

ISSUE

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# Newsletter

Dear Parents

Another busy week in the life of our school! Year 6 started the week with a trip to Painshill Park and their learning this week has focussed on their cross-curricular topic of "Alive." We are blessed with a very joined-up approach to curriculum planning at Cardinal Newman, so the children can make links confidently between their class texts, their outdoor learning and their learning in Maths, Science and foundation subjects.

Many of Year 5 and Year 6 have been out and about this week looking at where they may go on to for secondary school. It is an exciting time for them and their families and we know that wherever they decide to go on to, they will be well prepared for the learning journey ahead of them.

Meanwhile the youngest members of our school family experienced their first school assembly on Wednesday. Many of their parents and grandparents attended a short **"Welcome Assembly"** where the children of Red and Orange Classes were welcomed into the school by the older children. There were lots of smiley faces, while tears came only from the parents' side of the room! We look forward to welcoming our Reception children into our whole school collective worship from Monday.

As you know, our school "feast day" – **the feast of Blessed John Henry Newman** – is celebrated on Tuesday 9 October. The 9th October is the day when John Henry Newman was officially received into the Catholic Church by Blessed Dominic Barberi (having previously been an Anglican clergyman). This year, Fr Bill is celebrating Mass for the feast day on the afternoon before (Monday 8th at 2pm) – this is the vigil Mass (rather like a Saturday evening vigil Mass for a Sunday) and the whole school will be participating in the Mass together. Sadly we are unable to invite parents to attend on this occasion as there is not space in the school hall, but we hope you will be with us in spirit and in prayer. The children are invited to wear their house colours on Tuesday 9th and to bring a donation of £1 towards a new school banner.

Looking ahead to November, we are beginning to plan a very exciting **"Peace Project"** to commemorate the signing of the Armistice agreement in November 1918. We hope to give every child the opportunity to participate in a "tile-painting" workshop to create a tile which will go together with tiles from children across the different classes to create a permanent display at the front of the school. There will be more details forthcoming as the project takes shape. As you probably know, there were 117 young men from Hersham who lost their lives in the WW1 and we are thinking about ways we might commemorate them specifically. It would be great to hear about any personal connections with the families of these individuals – do contact the school office if one of them is in some way related to you – or if you have any other connections we might share with the children.

On Friday, our support staff will be working with others from the Xavier Catholic Education Trust (XCET) to complete training on Effective Teaching and Learning, while teaching staff will be working on Assessment and on Foundation Subject knowledge with their fellow XCET teachers. It is a useful opportunity for staff to network and share best practice, in order to support the best learning outcomes for our children. I hope some of you might be able to take the opportunity of the INSET "long weekend" to enjoy some additional family time together.

Finally just an update on "the Galleon" – it is still coming but installation has been delayed by our suppliers. We hope the work will start by the end of next week, so watch this space!

All best wishes for a great weekend, Catherine Burnham

## **INSET DAY TOMORROW—FRIDAY 5 OCTOBER**

A reminder that the school is closed to children tomorrow for staff training.

## **IMPORTANT DATES NEXT WEEK**

**Monday 8 October**—children to bring to school their CAFOD Family Fast Envelopes

**Walton + Hersham Foodbank donations** welcome, to be in school by Thursday 11th

**Tuesday 9 October—Cardinal Newman Feast Day Mufti Day:** children to wear their own clothes in house colours—St Lucy (Yellow), St John (Green), St Clare (Blue), St Stephen (Red)

**Thursday 11 October**—KS2 Harvest Liturgy 9am (parents welcome)

**Friday 12 October**—Yellow Class Assembly and Reception/KS1 Liturgy (parents welcome)

**BOOK FAIR—MONDAY 8 TO WEDNESDAY 10 OCTOBER** Everyone is welcome to our Book Fair next week. Please come along after school to the Year 2 classrooms. The school earns 50% commission for every book sold and last year we earned over £500.

**UPCOMING SCHOOL LITERACY EVENTS** A letter about forthcoming school literacy events is being sent with this newsletter. Please make a note of this year's Reading Challenge for Years 1 to 6, the House Spelling Competition on 23 November for Years 2 to 6 and our Book Week in March.

**PLAYWORKER VACANCY** Our Whizz Kids After School Club has a vacancy for a Playworker, to start as soon as possible. Please look on our website for more information and how to apply.

**DOGS IN SCHOOL** Dogs are not allowed on school grounds. Our Chair of Governors spoke to a parent this week about leaving their dog loosely tied and unattended just inside the main school gates while she went to the playground to collect her child. Please can we remind all parents that, for safety reasons, pets are not allowed on school property without prior agreement of the Headteacher, Mrs Burnham.

Equally, we ask that animals are not tied by the playground gate or along the playground fence outside the school as we have many children who are understandably nervous about unknown dogs and who may well choose to step into the road rather than walk close to them. The pavement is narrow and busy at school pick up and drop off times, so it is a serious safety issue if we also have dogs tied there. Many thanks for your understanding.

**GRANDAD WINGWALKING** A big thank you (and congratulations!) to our Cardinal Newman grandad who safely completed his wingwalking last Saturday in aid of our school. If you would still like to support him, the option will be available on your Scipay account until next Friday.

**ST ERCONWALD'S NIGHT OF LIGHT PARTY—31 OCTOBER** Families are invited to the St Erconwald's Night of Light party to celebrate All Saints Day on 31 October at 5pm until 6.30pm! Come dressed up as a Saint (e.g. Mary or St. George), a figure from the Old Testament or simply wear bright colours. There will be games and lots of yummy treats, followed by 15 minutes' prayer in the church to finish off. Please find more information on the attached flyer.

**PA CHRISTMAS CARDS** These will be collected on Monday 8 October. Please return your order form along with the payment in an envelope marked Tina O'Kelly/PA Christmas Cards. Don't forget your child's design must be done on the reverse of the design form (NOT a separate sheet). If you have completed a design or intend doing one please contact Tina via Classlist or at tina@okelly.net to ensure she has your design by Monday. Thank you.

**FIREWORKS** Attached is a flyer for **Fireworks at Esher Rugby Club on Friday 2 November**. Please use the web address on the flyer to order tickets (or see the link on our website) to earn 20% commission for the PA. Thank you.

**SALESIAN TALENT SHOW—14 OCTOBER** A reminder of this fundraiser for a Salesian school in Slovakia. Children and adults are very welcome to take part or just enjoy the show with tea and cakes. Please email allsaintsgottalent@gmail.com for more information.