

ISSUE
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Newsletter

It has been a week of two parts as we had the Xavier INSET day on Wednesday! This gave teaching staff the opportunity to work with staff from the other primary schools in the academy trust, moderating standards in writing and sharing best practice in SEND provision. It was a useful day for teachers and, judging by the children's accounts, it was a good opportunity for families to enjoy some time together without the crowds that the school holidays bring!

On Monday, some children from Years 4 and 5 had the opportunity to take part in an **"Able Writers" workshop at St George's College in Weybridge**. In a similar way to the workshops we host at Cardinal Newman, this gave the children the chance to work with pupils from other local schools. They heard about how an author researches their books through real life experiences – this particular author had climbed volcanoes and stroked gorillas! – and they were encouraged to use all their senses to write descriptively. These are lessons which they will be able to apply to their writing in school and beyond.

In Key Stage 2 this week, the children have heard about the opportunities available to take part in the **Surrey Youth Games**. This is held in June each year but training takes place in the summer term in a variety of locations around Elmbridge. It is a good opportunity for children from Y2 to Y6 (and beyond!) to try out sports for the first time and to compete for their local area. Further information is available online: <https://www.elmbridge.gov.uk/sports-and-health/surrey-youth-games/> This week we have a number of children representing the school for the first time in the Tag Rugby competition today - we hope they will enjoy representing Cardinal Newman!

Our preparation for Easter is continuing in school, with many fundraising initiatives led by the children. Today children in Y5 and Y6, along with many of the school staff, have given up their school lunch and had soup and a roll, in solidarity with those around the world who don't have so much to eat. It is a good way for the children to develop their awareness of world development issues and to give up something which they can notice. The money raised will go towards the **CAFOD Family Fast Day Appeal**. Younger children might not miss a meal, but may be able to miss a sweet treat and donate that money to CAFOD instead?

Thank you to those families who have been supporting the prayer group's Stations of the Cross initiative in the playground. This will continue on Wednesdays and Fridays for the coming weeks of Lent – do encourage your children to come and light a candle and take a moment of the day to remember the journey Jesus made for us. I will leave you with a final thought about Lent – a prayer which was shared during our INSET staff reflection:

Lord, during Lent help us to:

Fast from criticism and feast on praise.

Fast from self-pity and feast on joy.

Fast from ill-temper and feast on peace.

Fast from resentment and feast on contentment.

Fast from jealousy and feast on love.

Fast from pride and feast on humility.

Fast from selfishness and feast on service.

Fast from fear and feast on faith.

With best wishes, Catherine Burnham

RUBY CLASS ASSEMBLY—FRIDAY 22 MARCH

Ruby Class parents are invited to their assembly at 9.00am.

ST PATRICK'S DAY—SCOUTING, GUIDING, ST JOHN AMBULANCE UNIFORMS

We are marking St Patrick's Day on Monday 18 March—children may wear their Scouting , Guiding or St John Ambulance uniforms.

MISSIO DANCE-ATHON—FRIDAY 22 MARCH

Next Friday children will be taking part in a dance-athon to raise money for MISSIO, the Pope's official charity for overseas mission. Each year group will dance for a 20 minute session in the hall. **Please make sure everyone has their PE kit in school for this event.**

We are asking for a £1 donation.

CLUB NEWS

Due to matches, **Netball Club is cancelled next Thursday, 21 March.**

Our new **Engineering Club** will be continuing next term and will include a new 30 minute lunchtime session for children in Years 1 and 2—please see attached flyer for more information.

SCHOOL NURSE DROP IN SESSIONS—22 MARCH, 1 AND 29 APRIL

Our school nurse will be here on the above dates between 9.30am and 12.30pm.

Please contact the office if you would like to make an appointment.

WHIZZ KIDS COOKIE AND CAKE SALE—THURSDAY 21 MARCH

Whizz Kids will be raising funds for their outside equipment with a sale in the playground after school next Thursday. Everyone welcome—please come along.

SURREY YOUTH GAMES

Children in Year 2 and upwards attended a Surrey Youth Games assembly this week. It is the largest multi-sport youth event in the county. It takes place on 15 and 16 June in Guildford, following up to 8 weeks' free training. Children took home an information post-card and you can find out more by following the link on our website.

MARIE CURE FUNDRAISER

Thank you to everyone who supported Aela, Dorothy and Abi at their craft and cake stall last Friday. They raised an amazing £105.00.

EASTER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

Flyers for Camp England sports clubs are in book bags today. Other Easter activity information is on our website.

SEA LIFE, LONDON There are 50% discount vouchers outside the school office, please take one.

