

ISSUE

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# Newsletter

Dear Parents

Back to the usual weekly update following last week's break with routine! As you know, Year 5 had a wonderful three days of outdoor adventurous activities in High Ashurst last week, while Year 4 (and I!) enjoyed a Roman experience down in Hooke Court, Dorset. Both trips gave the children wonderful opportunities to expand their horizons and to challenge themselves to take a risk and go out of their comfort zone. It was a privilege to be able to accompany them – we can say that now that we've recovered and had some sleep! I know that the feedback from instructors at both venues was that our children are exceptionally attentive, inquisitive and well-behaved! "A delight to teach!" was just one of many comments on their behaviour. Well done to all our Y4 and Y5 children on being a real credit to the school, themselves and their families. Photos from both trips are on the website, if you haven't already seen them!

Sadly this year's Hooke Court trip will be the last for two of our Year 4 staff. Mrs Mae Pells, who has led the Y4 trip for a number of years, will be retiring at Easter, while Y4 HLTA Mrs Jo McLeod is heading off to pastures new. She will still be working in a school, but returning to the office environment which was her previous career. Both Mrs Pells and Mrs McLeod will be sadly missed. We are grateful for all they have done at Cardinal Newman and wish them well as they begin a new chapter in their lives.

Our Lenten preparations continued last Friday with our Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the hall for the 24 Hours for the Lord. Thank you to all the parents who came and supported this initiative and well done to all the children who engaged with a very new experience so confidently. We hope to repeat the experience next year.

Throughout Lent, the classes have been meditating on the Stations of the Cross in the hall – one class per day at the end of the school day. There are still 4 classes to complete this activity, but as in previous years, it has been very positive so far, developing the children's understanding of the Way of the Cross and enabling them to prepare spiritually for Easter. On Wednesday next week, the Prayer Council will present the Stations of the Cross for Parents, so please do come along to join us at 2:45pm in the hall. We will be finished in time for the end of the school day. Next

Friday there will also be Lenten Lunch for Y5 and Y6 – a letter is coming out to parents today with more details.

As you know, next week will be Science Week at Cardinal Newman. Our Science Leader, Mrs Hanlon, has been very busy organising lots of exciting opportunities for the children to engage in practical science throughout the week. We are blessed with many kind parents and friends of the school who are coming in to inspire the children to be enthusiastic about Science. Liquid nitrogen demonstrations, a McLaren car, a mobile planetarium and even a plastic surgeon are among the exciting visitors we are expecting! It should be a fantastic week. Keep an eye on the website for photo updates as the week progresses.

All best wishes

**FATHER JOHN RIP**

Members of our school choir represented Cardinal Newman School at the funeral of Father John today. Their singing of “He will raise you up on eagle’s wings” uplifted the whole congregation after Communion. Many of the congregation commented on their lovely contribution and their immaculate behaviour. Father John would have been very pleased. May he rest in peace.

**SCHOOL UNIFORM AT ALLEYCATZ**

School uniform will be available from the AlleyCatz shop in Hersham from Monday 19 March. Please see the attached sheet for more information. Book bags and ties are still available from the school office.

**VACANCY FOR TEACHING ASSISTANT**

Please look on our website for more information about this position, starting in April. The closing date for applications is Friday 23 March.

**WOW—HEALTHY TRAVEL TO SCHOOL**

Children had a special assembly on Thursday to remind them of the WOW travel to school challenge. From next week the PhysiFUN crew will be making a note of how children are coming to school each day. Walking, parking and striding, cycling, scooting to school once a week for a month earns a WOW badge.

**ABSENCE AFTER SICKNESS/MEDICATION IN SCHOOL**

A reminder to parents that if a child is sick they **must stay off school for 48 hours**. This helps to prevent the spread of any bugs to other children.

We are only able to give **medicines** which are **prescribed by a doctor to be given 4 times a day**. The medicine must be given to the school office together with a completed Medication Request Form. A spoon should also be provided if needed.

We are continuing to remind children to wash their hands regularly to prevent the spread of coughs, colds, sore throats etc and again hope that you can support this at home as well. Thank you.

**SPRING/SUMMER LUNCH MENU**

Children will be bringing home the school lunch menu for next term.

Next week we will be taking bookings for summer term school lunches. Please remember to let us know if your child is changing to or from packed lunch, part time lunch (KS2 only) or full time lunch.

If your child is in KS2 please make sure you have paid any outstanding balance—we can only book lunches after Easter once payment for this term is made. Thank you.

**LENTEN LUNCH**

Children in Years 5 and 6 are invited to take part in our Lenten Lunch next week to raise money for CAFOD, please see the letter coming home today.

**YEAR 2 AT KEW** Photos of Year 2’s day at Kew Gardens will be on the website next week.

**SPORT THIS WEEK** The **Year 4 Boys’ Football team** reached the semi-finals of the tournament at the Xcel Sports Hub on Tuesday. A report and team photo are on the website.

On Thursday we hosted a **Years 5 and 6 Girls’ Football Festival**.

Our **Year 5 and 6 Netball teams** played at St Ann’s Heath on Tuesday and unfortunately lost both matches; however, on Thursday our Year 6 team played against Ashley and won 4-3—well done!

**PA NEWS** Race Night tickets for next Saturday, 23 March, are still available via Classlist.