***We pray together, play together, learn together.***

**Reading Quality Mark Monday 9th January**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the Spring Term. I hope you all had a good Christmas holiday. As you know, here at Holy Family we encourage the children to have a love of reading as we believe that this is the foundation on which all other subjects can be built on. To support the children with this, we host a variety of opportunities and events for the children throughout the year.

**Autumn Term Events:**

September- Scholastic Book Fair- raffle tickets given out when children purchase a book. A prize given to one child per class who purchase a book.

September- To celebrate Roald Dahl Day each class read their class Roald Dahl Book and did various activities around this.

October-As part of ‘National Poetry Day’ each class learnt a poem and then recited that poem to the rest of the school during assembly. October-Black History Month

October-As part of ‘Children’s Book Week’ and ‘International Library Month’ author Ellen Coldecott visited Years 3 and 4 and Story Teller Emily Hennesy visited Years 5 and 6 to tell stories about ‘Myths and Legends’. Both these events were arranged through Knowsley Library Service

November-Y4 Play in a Day on Antibullying

**Spring Terms Events:The Widnes Primary Schools’ Poetry Festival**.

**Paul Delaney**

Local author and poet Paul Delaney will once again visit our school to work with KS2 children in preparation for ‘The Widnes Primary Schools’ Poetry Festival. Last year we were delighted that Katie Shaw from Year Six was chosen as the winner of the competition.

**National Story Telling Week**

**Bedtime Story**

To celebrate ‘National Story Telling Week’ we will be hosting two events-‘Bedtime Story’ an after school event and Knowsley Library Service will be visiting KS1 children to share stories. A further letter will be sent home explaining the events in more detail.

**World Book Week:**

As part of our ‘World Book Week’ celebration in March the children will be taking part in various events. Each class will be taking on a a different book theme and both children and staff will be invited to dress up. Following the success of last year’s cinema afternoon, we will be hosting this even again and the film chosen this year will be ‘The Jungle Book’ by Rudyard Kipling.

**Book awards**

To mark ‘World Book Week’ the school will be taking part in the Blue Peter Book Awards The shortlisted books have now been purchased and these will be reviewed with the children. Class teacher’s will be giving children the opportunity to take one of the books home to read and then write a short book review. If you are interested please let your class teacher know.

Blue Peter Book Awards**-** [**www.booktrust.org.uk**](http://www.booktrust.org.uk) to find the short listed books.

**Play in a Day**

 Year 6’s took part in ‘Play in a Day’ activities last week . The theme of their workshop was ‘Liverpool’. The children researched the history of Liverpool and presented this in a play for the school and their parents at the end of the day .

**Other information:**

**School Website**

[**www.holyfamilycronton.co.uk**](http://www.holyfamilycronton.co.uk)

**twitter @HFCronton**

Our website is in the process of being updated with information about reading events and any useful information for children and parents. These dates will also be showed in the newsletter and through the Parent App.

**The Reader**

‘The Reader’ is an award-winning charitable social enterprise working to connect people with great literature through shared reading..**http://www.thereader.org.uk/who-we-are.aspx**

**Story Barn**

Have you visited ‘The Story Barn’ at Calderstones Park in Woolton, Liverpool yet? If not it is a fantastic place to take your children to and get them involved in books and storytelling.

[**http://www.thestorybarn.org.uk/**](http://www.thestorybarn.org.uk/)

# Bear Hunt, Chocolate Cake and Bad Things- Saturday 28 January – Sunday 23 April, Thomas Steers Way, Liverpool ONE.

**Epstein Theatre**

**Tuesday 21st February-Monstersaurus-** This brand new show from the creators of **Aliens Love Underpants** is monsterously good! Follow the young inventor Monty as he creates a whole world of whacky inventions and incredible monsters, but now he has made them all how is he going to get rid of them?!This energetic show full of thrills, spills, magic and mayhem will delight the whole family – with original music and plenty of audience participation! Suitable for ages: 3+

**Wednesday 22nd February-The Sourcerer’s Apprentice-**Charlie Hubble is a little boy with a very big dream, he wants to be a world-class magician. So, he saves up his pocket money to buy the big book of magic for trainee magicians.Then he sets off to Mr Zacoor’s Toy Shop to buy his spellbook. But Mr Zacoor is no ordinary shopkeeper, he’s a real life Sorcerer! And he has a very special job for Charlie. This delightful new show comes to life with an irresistible blend of music, puppetry and storytelling. There’s also an enchanting toy shop setting filled with all sorts of magical surprises! Little people aged 3 – 7 will love this funny, heart-warming tale but big people will have lots of fun, too.

**http://www.epsteinliverpool.co.uk/whats-on.aspx**

**Book Tree**

Please remember to visit our Book Tree at the front entrance. Please feel free to borrow a book from the basket. However, we would be grateful if you would remember to bring it back. We are also looking for donations of books, in good condition, to add to our book tree. Thank you to all those children who have already kindly donated so far.

**Stuck for a book?**

Try scholastic kid’s club web page. They have lots of ideas to get your child involved in reading, book club activities, and a weekly ‘book of the week’ **https://clubs-kids.scholastic.co.uk/**

The Book Trust provides lists of recommended books for different age groups. **http://www.booktrust.org.uk/books/children/bpba/**

**D.E.A.R**

Every Friday the classroom doors are open from 8.30am until 8.55 am for the big ‘DEAR’ (Drop Everything And Read).

Parents and grandparents are welcome to come into class to share a book with their child.

8th January~4th February-2017 marks the 17th year of Annual National Storytelling Week**.**[**http://www.sfs.org.uk/national-storytelling-week**](http://www.sfs.org.uk/national-storytelling-week)

February 7th Charles Dickens birthday

23rd April-Shakespeare’s birthday

Please keep checking Parent App, Twitter and the school website for more information. We are looking for volunteers who have an hour to spare to read with the children in different classes. Please let your child’s class teacher know if you are interested.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs Bird

 