

ISSUE
25

23
Mar
2018



Newsletter

At the end of another very busy week, it is a good opportunity to reflect on our children's excellent learning across the school. During a parent tour on Thursday, I reflected that children's opportunities for active independent learning are increasing and our wonderful teachers are making learning fun and real for the children, while still achieving the necessary curriculum coverage. Parents on the tour were impressed that Reception children could explain to them the meaning and significance of the school logo on their jumper ("It means Jesus is the Light of the World." "It is close to our heart because we are proud to be at Cardinal Newman School." "We have to try to be like Jesus.") and I was relieved that when I (somewhat bravely!) asked the children if the parents should send their children to Cardinal Newman School, they responded unanimously with a resounding "Yes!" Thank goodness for that endorsement!

During **Science Week**, there have been many examples of active learning and of the children's excellent powers of reasoning and enquiry. We have had visitors in school from GSK, McLaren, Air Products and the NHS, as well as many exciting opportunities for the children in class. One of our visitors wrote of his visit that he was, "very inspired and energised by the enthusiasm and interest of the children. They really asked some fantastic and very insightful and probing questions. They are a credit to the school and to you, the teachers." Our Governor Learning Walk for Science on Wednesday morning also noted that the children were showing active questioning skills and were very engaged with their learning. It is always good to have external endorsement of the quality of the hard work of our staff and children.

Next week is **Holy Week** and the school will have Holy Week assemblies every afternoon to prepare for Easter. As you know, we have been reflecting on the Stations of the Cross through Lent and the Prayer Council presented a simple Stations of the Cross liturgy for parents last week. Unfortunately, there is not space in the hall for parents to join us for the Holy Week assemblies, but do ask your children to tell you about them. On Monday, YR and Y1 will be presenting the events of Palm Sunday, on Tuesday Y2 and Y3 will be leading a liturgy on the Last Supper and on Wednesday Y5 will be leading the Stations of the Cross for the whole school. On Thursday morning, we will look forward to the events of Easter night and Easter Sunday morning, to prepare the children for what they will see in church over Easter weekend.

As you know we are expecting our scheduled monitoring visit for RE next week on Wednesday. There will be no "formal result/grading" from this visit, as it is an interim visit – the next RE grading will be in two to three years. Thank you to those who have filled in the questionnaires in readiness for Wednesday. The results were overwhelmingly positive with parents expressing that they are happy with their children's learning in RE and with the Catholic ethos of the school. Going forward, we would like to improve communication with parents around children's learning in RE and we will be looking at different ways of doing that.

All best wishes

Catherine Burnham

SCHOOL CAR PARK

A number of parents are parking in the school car park when collecting from after school clubs or dropping or picking up from Whizz Kids. Please can we remind you that **no-one should park in the car park unless they are a member of staff or have permission to do so.** Thank you.

CLUB NEWS

The only clubs running before or after school next week are:

Surrey Football Coaching (Monday), Italian Club (Tuesday), Gymnastics (Wednesday and Thursday), Tennis (Wednesday), Judo (Thursday at 2.00pm). Irish Dancing (Monday) which was due to run has been cancelled. A list of clubs for next term will be sent home next week.

Application forms for Surrey Football (now open to Reception), KS2 golf, Pyjama Drama, Gymnastics and French Club are on the website.

BOOK CLUB Thank you to everyone who ordered through our Book Club—you raised £95 in books for the school.

MISSIO LENTEN COLLECTION Don't forget about your MISSIO boxes. Children may make donations during Lent and return the box to school at the beginning of next term.

ACHIEVEMENT BOARD

We're keen to keep our Achievement Board up to date so if your child has achieved something out of school you would like to celebrate please send in a photo with a short description. Thank you.

CHARITY ABSEIL IN AID OF PRINCESS ALICE HOSPICE

We wish Mrs Hanlon well tomorrow as she abseils from the top of the Spinnaker Tower in Portsmouth to raise money for Princess Alice Hospice. Donations can be made either online at justgiving.com (search for Grachina Hanlon) or there is a charity box outside the school office. Thank you.



PARISH EASTER MASS TIMES

Easter Mass times at St Erconwald's and All Saints are on our website. St Erconwald's The Way of the Cross service on Good Friday at noon is mainly for children and is very interactive—some children will be able to dress up as some of the Passion characters, others will be able to read as they follow the journey that Jesus made on Good Friday.

PA NEWS

Uniform Sale and Reception cake sale are taking place after school today.

Race Night tickets are sold out so entry by ticket only tomorrow - thank you for your support.

After two years of co-ordinating the PA, the Committee will be stepping down at the end of the summer term. If anyone is interested in taking over PA Co-ordinator, treasurer or secretary or please contact: pa@cardinalnewmanschool.co.uk.