

ISSUE

1

7

Sep
2018



Newsletter

Welcome back! It has been great to see the children looking so smart and ready to learn as they return to school. It is clear they have thoroughly enjoyed their time off school, spending time with their families and friends, having new experiences and certainly growing up a lot over the last six weeks! It was also heartening to hear the children explain (in our first whole school collective worship) why we're here back at school for a new year: "to learn new things", "to make friends" and "to learn about and pray to God" were just some of the answers. I was happy to have this confirmation that the children really do feel that we are a "community of Learners, Believers and Friends" and we are looking forward to a fantastic new school year together.

To celebrate the beginning of the new school year and to ask God's blessing on our school, our staff, our pupils and our whole community, there will be a Mass for the whole community on Sunday 16th September at 12:30pm, followed by a picnic in the school grounds. The whole school is warmly invited for this special outdoor Mass and do please feel free to bring extended family members if you would like to. The Mass will be outdoors (weather permitting) so we do not have the usual space constraints. A letter with further details will be coming out to you from Mrs Emma Sharp, our new RE Leader.

We are delighted with the work done at school over the summer and I am sure you will agree that the new gates and new Whizz Kids facilities are fantastic. Reception and Year 1 are thrilled with the new extended outdoor area – to make the space was phase one of the project and we certainly have plenty of space now! A new playframe for the adventure playground will be completed in October and this has been funded by the PA. Their focus this year will be to raise money for the development of the new outdoor area with a mud kitchen, water play, climbing and sports equipment on the wish list.

Partners in Learning will take place on Thursday next week (13th) beginning from 6:00pm. All year groups will have a presentation from their class teachers and there will be opportunities to visit the classrooms and ask the teachers any questions you would like to. I will also be giving a talk to parents about the children's achievements over the last year and our plans for the future. All are most welcome to attend. The timetable for the evening is enclosed with this mailing.

Thank you for your support of the new pick-up and drop-off arrangements. Having changed the order of classrooms, it has been a little bit confusing on the first couple of days, but it seems to be settling well. Just a couple of thoughts going forward:

- Following our experiences this week, we are going to trial Y3 also going through the KS2 "gate" onto the KS2 playground at 8:30am and coming out that way at 3:20pm. We had thought it might be too congested for the children at the top end, but it looks as if it will probably work, so let's try it and see.
- The area around the fence gates has been a little bit congested at home time. Please could KS2 parents stand well back from the gate so that the children can see their parents more easily? We have plenty of space in the playground, so why not agree with your child that you will always stand "by the hopscotch" or "by the snake" or "by the adventure playground" and then they will know where to head for to find you when coming out.
- Next week Reception parents will be going "through the fence" to drop and collect their children. We would be grateful if parents from Y1-Y6 would remain behind the fence (as this week) so as not to crowd our newest starters.

Please extend a big Cardinal Newman welcome to all our new starters, both in YR and higher up the school. You will have seen lots of new faces on the playground this week, both new members of staff and new children. I know you will be very friendly and welcoming, helping them to quickly feel a part of our wonderful school community.

All best wishes for the coming weekend and we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at Partners in Learning on Thursday.

All best wishes, Catherine Burnham

KS2 LUNCHES A reminder that payment for this half term is now due (£74 for full time, £30 for part time). No lunches can be booked if there is an outstanding debt. Please remember to tell the school office in writing if your child is changing to or from packed or full/part time lunches. Thank you.

CLUB NEWS The Clubs page on our website has all the latest letters from clubs for this term, including our new **Chess, Volleyball and Film Clubs**. We are still trying to set up an **Italian Club**—details of how to express interest are also on the Clubs page. We are also still taking bookings for **Homework Club**. Information about other school run clubs is to follow.

NEW SCHOOL GATES We're delighted with our smart new fence and gates. Please note: **Vehicle Gates:** locked 8.15am to 3.30pm. Parents should not park in the staff car park at drop off and pick up from before and after school clubs. If you need to visit during school hours please press the entry button to speak to the office. The first set of gates is for entry only and the second set are exit gates only and will open automatically when you approach them.

Pedestrian Gates: locked 9am to 3.00pm. To gain access during the day please press the entry button and then push the gate once unlocked. Please push the green release button to go out. Before 9am and after 3pm the gate is unlocked but may need a good push!

PLAYWORKER VACANCY We currently have a vacancy for a Playworker in our After School Club starting as soon as possible. Free childcare places available for Whizz Kids staff. The hours are 3.15 or 3.30pm to 6.00pm term time only. Pay from £8.15 per hour. Fixed term contract for one year with the possibility of extension to a permanent contract. Please look on our website for information and application form.

DIARY DATES—an updated list of dates sent in July is being re-sent today.

PARKING Unfortunately we have already had an instance of a parent parking across the driveway of a neighbour in Arch Road preventing him from leaving for work. Please can we remind parents that parking in all roads around our school should be considerate and safe at all times. Please remember parking permits for Hersham station car park are available and there is also parking in Coronation Park Recreation Ground. Thank you.

SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATION INFORMATION has been emailed to Year 6 families. The deadline for Surrey CC schools is 31 October (earlier applications welcomed).

PA 2018-2019—please see separate note sent today about new class reps needed.

BOXES OF TISSUES for classrooms and the office would be very welcome. Thank you.

SUNFLOWER COMPETITION

If you took part in our summer sunflower competition, please send in your photos to office@cardinalnewmanschool.co.uk by Friday 14 September. Thank you.

FIRST COMMUNION AT ST ERCONWALD'S First Communion packs for parents of children, who live within the parish boundaries of St Erconwald's are now available at the back of St Erconwald's church in Esher Avenue. The church is open during the day and packs can be collected at any time. Please return the completed forms by Sunday 30th September. Children in Year 3 or above this September, who have not made their First communion, are eligible.

WALTON ON THAMES HERITAGE DAY—SATURDAY 8 SEPTEMBER

Please follow the link on our website for news about this exciting family event tomorrow.

ELMBRIDGE BOROUGH COUNCIL GOVERNANCE REVIEW We have emailed separately a letter from Elmbridge Borough Council about their Community Governance Review.