



Cardinal Newman Catholic Primary School

Arch Road, Hersham, Surrey KT12 4QT
Telephone: (01932) 222536
Headteacher: Mrs C Burnham



Coffee and Conversation Minutes 7th March, 2023

Due to unavoidable changes of date, attendance was low at this Coffee and Conversation with only one parent attending. Three other families submitted questions and so we went ahead to discuss the issues arising as follows:

Wearing of PE Kit on PE days

One parent raised the question of wearing PE kit into school rather than changing in school. This has been discussed extensively previously with both staff and parents and the overwhelming feeling was that it is important for our younger children to learn the independence skills of dressing and undressing themselves. It takes very little time for the older children to change and it is helpful to have the PE kits in school as an option for wet playtimes, muddy falls and any accidents occurring. Our uniform at Cardinal Newman is very smart and it would be a shame for the children to lose the sense of pride and identity from having everyone together in the hall in their smart uniforms.

Curriculum Information on the School Website

One parent raised the question of curriculum maps on the school website. These should cover the whole year (Summer Term will be last year's until the new term begins). Mrs Burnham showed the parent present how to find the year group information on the website under curriculum, year groups and the relevant year. It is helpful to have the up to date overview to support conversations with the children over what they have learned and how that learning fits with the wider picture.

RSE

A further discussion arose around curriculum information for Relationships and Sex Education and how it fits into our PSHE and Wellbeing which goes under the umbrella Flourish. Mrs Burnham demonstrated the resources used from Ten Ten Life to the Full - a resource approved by the Catholic Bishops Conference and fully in line with DfE statutory guidance. There is a lot in the news about inappropriate sex education in Primary schools and we discussed how at Cardinal Newman we root our teaching in the real world and in the teachings of the Catholic Church to make sure our children only have the information they need to make sense of the world around them. There will be a further consultation on our (unchanged) policy next year but in the meantime, parents are encouraged to access the resources on the portal at Ten Ten and to come into school to discuss any questions arising. Ten Ten resources can be accessed [here](#) via the Parent Portal. The logon details are: Username: cardinal-newman-kt12, Password: swimming-pool

Oxford Owl Logins

One parent asked about how often the quizzes are set for YR on Oxford Owl. These are weekly though there has been an issue with some children not receiving the quiz due to duplicate email addresses. If you don't get a quiz one week, do please follow up with the class teachers who will be able to help with this. Thank you!

I-Rock / Peripatetic Music Lessons

One parent asked about whether it would be possible for children not to miss lesson time for their music lessons. Unfortunately, due to demand and teacher availability, CN don't schedule these lessons but have to work around the visiting music staff. Where lessons are missed, the resources from lockdown around White Rose Maths and BBC Bitesize can help children to practise a topic they may have missed. Teachers are not able to set additional work for children missing school work for this reason.

Attendance

Finally a note from school about attendance. As you know, the Department for Education are dismayed at falling attendance rates for children since COVID. Headteachers are no longer allowed to authorise non-attendance except in extreme circumstances and there is an increased requirement to ask for evidence for absences. Thank you for helping us to comply with our statutory duty - it isn't just the school office or Mrs Burnham being difficult! Thank you also to those who have informed us of their intentions when absence is requested - it is important that the school knows where your child is when not in school and so we appreciate you keeping us informed, even when you know that we cannot authorise the absence.

Many thanks for working with us to support your children.

Catherine Burnham

Headteacher