

FAMILY MATTERS

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER

St. Ignatius House

Celebration Day

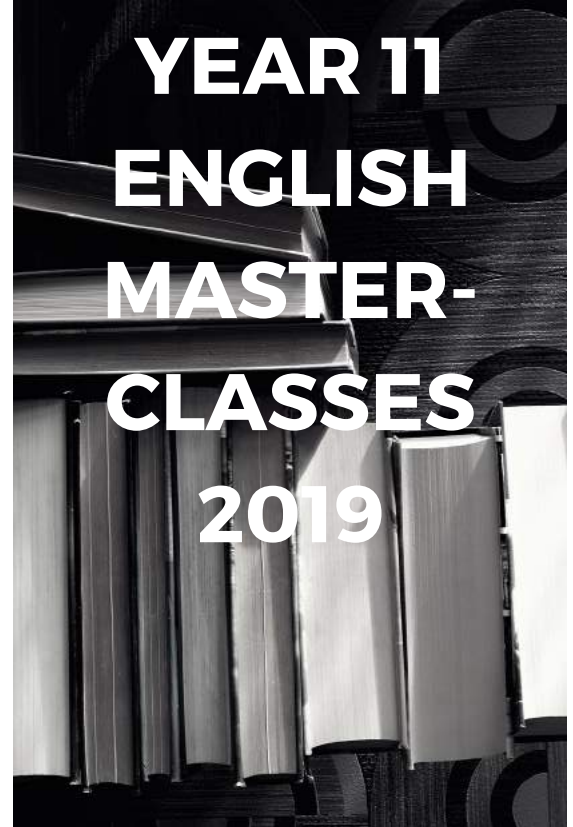
"Knowledge is power.

*Information is
liberating. Education is
the premise of progress
in every society, in every
family," Kofi Annan,
former United Nations
Secretary-General.*

**YEAR 11
ENGLISH
MASTER-
CLASSES
2019**

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HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

St Ignatius House celebration day

As you'll be aware every member of Holy Family is a member of a House. We have six houses each named after a saint: St Anne, St Stephen, St Philomena, St Ignatius, St Richard and St Elizabeth. Together the initials of these saints spell the motto of the school 'ASPIRE'. Each House has a celebration day and we marked the first of these in the school calendar on Thursday of this week. All the members of St Ignatius House attended the morning Mass in the parish church of Our Lady and St George and then came over to the lower site to have lunch together and also for what has become the traditional House treat - an ice cream paid for by the Friends of Holy Family. The students behaved impeccably in Mass and it was a very spiritual and reflective occasion. Thanks to Fr Niall for inviting us to the parish Mass.



Alumni Evening

On Thursday 19th September we are holding an alumni evening on the Wiseman site. This will provide an opportunity for former students to return to see our new facilities on the Wiseman site, to catch up with other alumni and teachers and to network. It is always a pleasure to see former students back at Holy Family and the invitation is open to everyone: Wiseman site, Thursday 19th September 6.30pm. You can register your interest/attendance with Ms Gaynor at l.gaynor@holyfamily.waltham.sch.uk

Extra-curricular activities

Mr Wilbraham organises our excellent extra-curricular programme and details of this will be circulated shortly. I encourage every student to get involved in the extra-curricular programme - there is a wide range of activities covering all manner of subjects, sports and artistic and cultural activities. Most of these are free, or subsidised, and they are of great benefit in terms of personal development of new skills and confidence and of enjoyment.

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Sustainability

We are designating this academic year as Holy Family's 'Year of Sustainability'. Over the summer holiday we had a range of low energy lighting installed. This is part of a government backed scheme whereby schools are loaned the money to replace their existing lighting with low energy lighting. Over an eight year period the savings in electricity costs cover the repayment of the loan, so there is no net cost to the school. This will help to reduce our carbon footprint. We've also installed more energy efficient boilers in recent years and improved insulation around the school.

We will be working with the students on a number of other ideas including how to reduce the amount of single-use plastic discarded in the school, improving the external environment and developing a vegetable garden on each site where we are able to grow food that can be cooked in the school and/or taken home for use there. We are also working on recycling schemes and ending the use of plastic cutlery over the coming weeks and months.

We won't get all this done at once, but we want the students to lead the way and we want to make sure we are following Pope Francis's example to 'live simply' and to make sure we care for this amazing planet that we all must share and live together on.

Show My Homework

Apologies that we had some technical problems with the Show My Homework software at the start of term. This is now up and running again and is a very useful way of keeping track of your son/daughter's homework. If you need any help with the Show My Homework system then please contact us and we will endeavour to assist you.

Parking

Please note we have no car-parking at all for visitors and cars are not permitted to enter the school grounds before, or after school.

The importance of attendance and punctuality

High attendance is vitally important if students are to do well in their education. It should go without saying that every student should aim for a minimum attendance of at least 95%.

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Last year, almost one in ten Holy Family students had 100% attendance for the entire year. This is an excellent achievement and reflects very well on each of them. Of course, there will be students who are genuinely ill and unable to attend school at times, but it is also part of life that we should try to attend when we may not feel absolutely 100%, but do not want to miss out on learning. We monitor every student's attendance and punctuality very closely and work with parents and students to improve attendance when it is not good enough. Remember 90% is a great score in an exam, but it represents a poor figure for attendance since 90% attendance means a day missed every fortnight.

Open Evening for prospective Yr 7 students (2020 intake)

Our Open Evening takes place at the end of the month, on Thursday 26th September at 6pm. We will again be able to offer additional places for next September as the school expands, so please do spread the word and encourage your friends and family to apply to our school if they would like to do so.

You do not need to be Catholic to attend Holy family and we welcome applications from people of all faiths, or indeed, no faith. We are a very diverse community and everyone finds their place here.

For this year we still have a few vacancies in Yr 7 and, if you know someone who wishes to apply, then please ask them to contact the borough's admissions office. They are, of course, also welcome to make contact with us too and should ask for Deputy Head (Head of Lower School) Mr Murphy.

Parents' surgery

Parents' surgery is every Thursday from 4pm to 5pm on the Walthamstow site. For those new to the school, parents' surgery presents an opportunity to see me, as the headteacher, without an appointment about any concerns that you may have. If ever I am unavailable, a member of the senior team substitutes for me.

Please continue to remember us in your prayers as we start this new academic year.

Dr Andy Stone
Headteacher



SOCIAL MEDIA CATCHUP

🔄 You Retweeted



Liza Fletcher
@lizaafletchere17

#LeytonstoneLovesFilm trailer highlighting workshops, screenings, training and all things film on 27th - 29th September for cinephiles and emerging talent from our borough.
#wfculture2019 @e17filmfest
@LeytonstoneSch @HFCSWaltham
@Leyton6thForm @MonouXcollege



41 views

Tweet your reply



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hfcswaltham Our Year 11s last week looking smart for school photo day! #aspire

1 minute ago



Chaplaincy Corner



Chaplaincy opened the new term with a Mass for staff, celebrated by Fr Niall Harrington from Our Lady & St George's. The following day, we held a welcome Mass for Year 7 students and parents. The Mass was celebrated by Fr Niall. It was wonderful to see so many families joining us. Many thanks to the Music Department for playing and to the staff who read and ministered. The Year 7s seem to have settled in well, with plenty of smiling faces and new friendships.

St Ignatius House Mass

Our first House Feast Day of the year was held this week.

Students from years 7-13 came together to celebrate Mass at Our Lady & St George parish. Fr Niall spoke of how we are all different, with different gifts and talents, but all ultimately loved by God and made in his image. Many thanks to the students who volunteered to read, serve and to take part in the offertory. Later in the day we all had lunch together and were treated to an ice cream, thanks to the Friends of Holy Family.



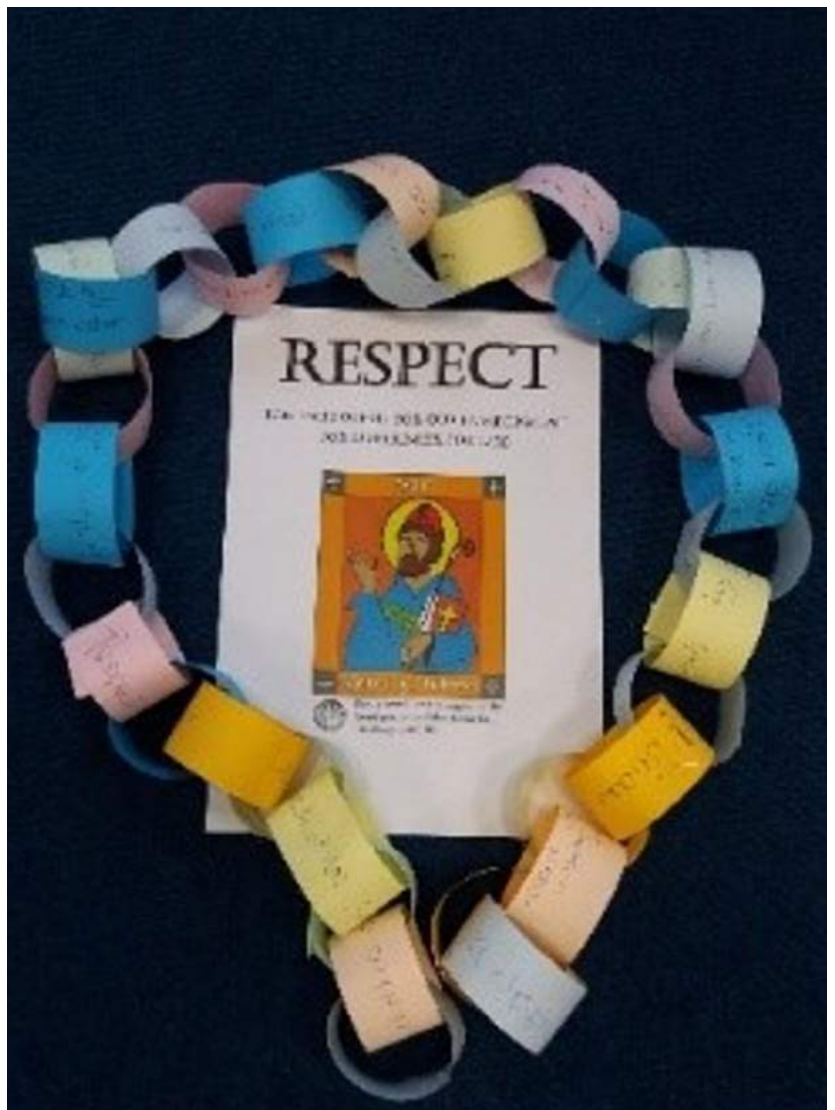
Chaplaincy Corner

Year 8s looked at what respect means to them. They made an acrostic of ways to show respect – to respect the environment, to respect each other, to respect difference, to respect instructions, to respect property and to respect God. Afterwards, they put together a prayer chain.

Respect is also the word attributed to St Richard's House and there have been many signs that all students have come back in a respectful manner – doors being held open, good morning greetings and smiles.

Where to find me

The Chaplaincy is based in the Emmaus Room on the Walthamstow site and is open for both students and staff, whether to have a chat or just to sit quietly. There is a Peace Club on a Monday and Wednesday lunch time for Years 7/8. Students are also welcome to pop in before school and during break time. On Tuesdays I am based on the Wiseman site, usually in the Chapel. There is a Justice & Peace club on Tuesday lunchtimes.



Chaplaincy Corner

Let us pray for our school as we begin a new school year:

Lord Jesus, we ask for Your help as we begin this new school year.
Allow us to experience Your presence in the many blessings You put before us.

Open our eyes to the new challenges and exciting opportunities that this new school year brings.

Open our heart and mind to new friends and new teachers.

Give us a generous spirit to be enthusiastic with our studies and courage to accept new opportunities.

Help us to be attentive to one another and let us experience Your presence in our new friends.

Jesus, inspire us to do our best this year!

Amen



Returns Tuesday 17th September!

Meet new friends, to encounter God and to have fun!

Open to all year groups.

Wiseman Drama Studio 3.15-5pm



House Celebration Day

ST. IGNATIUS

On Thursday St Ignatius House had a Wonderful Celebration Day! The pupils displayed exemplar behaviour walking to St George's Church and were exceptionally behaved in the Mass. The atmosphere was calming and spiritual and I truly believe the pupils gained reflection and growth from the Mass, radiating a positive representation of the school to the church members and the public. Our Celebration lunch was a great time of socialising with food especially with the lovely ice cream and all the year groups were able to bond as a House. Thank to all the St. Ignatius House members.

Peace & Blessings,

Ms Henry



Mr Gerry Breen RIP

As Dr Stone reported in Family Matters last week, during the summer holidays we learned the sad news of the death of Mr Breen, Headteacher of Holy Family from 1992-2007. His funeral took place this week, which was a sad occasion but also a chance to celebrate his life.

Mr Breen was born in Northern Ireland where he began his teaching career. He later moved to England, where he taught English and drama in many schools, including in Waltham Forest before settling at Holy Family. His hard work and leadership during his time as Headteacher transformed our school community and laid many of the foundations that Dr Stone was able to build on to enable us to become the excellent school that we are today. Mr Breen would always go out of his way to help students, staff and parents in any way that he could - he would never turn anyone away who needed his help or advice.

A significant number of current members of staff attended Holy Family as students while Mr Breen was the Headteacher and many more now have children who attend Holy Family today - clearly the 'family' nature of Holy Family that Mr Breen nurtured lives on very strongly in the ethos of the school as a Catholic community.

Mr Breen suffered from a rare lung condition and was cared for at the Royal Papworth Hospital - if you would like to donate to the charity to enable them to continue their vital work, donations will be gratefully received at: www.justgiving.com/fundraising/gerrybreenrip (click here)

Thank you Mr Breen for all that you did for Holy Family and for the lives you touched. Rest in Peace.



Mr Breen's favourite poem was Digging by Seamus Heaney:

*Between my finger and my thumb
The squat pen rests; snug as a gun.*

*Under my window, a clean rasping sound
When the spade sinks into gravelly ground:
My father, digging. I look down*

*Till his straining rump among the flowerbeds
Bends low, comes up twenty years away
Stooping in rhythm through potato drills
Where he was digging.*

*The coarse boot nestled on the lug, the shaft
Against the inside knee was levered firmly.
He rooted out tall tops, buried the bright edge deep
To scatter new potatoes that we picked,
Loving their cool hardness in our hands.*

*By God, the old man could handle a spade.
Just like his old man.*

*My grandfather cut more turf in a day
Than any other man on Toner's bog.
Once I carried him milk in a bottle
Corked sloppily with paper. He straightened up
To drink it, then fell to right away
Nicking and slicing neatly, heaving sods
Over his shoulder, going down and down
For the good turf. Digging.*

*The cold smell of potato mould, the squelch and slap
Of soggy peat, the curt cuts of an edge
Through living roots awaken in my head.
But I've no spade to follow men like them.*

*Between my finger and my thumb
The squat pen rests.
I'll dig with it.*

YEAR 11

ENGLISH MASTER- CLASSES

**LECTURE
THEATRE**

**3.20PM START
TIME**

**Thursday 12th
September**



**Approaching
GCSE English
(Literature &
Language)**

**Thursday 19th
September**



**Macbeth:
Context**



**Thursday 26th
September**

**Writing
Workshop
(Language)**



**Thursday 3rd
October**

**A Christmas
Carol:
Context**



**Thursday 10th
October**

**Reading
Between the
Lines
(Literature &
Language)**



**Thursday 17th
October**

**An Inspector
Calls:
Context**

Extra-Curricular Timetable

Day	Lunch	After School
Monday	Boardgames - U34 - Y9/10/11	STEM Sustainability - U19 - Yrs 9 and 10
	Peace Club - Emmaus Room (Lower Site)	Yr 7 STEM - U09 (upper site)
	Yr7 Girls Basketball - Gym	Cooking Club - U12 (meet at back gate) - Yr7 and 8
	Girls Netball - Gym - Yr9/10/11	
Tuesday	Justice and Peace Group - Chapel (Upper Site)	Yr10/11 Football - Upper Site
	Reading Club - L02 - Yr 7 and 8	
	Yr7 Boys Basketball - Gym	
	Yr 9 Basketball - Gym - Boys and Girls	Basketball - Upper Site - Yr 7/8 - Contact Mr Lavinier for attendance to start 24/9/2019
	Choir - L20 - Y7/8/6th Form	
Wednesday	Peace Club - Emmaus Room (Lower Site)	Wargames - 6th Form Block on lower - All years
	French Film Club - L33 - Yrs7/8	
	Boardgames - L02 - Yrs7/8	
	Science Homework Club - L15 - Yr7/8	Boxercise/ Body Combat - Upper site Gym - All Years
	Yr8 Girls Basketball - Gym	Indoor Cricket - Lower Gym - Yr7 and 8
	Yr10 Basketball - Gym - Boys and Girls	Yr8/9 Football - Upper Site
	Band/ Orchestra - Lower Music Room - Yr7/8	Yr7/8 Netball - Lower Site Playground
	Yr7/8 Science Club (Week 1 only) - L15	Yr7 Football - Lower Site
Thursday	Yr8 Boys Basketball - Gym	
	Badminton - Upper Gym - Yr9/10/11	
	Ukulele Club - L20 - Yr7/8	Girls Sports Club (Trampolining, Badminton, Table Tennis, Basketball) - Upper Site - Y7/8/9
	History Club - L07 - Yr7/8	
	Glee Club - Upper music Room - Yr9/10/11	Debate Club - U43 - Yrs 8 and up to Yrs 13
Friday	Yr7/8 Girls Football	
	Yr11 Basketball - Gym - Boys and Girls	
	Keyboard Music Club - L20 - Yrs7/8	

Class of Holy Family

ALUMNI EVENING 2019

Join us for drinks, canapés and catch
ups in our new and refurbished
accommodation and Sports Centre

THURSDAY 19TH
SEPTEMBER 2019
6.30PM

RSVP:
l.gaynor@holyfamily.waltham.sch.uk

Wiseman Site
30-34 Shernhall Street
Walthamstow, E17 9RT





Holy Family Catholic School & Sixth Form
ASPIRE TO THE HOLY FAMILY WAY

OPEN EVENING

THURSDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 2019

6PM

1, Shernhall Street, Walthamstow, E17 3EA



@HFCSWaltham



@HFCSWaltham



www.holyfamily.waltham.sch.uk



Holy Family Catholic School & Sixth Form
ASPIRE TO THE HOLY FAMILY WAY

HOLY FAMILY IS CELEBRATING YET ANOTHER YEAR
OF RECORD BREAKING EXAM RESULTS

JOIN OUR GROWING SCHOOL COMMUNITY
APPLICATIONS WELCOME FROM ALL FAITHS AND NONE

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS



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1, Shernhall Street, Walthamstow, E17 3EA