present this year? What would it be?

The answer for us is simple: time.

You see, the people we care about mean much more to us than a new pair of shoes or a shiny new gadget or even a certified pre-owned luxury car with a huge bow on top. And yet, many of us attempt to give material items to make up for the time we don't spend with the people we love. But possessions can't ever make up for lost time. The next time someone asks you what you want for Christmas, consider responding with, "Your presence is the best gift you can give me." When you're completely focused in the moment—no TV, no Internet, no distractions—it makes a marked difference in the lives of the people around you. When you're fully present, your love radiates. And if you're going to give gifts this holiday season, why not give your unencumbered time and attention first? Your loved ones will be glad you did. Remembering the real reason for the season, celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ!



Ending the assembly on a beautiful prayer read by Mrs Belgrave (Lighting the candles)

Loving Father, help us remember the birth of Jesus
that we may share in the song of the angels
the gladness of the shepherds
and worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world.
Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting.
Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings,
and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

May the Christmas morning make us happy to be they children,
and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts,
forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen

Student of the term



Year 13
Orient Mylla

Year 12
Marcelina Kucharska



Best attendance for Year 13 this term!

Victor Fernandes 13R
Angel Gince 13I
Rita Hajj-Moussa 13E
Oliwia Kilic 13P
Dasha Mbo 13P
Megan McDonagh 13I
Nikodem Mikucki 13R
Orient Mylla 13R
Parfaite Omango 13R
Vitor Rodrigues de Sousa 13E
Phoebe Slack 13E
Anitha William 13I
Rajuraam Yogarajah 13E

Angela Amazigo 13A
Nicole Aurelio 13I
Lennox Osei-Biney 13R
Megan Najman 13I
Candis Boateng 13I
Ruby Stewart Louis 13I
Lachlan Houlihan 13E

Best attendance for Year 12 this term!

Chloe Contaldo
Immanuel Babaran
Olivia Contaldo
Valentina Correa-Gallego
Karl Medina
Sean Nguyen
Similio Pembele
Marcelina Kucharska
Joseph Orafu
Jan Makarewicz
Zuzana Wolf
Liam Luz

**Merry CHRISTmas from
the Sixth Form Team**



Guest Speaker

NADIA MEER

We were honoured this week to welcome Nadia Meer who spoke to our history students. Nadia is the granddaughter of anti-apartheid activist Fatima Meer. She gave a really interesting talk learning about the double discrimination women faced opposing apartheid as women of colour.



YEAR 7 & 8
PRODUCT DESIGN
COMPETITION



Santa Winners!



**Congratulations
to all 65 entries!**



Well done!

HFCS celebrating Christmas and Creativity!



Santa Winners!

5th Prize

Peter Nwajagu
7E

Standing tall;
capturing
expression and
presence!



4th Prize

Anabel Chinedu
7I

Attention to detail
while saving our
planet with
recycled materials.



3rd Prize

Dgeovanne
Carvalho
7I

A joyful creation
bursting with
colour and a range
of materials.



2nd Prize

Zoe Aslam
7S

A big and bold
construction full
of character!





*And the
winner is...*

1st Prize

**Marcel Winter
8S**

A celebration of
culture and
diversity!



Hospitality & Catering Christmas Challenges...

CHRISTMAS VEGAN DESSERTS

BY YEAR 11



Hospitality & Catering Christmas Challenges...

GINGERBREAD HOUSE CHALLENGE

BY YEAR 9 (AND SPOT MS SALAHIS
ONE!



Christmas Card Designs by Year

12 Photographers



Mia



Denis



Denis



Jezreel



Chloe

Marc



ECO PROTESTERS!

The work never stops for our Eco-Council - this week they have been creating posters from recycled goods!



MFL NEWS



School Trip To Opal Coast

Dates: 2nd July 2020
Contact: Ms Sheikh Oomar
Subject: MFL
Year Group: Year 8

Halsbury travel France Trip ABTA Travel with confidence



Year 8 TRIP: 2nd July 2020 Boulogne sur Mer



Waffle workshop / tasting
Visit of the traditional French town
Visit to the beach



Payment via ParentPay
Bring in a copy of your current passport
EHIC card
Medical form



MFL NEWS

Onatti
productions ltd

Theatre company is coming to Holy Family !!!

French play : Les Garçons

Date: Thursday 2 April 2020

Time: 8:45-9:45 am for year 8,9,10 Upper site Hall

Spanish play : Primera Cita

date: Monday 27 April

Time : 8:45-9:45 am for year 7,8,9 Lower Site Hall



Make your £3 Payment on Parent Pay



Excellent progress and achievement in their French assessment
Year 8 students

Neli Endreva
Cameron Hinds
Laura Kasprzyk
Maria Shotikare
Allison Teeves
Omari Paul Jones
Wiktoria Matejek
Rachel Costa

Sam Mee
Jericho Gonzales
Ilana Ifefo
Filipa Andre
Alisia Dehelean
Thomas Masterton
Emilia Biedrowska



Year 7 High achievers for the Autumn Term

Julianna Villanueva	7IG
Ayat Gaim	7IG
Christabel Asare	7IG
Jemuel Omango	7A
Vanessa Pallan	7A
Destiny Simon	7E
Naomi Marquis	7E
Glynis Diafuana	7I
Dilara Gunkordu	7I



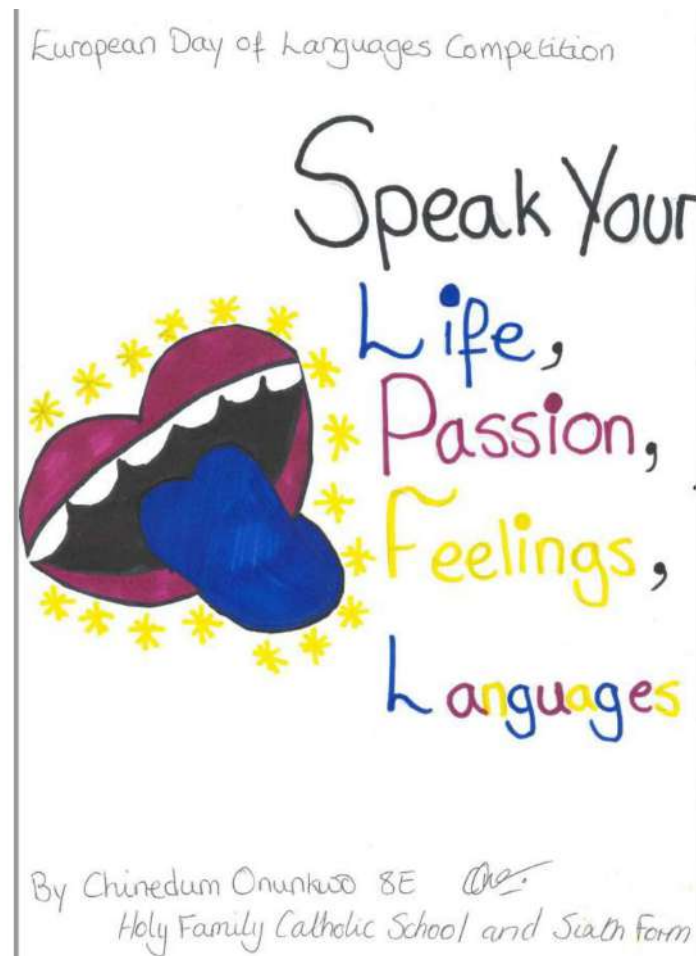
MFL NEWS

T-shirt competition winner

Chinedum
Year 8



EDL T-Shirt Contest



ON SALE NOW GIRLS TROUSERS



**FROM JANUARY GIRLS WILL BE ABLE
TO WEAR THE OFFICIAL HOLY FAMILY
TROUSERS**

The school logo will be a feature of the new school trouser for girls. No other trouser will be accepted and any uniform infringement will be followed up as with any other part of incorrect uniform.

Available from

Speedstitch



<http://www.speedstitch.co.uk>

Carolinas



<https://carolinaschooloutfitters.co.uk>