

# FAMILY MATTERS

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
NEWSLETTER

*"To one who has faith, no  
explanation is necessary.  
To one without faith, no  
explanation is possible",  
St Thomas Aquinas*

## RESULTS 2019 SPECIAL

**Cont. Pg 6**



**YEAR OF SUSTAINABILITY**



# HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE



## Quotation of the week

*"To one who has faith, no explanation is necessary. To one without faith, no explanation is possible", St Thomas Aquinas*

We are a community of Catholics, of Christians of other denominations, of people of other faiths, and of people of no faith. All are welcome and all make their contribution to our family.

## The first educators

What's the most important thing you learn from your parents? It's probably not algebra, important as that may be. Perhaps it is the values that you take in from them - parents are our first role models and first teachers. The Catholic Church recognises parents as the first and best educators. At the Yr 11 Evening this week Mr Norman talked about success being based on having three sturdy legs on a stool. The three legs represent the partnership between parents, students and teachers. Last year this worked extremely well with our Yr 11 cohort and they did fantastically well - one in four exam entries were graded 7,8 or 9. We are aiming to repeat last year's exam success by ensuring this partnership is equally strong for this year's Yr 11 students.



## Aquinas Trust Staff Mass

The Aquinas Trust is our soft federation of all the Catholic schools in the Waltham Forest Deanery. On Monday after school Fr Bertrand celebrated Mass for all of the teachers and staff in all the Aquinas Trust schools. It was a lovely occasion and we were able to re-dedicate ourselves to the work of our schools. Fr Bertand spoke in his homily about the importance of the teaching profession, of vocation and of teaching being a noble profession. All encouraging words in these challenging times.



## 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.

# HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

## **Yr 11 Evening**

Thank you to parents/carers who attended our Yr 11 Information Evening on Wednesday of this week. It was a well attended event and a very useful one. As a parent of a Yr 11 student I certainly found it so. We must work together, school, parent and student to do the very best we can in this important year. Remember academic success is 99% perspiration and only 1% inspiration! Kick the X-Box, Play-Station and mobile phone into touch and get into good habits of study!

## **Alumni Evening**

On Thursday evening we welcomed back a number of alumni to see the new facilities on the Wiseman site. It was lovely to see them and to hear what they are now doing. Many were keen to return and talk to our present students about their experiences of university and careers. This is really valuable and very much appreciated by our students.

## **Open Evening for prospective Yr 7 students (2020 intake)**

Our Open Evening takes place next week, 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.

Dr Andy Stone - Headteacher



# SOCIAL MEDIA CATCHUP



Holy Family Waltham  
@HFCSWaltham

Save the Date! Next week is our Open Evening! Open to year 5 & 6 students - come tour around our new facilities and find out how to apply! [#aspire](#) [#openevening](#)



19/09/2019, 11:06 from [Walthamstow, London](#)

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2 Retweets 1 Like



Tweet your reply



@hfcswaltham



@hfcswaltham



# **OPEN EVENING 2019**

**Join us on Thursday 26th September 2019 at 6pm for our Open Evening. Holy Family is a successful, well-regarded and oversubscribed secondary school. Our students achieve very well and make excellent progress over the course of their studies. This year we are yet again celebrating a record breaking year of exam results! We have just opened the doors on our extensive building programme which has provided excellent new facilities. Students joining the school will have access to all these facilities, including a new sports hall.**

## **School Aims**

- Through our Mission statement, to create a caring community in which all students can grow as Christians, fulfill their potential academically and become well balanced individuals who can make a difference in society.**
- To provide our students with the skills necessary for success and to prepare them for the demands of adult life.**
- To recognise the contribution of all cultures and religions to the progress of humanity and foster positive attitudes towards a multi-cultural society.**
- To build strong partnerships between, school, home, parish and community.**
- To provide a safe and secure environment where staff and students can work together in a caring atmosphere of respect and friendliness.**
- To enable all students to have access to an extensive programme of extracurricular activities.**

# RESULTS 2019

## Holy Family Students achieve superb GCSE and BTEC results



Congratulations to year 11 students at Holy Family Catholic School who achieved fantastic GCSE and BTEC results this year. 68% of students achieved both English and maths at grade 4 and above, whilst 52% of students achieved both English and maths GCSE at grade 5 or above, which is considered the new 'strong pass'. Additionally, this year saw excellent GCSE results in many other subjects including science, French and RE. Holy Family prides itself on ensuring that students are encouraged in the arts subjects in addition to the academic qualifications and this year we had great success in art, drama and performing arts too. Most students have achieved the grades they need to move forward to advanced level study, many of whom will be continuing their studies in our Sixth Form.

Headteacher, Dr. Andy Stone congratulated all the students on

their results and thanked staff for their hard work in supporting them. "Results day was an excellent event this year and we are pleased to see so many students achieving the grades they need to progress to the next stage of their education. We look forward to continuing to work with them in our sixth form. Thanks to all our staff and parents for supporting the students in their studies."

Amongst the outcomes there were a significant number of high achievers

Hilme Yosef - 5 x grade 9,  
2 x grade 8, 1 x grade 7  
Karl Medina - 5 x grade 9,  
4 x grade 8



Eamon McGrath - 4 x grade 9,  
4 x grade 8, 1 x grade 7  
Chuk Madukwe - 3 x grade 9,  
4 x grade 8, 2 x grade 7  
Jonathan Thevarajah - 5 x grade 9,  
3 x grade 7, 1 x grade 6  
Aleksandra Keqaj - 2 x grade 9,  
1 x grade 8, 2 x grade 7,  
2 x grade 6

The majority of year 11 students will be staying with us to continue their level 3 study, whether it is the A Level or BTEC route. Holy Family Catholic School is an open access Sixth Form and is happy to welcome students from all faiths and none. If you are looking for a diverse range of subjects at a high performing Sixth Form we are enrolling now. Please visit our website for further information and to apply.

For more photos and student reactions please visit our website ([www.holyfamily.waltham.sch.uk](http://www.holyfamily.waltham.sch.uk))

Twitter and Instagram (@HFCSWaltham)



# RESULTS 2019

## Holy Family Sixth Form – Fantastic A Level & Vocational Results 2019



Congratulations to all students of Holy Family Sixth Form who received exam results on Thursday. Over 100 students received their A Level and Level 3 BTEC results.

Our results represent another fantastic year with 76% of grades being A\*-C and a 100% pass rate at A\*-E.

Head teacher Dr Andrew Stone said: "Congratulations to all our year 13 students who have again achieved excellent results across BTEC and A Level courses. It was a pleasure to see them this morning receiving their results and confirming their university places. They are about to set forth on the next stage of their lives attending universities up and down the country.

Their success reflects their hard work, that of the wonderful teachers and staff that we are blessed to have here at Holy Family and the support of their parents and families. We are very proud of their achievements and of the students who are taking up apprenticeships and employment opportunities too. Holy Family continues to be a leading centre for post-16 study and we are already looking forward to the new academic year



and our next cohort of sixth formers."

Special congratulations to the following year 13 A Level students:

- Cara Moran who gained grades A\*AAB to secure her place at Oxford to read English
- Daniel Asare who gained grades AAA. He will be studying Aerospace Engineering at Bath University
- Zebaish Shabaz who gained A\*A\*C and will be studying Psychology and Sociology at the University of Sussex.
- Manuela Sadik who gained A\*AB and will be reading History at UCL.

We also had fantastic success with our L3 BTEC vocational programmes this year. Particular congratulations to:

- Delia Muvangu who gained a double Distinction grade in Health and Social care and a B grade in A Level Psychology. She will be studying Psychology and Sociology at Northampton University
- Max Risvegilia who gained Distinction grades in Creative Media and IT and will be studying Film at the University of East London



Holy Family Sixth Form is a growing, oversubscribed open access sixth form with a strong Catholic Ethos, we welcome applications from those of all faiths or none. We offer a range of over 25 different A Level and Level 3 Vocational courses, with a track record of excellent academic success fostered within a secure supportive environment.

Please visit our website at [www.holyfamily.waltham.sch.uk](http://www.holyfamily.waltham.sch.uk) for more information, or email [office@holyfamily.waltham.sch.uk](mailto:office@holyfamily.waltham.sch.uk).



# RESULTS 2019



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



@HFCSWaltham



@HFCSWaltham



www.holyfamily.waltham.sch.uk

1, Shernhall Street, Walthamstow, E17 3EA



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





# Class of Holy Family

# ALUMNI EVENING

On Thursday we welcomed back former staff and students of Holy Family to tour around the new facilities on the Wiseman Site. It was great to catch up with the Alumni and hear what they have been doing since leaving Holy Family.



Our current Sixth Formers were great hosts and Head Girl Mary-Jane gave a touching speech about aspiring to achieve just as the former Holy Family students had done.



We are always keen to welcome ex-students back to speak with our current students about their journeys since leaving Holy Family.



If you know a past Holy Family student please encourage them to join the Alumni mailing list to hear about future events - email Ms Gaynor: [l.gaynor@holyfamily.waltham.sch.uk](mailto:l.gaynor@holyfamily.waltham.sch.uk)



## Year of Sustainability

Dr Stone mentioned in his message at the start of term that this year will be Holy Family's **Year of Sustainability**. So what exactly do we hope this will look like? Firstly, we were hugely proud to take the installation of a complete replacement of the lighting on both sites over the summer holiday. This project was paid for by a government scheme which allows interest-free loans to improve the energy efficiency of schools, hospitals, and other publicly funded institutions.



The impact on our energy usage will be considerable. According to our sums—which have been verified by some careful calculations by the Year 10 Triple Science class—our school will save around £10,000 every year, just on electricity. Furthermore, as most of our electricity comes from the burning of natural gas, these savings will amount to hundreds of tonnes of carbon dioxide which Holy Family will no longer be contributing to our atmosphere!

Of course, there is still a lot to do improve the enviro-credentials of our school. That is why this week we are launching the **Holy Family Eco-Council**. The Eco-Council will be made up of students from every year group, who will be empowered to change the culture of our school towards one of sustainability, being mindful of our wasteful behaviours and working to reduce the impact of our community on our environment by the choices we all make. **The Eco-Council will meet after school on Mondays in U18 on the Wiseman Site.**

We will use Family Matters to keep you abreast of what is happening in our Year of Sustainability, and giving sound advice on how you can reduce your own impact. As a starter... did you know that producing beef requires 28 times more land, 11 times more water, and releases 5 times more greenhouse-gases than the average of other livestock<sup>1</sup>? Cutting out burgers is a brilliant way to reduce your own impact on the planet!

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<sup>1</sup> Land, irrigation water, greenhouse gas, and reactive nitrogen burdens of meat, eggs, and dairy production in the United States, Gidon Eshel, Alon Shepon, Tamar Makov, and Ron Milo, PNAS

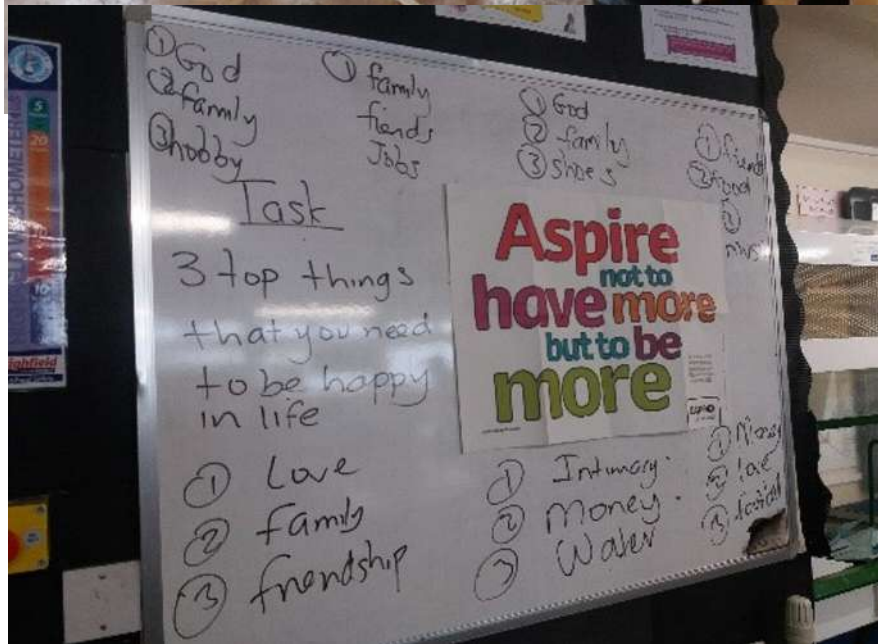
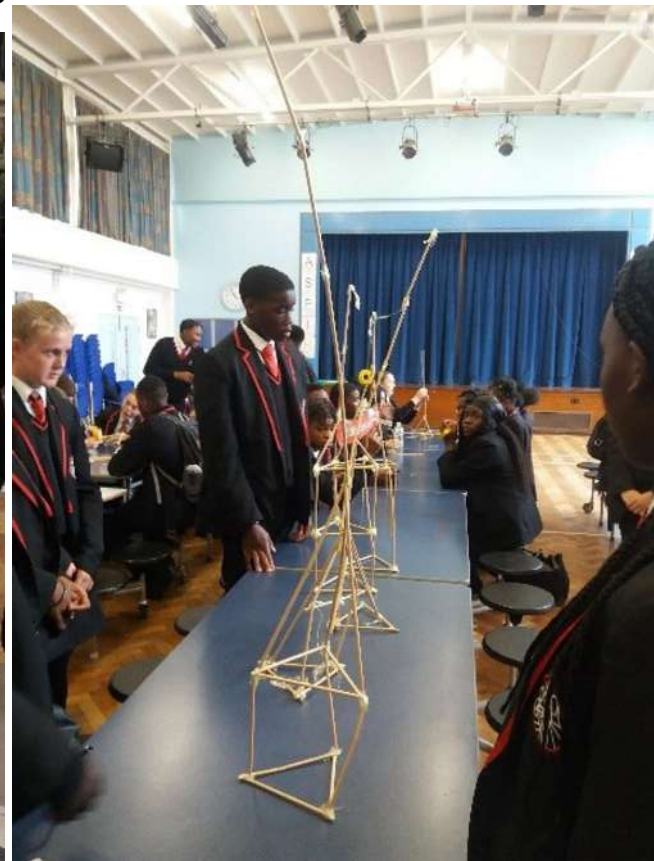
The Chaplaincy offers an "open door" providing a welcome for all people in all situations. The Chaplaincy offers a listening ear to provide help, support, encouragement and care so that Holy Family will be a happy faith filled place in which all can learn, grow and be valued as a unique child of God.

Mrs Grierson is the Emmaus Room (Walthamstow site) on a Monday and Wednesday and in the Chapel office (Wiseman site) on a Tuesday.

# Chaplaincy Corner

The Year 11 retreat took place this week and the theme was Great Expectations. We all know how important it is to take time out of our ordinary life to reflect and relax. It is even more important for Year 11 at the beginning of what is an important year for them, to have a day of reflection and team building.

The day gave them an opportunity to think about where they are heading, to think about their community, the world around them and to allow Jesus to be at the centre of the journey. It was lovely to begin the day by joining parishioners at Our Lady & St George morning Mass.



We also thank Fr Niall for celebrating the Years 12 and 13 Welcome Mass. It was a lovely celebration and thank you to the Head Girl, MaryJane, Head Boy, Joshua and their deputies, Ayse and Ciaran for reading.



# *Sixth Form Start of Year*

# MASS

A time for some quiet reflection in preparation for the busy year ahead



# International Day of Peace

Saturday 21st September

God of peace,

We pray for peace around the world.

Where there is hatred, sow seeds of calm.

Where there is destruction, help us to rebuild.

Where children are crying, bring an end to tears.

Shelter your peoples and protect them.

Guide them and keep them from harm.

Amen.





## ***YOUTH GOSPEL CHOIR***

**A new joint initiative by Our Lady & St George, St Joseph and  
Our Lady of the Rosary & St Patrick parishes**

For young people ages 13 to 25 years old. To be held in St. George's Main Hall 6.30 pm–  
8.30 pm from on Thursday 26 September 2019. *TERM TIME ONLY*

### **APPLICATION FORMS**

AVAILABLE FROM EACH PARISH THE WEEK END 21/22 SEPTEMBER 2019, or

MRS GRIERSON (LOWER SITE EMMAUS ROOM OR UPPER SITE CHAPEL)

Forms to be completed by young person and parent/guardian and taken to first meeting 26  
September 2019

**WANTED: KEY BOARD PLAYER** to support the choir, if that person is YOU we would be  
interested in hearing from you.

# Year 8 Book Review Corner

## THE WIZARDS OF ONCE

Reviewed by:

Victoria Chamulak 8R



### Plot:

The self-centered and careless Xar sets out to catch a witch that he knows are the most deadly creatures when encountered. During this daring journey he meets his mortal enemy, a girl called Wish who is the daughter of queen Sychorax, she is the queen of the warriors and had supposedly killed all the witches in the world with one sword. Upon further inspection Xar realises that Wish has the sword which the queen used to kill the witches with her and steals it. An enraged Wish tries to stop him from doing something he will regret when he finds a drop of witch blood on the tip of the sword he touches it. Will it turn to chaos or will it turn out to be something else?

### Characters:

The characters are Xar and his sprites and Wish and her cowardly bodyguard Bodkin, who are the main ones, and also queen Sychorax, leader of the Warrior tribe, and Encanzo king of the Wizards. My favourite character is Xar because he is the funniest thinking he so amazing but actually he is the only wizard with no magic powers whatsoever.

### Summary:

It is one of my favourite books because it is one of mystery, adventure and most importantly fantasy and magic. The magical element of this book just makes it more and more interesting because when I read it I get taken to this different world and I can picture all this magic and I can see the character in my mind. This book can honestly be read by children of any age but the only disclaimer would be that it is a thick book with small letters so not many children under the age of 9 would be able to read it.

I ABSOLUTELY LOVED READING THIS BOOK AND I DEFINITELY RECOMMEND !!!!!





YEAR 11

# ENGLISH MASTER- CLASSES

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LECTURE  
THEATRE

3.20PM START  
TIME

Thursday 12th  
September

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Approaching  
GCSE English  
(Literature &  
Language)

Thursday 19th  
September

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Macbeth:  
Context



**Thursday 26th  
September**

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**Writing  
Workshop  
(Language)**



**Thursday 3rd  
October**

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**A Christmas  
Carol:  
Context**



**Thursday 10th  
October**

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



**Thursday 17th  
October**

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**An Inspector  
Calls:  
Context**





DON'T FORGET TO GET YOUR

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# **FREE BREAKFAST**



EVERY MORNING  
7.45AM - 8.30AM  
Main Canteen





# KICKS



**IT'S  
FREE!**

**Just turn up  
and PLAY!**

Premier League Kicks is a series of free football and multi-sport sessions, run by Tottenham Hotspur Foundation, open to boys and girls of a variety of ages.

**EVERY WEDNESDAY**

**3.30PM - 5PM**

**GIRLS ONLY**

**AGES 11 - 16**

**WALTHAMSTOW SCHOOL FOR GIRLS**

Church Hill, Walthamstow E17 9RZ

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



**FOR MORE  
INFORMATION:**



**FOUNDATION@TOTTENHAMHOTSPUR.COM**



**0208 365 5138**

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