

ISSUE

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Newsletter

First of all, huge thanks to all the families who turned out for the whole school Mass and picnic last Sunday. We were blessed with good weather and it was a really wonderful relaxed occasion with around 350 of us celebrating Mass in the open air. It was lovely to have parishioners and parents doing the readings, while Y4 led the prayers beautifully. Fr Richard commissioned our new Prayer Councillors and we are looking forward to their great work for our school. Fr Richard and Fr Bill joined us for a picnic after the Mass and we enjoyed a relaxed afternoon together. It was very successful “bringing Church to school” as one of the children said to me and we will hope to repeat the experience on another (sunny!) occasion.

Thank you also to the parents who attended our first Parent Mediation Prayer Group this morning. It was lovely to see so many there in what will become our new “Chapel” space in school. I hope the group will be a great addition to the spiritual life of our families. Ms Moore has asked me to pass on the following information: *The prayer group is intended as a quiet time for us to take out of our busy schedules and all are very welcome. It is parent-led so if anyone has ideas for the format of the session or special requests, or indeed would like to lead a session, please contact melissa_moore118@hotmail.com.*

This week has seen many firsts – our Reception children’s first full week in school, our first Class Mass in Opal Class (Y4) and our first Mission Week in Garnet Class (Y6). As you will have noticed on the playground this evening, Garnet Class Mission Week focussed on The Royal Marsden Hospital and Aidan shared his experiences there very eloquently, giving the class, and indeed the whole of Key Stage Two, staff and children, a clear explanation and a great deal of food for thought. The class had focussed their Mission Week reflection time on Cardinal John Henry Newman’s prayer “I have my mission” and they shared their reflections on what that prayer means for them in their everyday life in Year 6. This evening, Garnet Class has conducted a Bring and Buy Sale with great enthusiasm, to raise money for the Royal Marsden Hospital which treated Aidan so successfully.

I have had the joy of welcoming lots of new faces to receive “Headteacher’s Awards” this week, for the excellent work the children have been doing in class. The children’s achievements ranged from incredible descriptive writing in Key Stage 2 to working with multi-link in maths in Key Stage 1 and including super listening skills and even a fabulous dragonfly creation for Arts Award. It is very rewarding to see the children’s great personal achievements – and of course their joy at receiving a sticker! Well done to all of them! Keep up the good work!

Finally, I think it is worth mentioning that I have met with lots of fellow Headteachers over the past couple of weeks and heard many of their concerns around the difficult staffing and recruitment situation locally. It is easy for us to be complacent about being fully staffed with such wonderful teachers and support staff, but we should also recognise how difficult it is for some other local schools and how fortunate we are here at Cardinal Newman. We are truly blessed with a highly professional staff of skilled teachers and support staff who know our children well and who work very many additional hours to ensure the very best provision for our children and families. I am in the process of meeting with each of them to thank them personally for the service they give here and I know you will continue to support them and the school in working together to achieve the very best for all of our children.

All best wishes, Catherine Burnham



AMETHYST CLASS ASSEMBLY—FRIDAY 28 SEPTEMBER

Amethyst Class parents are invited to their assembly next Friday at 9am.

CLUBS NEWS Please see separate email sent today with an updated school-run clubs list—please note Table Tennis Club is now running on Mondays after school.

If you are collecting from the playground after a club, the playground gate may be closed but will not be locked—please just push to open and then close it after you. Thank you.

CHILD ABSENCE Just a reminder that if your child will be absent for the day please leave a message on the telephone absence line or email the school office. Please do this by **9.30am** so the morning registers can be finalised. Please let the office know even if you have told your child's teacher. Thank you.

If your child has been or sick or has had diarrhoea, they must stay off school for 48 hours after the last episode.

NASAL FLU IMMUNISATION FOR RECEPTION TO YEAR 5

Forms have been sent home this week for the immunisation taking place on 27 November. Please return the completed Consent Form as soon as possible. Thank you.

PLAYWORKER VACANCY We have a vacancy for a playworker in the Whizz Kids After School Club. Please look on our website for more information and how to apply.

DOGS Please can we ask again that dogs are kept well away from the entrance to the playground as some children can get very anxious. Thank you.

BICYCLE HELMETS It's great that so many children now cycle to school. Please can we remind parents that helmets should be worn at all times while children are on their bike. Thank you.

PE KIT Children should have their PE kit in school every day. A reminder that **earrings cannot be worn during PE lessons**. If children remove them themselves at school they must bring a bag to put them in to keep them safe. Thank you.

BOCCIA WEEKLY SESSIONS AT XCEL CENTRE , WALTON –Please see flyer for information.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2019 AT ALL SAINTS Enrolment packs are now available from the church porch, please return as soon as possible. The preparation for candidates and parents starts on Sunday 21 October, with Mass at 6pm followed by a meeting in the hall.

ACHIEVEMENTS BOARD A reminder that if you would like to send something to be pinned on this year's board, please bring to the office or send by email. Thank you.

WALTON MODEL RAILWAY EXHIBITION returns to All Saints Church Hall on **Saturday 29 September, 10 am to 5pm**. There will be more than 20 exhibitors with amazing layouts and moving trains. Refreshments available. Tickets: Adults £5, Children £3, Seniors £4, Family (2 adults, 2 children) £12. Go to www.waltonmodelrailwayexhibition.co.uk for more details, everyone welcome to go along and enjoy the trains

TALENT SHOW: Some Year 10 students from Salesian School are raising funds for a Salesian school in Slovakia by holding a talent show on **14 October, 2-5pm at All Saints Church Hall**. They are looking for children (and adults) to take part, all are welcome – any age, any talent, individuals or groups. If you are interested in performing, please email allsaintsgottalent@mail.com. Everyone welcome, there will also be refreshments!

PA NEWS The **PA Welcome Party for new parents is next Thursday, 27 September**, at 7.30pm in the school hall—please see attached invitation.

The Nearly New Uniform Sale and Year 6 Cake Sale take place next Friday, 28 September, in the playground after school.