

ISSUE

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Newsletter

Dear Parents

Well, we made it to Friday! It has been another very busy, if slightly disrupted, week but we are delighted to have made it through the snow relatively unscathed! We were fortunate to be able to keep the school open on Tuesday after we lost heating and lighting at lunchtime, but, by Wednesday, the school was too cold to be able to open safely in these freezing conditions. Many of the children have told me what fun they had playing in the snow on Wednesday though, so I gather that lots of families made the most of the closure day!

As you will see from our website, the children have been making the most of the snow in school this week too! On Thursday we were one of the few schools open locally. We had tremendous fun on the field on Thursday morning, building snowmen and throwing snowballs! It is great that all of our wonderful staff have been able to come in despite the snow and Mr Philp, assisted by Mr Flower, has done a great job of keeping our paths and roadways clear. Thank you to all the families who have struggled through the snow with sledges, boots and babies to ensure the children made it to school!

Book Week has gone ahead as planned this week, with wonderful performances from the children in our Drama assembly, when books from Bear Hunt to The Bad-Tempered Ladybird were brought to life by the children. Children have enjoyed Buddy Reading, as well as "The Writing on the Wall" production and some wonderful Shakespeare workshops (funded by the PA). We have one more day's worth of Shakespeare workshops to fit in (postponed from Wednesday) so that all the children in the school will have participated in a Shakespeare play this year! Very impressive! Finally, thank you for your support with our **World Book Day celebration** today (Friday) - the children all looked great and thoroughly enjoyed "spotting" the staff team dressed as Where's Wally! It is a great way to bring books to life for our children and research continues to show the importance of reading regularly at home to improve children's life chances, not only at 10 but also at 16 and into adulthood.

Next week, we have two year groups on residential trips: Year 5 (and Mr Flower) are in **High Ashurst** from Monday to Wednesday to enjoy some outdoor adventurous activities, while Year 4 (and Mrs Burnham) will be heading down to Dorset for the **Hooke Court** trip from Wednesday to Friday. Residential trips are an important part of developing children's independence and social development and the children are looking forward to lots of new fun experiences next week. Let's hope the snow has cleared by then!

Also next week, **on Friday, the 24 Hours for the Lord initiative will be taking place in school between 1:30 and 3:30pm**. Parents are warmly invited to join us for any part of the afternoon. The schedule, published last week, is also on the school website.

Finally congratulations to our Year 4 Choir who were really fabulous when they represented Cardinal Newman School at the **Elmbridge Schools Choir Festival** last Friday night. They worked together to perform brilliantly, really allowing their confidence and fun-loving characters to shine through! Thank you to staff who prepared and accompanied them and to all the Y4 parents who supported the performance.

All best wishes, Catherine Burnham

ASSEMBLIES NEXT WEEK Parents are invited to assemblies next week:

Orange Class on Wednesday 7 March at 9.05am (please note slightly later start time)

Topaz Class on Thursday 8 March at 9.00am

NEW DIARY DATE Monday 12 March—Reception and Year 6 photographs

BOOK CLUB ONLINE ORDERS are open until next Friday, see the link on our website.

SCHOOL UNIFORM REMINDER

AlleyCatz in Hersham will be selling our uniform from **Monday 19 March**. The last day to order and pay for uniform directly from the school is next **Wednesday 7 March**.

Book bags and ties will continue to be available from the school office.

WOW—TRAVEL TO SCHOOL CHALLENGE

We're sorry that we weren't able to launch our challenge on Wednesday due to the school closure. However, we will be starting next week and Mrs Cox-Wilson will be leaving Hersham Station Car Park at 8.15am on Thursday 8 March. Parents and children are very welcome to join her and walk to school.

PARENT GOVERNORS ELECTIONS

Voting closed at 12 noon today. Results will be announced next week.

iROCK ASSEMBLY

Children enjoyed a demonstration from iRock, a company that provides rock band music lessons, at assembly on Tuesday. Letters have been sent home this week, if you are interested in your child having lessons please contact iRock directly. You can find out more at www.irockschool.com/parents or follow the link on our website, where you can also find some photos.

ADMISSIONS 2019-2020 The determined Admissions Policy and Supplementary Information Form for 2019-2020 are now available on the website.

SPORTS EVENTS

Our Years 5 and 6 girls football team reached the final of the ERPSSA Football Festival at Cleves on 22 February.

Year 3 girls enjoyed a great day at the Futsal Roadshow, also at Cleves, on 23 February.

Unfortunately football, netball and cross country fixtures were cancelled this week.

WEBSITE PHOTOS—Photos of snow day, Year 4 choir, Book Week, iRock assembly are all on the website.

ST ERCONWALD'S SINGERS are leading the Mass on Sunday 4 March at 9.15am. If your child would like to take part, please join them before Mass.

BOXES OF TISSUES Donations of tissues for children to use during the day would be very welcome. Thank you.

PA NEWS

The PA are delighted to announce that **RACE NIGHT** will return this year on 24 March.

This is a fun packed evening for the whole family to enjoy all the excitement of a day at the races – bet on a horse, cheer it on during the race and celebrate your victory by collecting your winnings! **Tickets are available to buy through Classlist**. Please see attached flyer.

There is a **Year 2 Cake Sale next Friday** in the playground after school.