

ISSUE

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Newsletter

Dear Parents

The second half of the Spring Term is well underway. The children returned from half-term refreshed and ready to learn, so they have already packed in a tremendous amount of outstanding learning in this first week back. We are looking forward to an **exciting half-term**, including two residential trips (Y4 and Y5), two themed weeks (Book Week and Science Week), as well as celebrating Holy Week leading up to Easter. It is going to be a busy one! On Wednesday, we marked the start of Lent with a **Lenten Service for Key Stage 1 and for Key Stage 2**. This was open to parents for the first time and we were delighted that some parents were able to join us. The Prayer Councillors from Y5 and Y6 were trained by Fr Bill to administer the ashes and they did an excellent job of it, making a cross on the forehead and saying "Remember God loves you". When asked later what the cross on her forehead was, one of the Y1 children replied "Jesus' love." How lovely!

We have shared with the children some of the ways we will be preparing for Easter in school. These include the **Lenten Lunch** (Y5 and 6 only), **Sacrament of Reconciliation** (Y4 only) and **Stations of the Cross** (all year groups). More details will be sent to the relevant year groups in due course. On Friday 9th March, we will be joining the international "**24 Hours for the Lord**" initiative, which this year has the theme "With you is forgiveness". We are truly fortunate that Fr Bill is giving us all an opportunity to pray in front of the Blessed Sacrament in our school. **Parents are warmly invited to join us as we introduce the children to Eucharistic Adoration. The timings for each year group are as follows: 1:30 – 2pm – YR and Y1; 2 – 2:30pm – Y2 and Y3; 2:30 – 3pm – Y5; 3 – 3:30pm – Y6.** Y4 will be returning from Hooke Court and therefore not able to participate this year.

Before Christmas, we launched the "**Building Learning Power**" project and the children invented characters to demonstrate these, which are on our website and in the classrooms. From this week, we will be tying these in with our Celebration Assemblies. Based on our school mission statement ("a community of learners, believers and friends uniquely created and loved by God") the awards now have a "**Learners**", "**Believers**" or "**Friends**" theme. The "Learners" awards celebrate our "Building Learning Power" skills of Resilience, Resourcefulness, Reciprocity, Risk-taking and Reflection. "Believers" celebrate children who have done outstanding work in RE or who have shown our Gospel values in their behaviour or thinking, while "Friends" celebrates children for their social and emotional skills, contributing to making our community a happy place to be. Winners will be celebrated by having their name on our "**Learners, Believers and Friends**" board, as well as in the newsletter. Please remember our "**Achievements**" board also celebrates children's learning outside of school and we would love to receive photos/certificates to display there too.

With best wishes, Catherine Burnham

Learning Power: Resilience

Assembly theme: Lent - "Let your hearts be broken not your garments torn."

ST DAVID'S DAY—THURSDAY 1 MARCH Children may wear their Guiding, Scouting or St John Ambulance uniforms to celebrate St David's Day on Thursday.

SCHOOL UNIFORM A reminder that AlleyCatz will be selling our school uniform from **Monday 19 March**. The last day to place an order via the school is **Wednesday 7 March**. All payments must be made by this date as well. Thank you.

BOOK WEEK—26 FEBRUARY TO 2 MARCH

We hope the children are looking forward to Book Week! Please remember

- Children in Years 1 to 6 should bring in their Reading Challenge into school

- On **Friday 2 March children are encouraged to dress up** as their favourite book character

- We have a special online **Book Club**— just follow the link on our website. Orders and payment can only be made online and not via the school. All orders earn the school 25% commission in books. Thank you.

CLUB NEWS Please note that there is no All Saints + St Erconwald Singers after school next Wednesday, 28 February.

RECEPTION LITERACY SACKS We have a number of items missing from our literacy sacks, please can Reception families check at home. Thank you.

PARENT GOVERNORS ELECTION The deadline to return your vote is noon on Friday 2 March. If you need a ballot paper please ask at the school office.

PARKING COMPLAINT We have had a complaint from a neighbour in Molesey Road that parents are parking across the garages along the entrance road to the Coronation Recreation Ground car park. These garages are private and in use during the day, so please do not park there otherwise residents cannot access them. Thank you.

VISIT FROM CAFOD On Tuesday a representative from CAFOD gave a whole school assembly and Years 1 and 4 had class workshops. These were based on Laudate Si, a letter from the Pope in 2015 which was devoted to caring for God's creation and calling for everyone to act to prevent problems such as climate change harming the world's poorest communities. You can follow the link on our website for more information about CAFOD's work.

24 HOURS FOR THE LORD Please look on our website for information about events at local parishes, including All Saints.

ALL SAINTS ST PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION—FRIDAY 16 MARCH

Families are invited to the St Patrick's Day celebration at All Saints Church, including a kids disco. Please look on our website for more information.

WHITELEY VILLAGE EASTER FARM FESTIVAL—SATURDAY 31 MARCH

The festival includes an Easter Egg Hunt, Mobile Mini Farm, Horse and Cart Rides, Easter Crafts, Bouncy Castle and Tractor Obstacle Race. Please look on our website for ticket information.

PA NEWS Many thanks to Year 1 for organising a great Valentine's Disco and helping to raise £380 for the school.

There is a **Year 5 cake sale today after school**.