

ISSUE

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Newsletter

The theme of the letter this week is definitely thanksgiving! Let's begin with **thanks to the Parents' Association** and the many volunteers who gave up their Friday evening to support the Movie Night fundraising initiative which raised £600. As you know, the PA funds many exciting activities for the children, including the pantomime coming into school next month, and we are working towards Phase 3 of the KS1 playground redevelopment. Please continue to support the work of the PA generously, both in time and money! The service of our PA volunteers directly benefits our children and it is really desirable that the whole community are involved to support this important work.

Thanks are also due to all the parents and staff who attended the **Walton Remembrance Service** last Sunday, where our Cardinal Newman children sang before the start of the service. It was very fitting on the 100th anniversary of the armistice that our children should perform this act of service. We were very proud of them and I have received thanks and congratulations from many quarters, including local vicar Caroline Merrick, who put the service together, and our local MP (but no longer cabinet member!) Dominic Raab. In our collective worship on Monday, we read out the names of the 116 men from Hersham who went to fight and never returned. The names can be seen on the Roll of Honour inside St Peter's church in Hersham. The children had prepared a special song for the occasion, "Keep the home fires burning", and they sang it beautifully before our two minute silence. It was impressive that so many were involved in Remembrance Day events across the local area and the children's understanding of this memorial is very clear. Long may that continue!

This weekend we are praying for good weather and looking forward to the installation of our **Peace Wall marking the 100th anniversary of the armistice**. The children's tiles are all completed and, weather permitting, we hope to have the tiles displayed on the wall by the school office by Monday morning. A few parents still have an outstanding payment for the tile workshop – it would be great if we could please have all contributions in by the time we complete the wall.

This week, we also marked "**Anti-Bullying Week**" with a "Wear Blue" day on Monday and activities in the classrooms to support the children's understanding of how to prevent bullying. The theme of the week is "Choose Respect" and there is a clear focus on choosing to be kind to others – this fits well with our Gospel values and school expectations.

Although bullying is never tolerated at Cardinal Newman, it is good to remind the children what to do if they encounter unacceptable behaviour. We advise them to:

- Tell an adult if someone is bothering them.
- Walk away.
- Ignore undesirable behaviour.

If they witness someone being unkind to someone else, we advise them to:

- Challenge unkind behaviour if they see it towards others.
- Support the victim.
- Tell an adult what they have witnessed.

It would be helpful if you could also reinforce this message at home so that we can work together to make sure that the children always feel safe and happy in school.

Our busy week in school has culminated in **Sapphire Class Mission Week assembly** to parents, where they have shared their prayer and reflection and explained their fundraising work for **Children in Need**. **Coral Class have celebrated their Class Mass this afternoon** and as always, we are grateful to Father Bill for giving children and their families the opportunity to participate in the Mass in such an intimate and prayerful way. Thank you to all who have supported these initiatives – we look forward to many more opportunities for worship and for service as a community as the year progresses.

All best wishes for the weekend

Catherine Burnham

LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT We have a vacancy for a Learning Support Assistant to start in December. Hours per week—30 (part time considered). Deadline for applications is Monday 26 November and interviews will be on Friday 30 November. Please look on the website for more information including job description.

EMERALD CLASS ASSEMBLY—FRIDAY 23 NOVEMBER

Parents in Emerald Class are invited to their assembly next Friday at 9am.

ROAD SAFETY WEEK

We are re-sending the letter about next week's focus on Road Safety with the theme of Bike Smart, helping children to stay safe as pedestrians and cyclists. Please let your child's teacher know if you are able to help.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX COLLECTION DEADLINE

A reminder that the last day to bring these to school is next Tuesday, 20 November, by 9am. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS DATES

We are re-sending the list of Christmas dates.

ELMBRIDGE LITERARY COMPETITION

Congratulations to the following winners in the this year's Elmbridge Literary Competition sponsored by the RC Sherriff Trust:

Age 5-7 Category—Stories (What Goes Bump in the Night)

Highly Commended: Isabelle B (Violet)

Commended: Julia C (Blue) and Rhys J (Blue)

Age 8-11 Category—Poems (Things That Go Bump in the Night)

Highly Commended: Nathan C (Amethyst), Keeva J (Emerald) and Oscar R (Opal)

Commended: Aidan H (Garnet) , Oscar L (Coral) and Oscar W (Sapphire)

Stories

3rd Place: Camilla C (Garnet) The Lady in the Frame

Highly Commended: Martyna B (Garnet) Things That Go Bump in the Night

YEAR 6 ABLE WRITERS WORKSHOP

On Tuesday, Cardinal Newman hosted an Able Writers' Workshop with some of our Y6 children and pupils from six other schools. Our visiting author, Matt Whyman, ran a very enjoyable workshop where pupils were journalists for the day, researching and writing news stories. *"It was a fun day and I enjoyed it a lot. It encouraged me to become a journalist and I would love to read one of the author's books."* (Aidan)

YEAR 4 HOCKEY TEAM—SEMI-FINALISTS

Congratulations to our Year 4 Hockey team who reached the semi-finals of the Quicksticks Tournament at Ashford Hockey Club on Tuesday. They finished second in their group, including a 6-0 win. Please look on the website for the team and scores.

YEARS 5/6 GIRLS' AT ROYAL HOLLOWAY FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

Our Year 5 and 6 girls' footballers took part in the ERPSSA tournament on Thursday. They played 4 matches including a 1-0 win against St James.

PA NEWS

Please see attached sheet for information about the Christmas Fair.