



Cardinal Newman Catholic Primary School

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Dear Parents

Wow! What a very interesting week we have had! After several weeks of planning, the first of our additional children from critical worker and vulnerable families returned to school on Monday. We are delighted that all of the new systems have worked as intended and we are grateful for your lovely feedback, both face to face and via phone or email – thank you! The children who have returned – just over 100 of them, in addition to the 15 or so children who have been in school the whole time – have been incredibly lovely, well-behaved and appreciative of school. Staff too are very positive and happy to have children's voices and laughter around the corridors once again.

Home Learning

We are very mindful that these children only account for a small proportion of our school community. The vast majority of our children are still at home – some are shielding, some are enjoying time with their families and others are very keen indeed to be back in school. We will continue to do our very best to support the learning of all children as best we can. Thank you for supporting each other too – that's what makes our community so special.

Even when we reach our full capacity in the next week or two, we will still have fewer than half of our children in school. Those learning in school and those doing home learning will continue to have the same work set for them. Despite the fact that they are so time-consuming, we are determined to continue the phone calls to home learners, as we know these are appreciated by parents and children alike. Since teachers who are teaching a full week may not have time to call, children in some year groups will have a new member of staff allocated to call them from next week. Don't be surprised to hear a new voice and please be reassured that you can still contact the class teachers via the home learning email if you need to speak to them specifically.

I have been hearing fantastic things about some of the home learning work being submitted by email and especially about the writing pieces produced during the last week or two. We do have rather a long list of Headteacher's Awards this week, but it is great to have so many children to celebrate. Do keep sending in evidence of the great home learning!

Safety in School

Thank you to all returning parents for your engagement with the new systems – you have learnt very quickly and hardly need the staff guidance anymore! It has been great to see – thank you! The systems will be tested further next week by the increasing numbers of pupils, so please do stick with it and maintain the routines we have established so successfully in the first week.

The Risk Assessment is in place to keep all children and staff safe and it is important that we all follow it, even if it is a little slower or less convenient than we would all like. In the interests of our whole community, let's put safety first!

A few reminders:

- **Please don't park on Arch Road** for any reason at all. If driving, use the field drop off area – or park at Coronation Rec and walk.
- **Please drive slowly** around the vicinity of the school and especially when on the field. Cars and children don't mix well and it is important we all stay safe. 5mph is ideal – don't drive faster, especially if you are late. It only takes a moment for an accident to happen.
- **Please be on time** for drop off and collect at your allocated time slot. It is so important that everyone is on time – this allows us to stagger arrivals and keep everyone safe.
- **Avoid congregating** outside the school gate – the pavement is narrow and it makes it difficult for others to get past and maintain social distance.
- **Only one parent is allowed to come onto school premises** – if you have younger children with you, please use the drop off zone on the field instead. KS2 children (and confident KS1 children) will be fine to walk into school following the spots, so you might consider dropping at the gate instead. This is to minimise contact for staff and children.

I know there are endless rules for all of us and we are incredibly grateful to you for making everything work like clockwork. Thank you for all your efforts.

We would also like to say a huge thank you to Mr Sheridan (Y6 parent) who has very kindly helped us with the marking out of the car lanes on the field – it was a big and very time-consuming job which he did in his own time (twice so far!). Thank you for your support Mr Sheridan!

Mobile Phones

We have noticed an increasing trend in parents using their phones at pick up time. We do recognise that many parents are working from home at present and may be on work-related business. However, our Safeguarding Policy does not allow mobile phones to be used in child-facing areas of our school and this does include the playground. Please refrain from using your phone on the school grounds at any time. Thank you so much for helping us to keep our children safe.

Surrey Schools Games

Starting this week, Cardinal Newman would like to take part in the Virtual Surrey School Games. These will be weekly challenges, at different levels, for children to complete and submit their scores to the Surrey website. The activities can be completed indoors or outdoors using minimal equipment; alternatives can be used if you don't have exactly what you need. We hope these active challenges provide some variety in daily exercises at home but children will also be able to submit their scores and times which will be added to the school's virtual leaderboard. If you prefer not to submit scores, please feel free to still use the challenges for any exercise at home. You could even create your own leaderboard for the whole family to take part in!

Further details can be found at <http://www.activesurrey.com/events/games/VSSG> where the weekly challenges and submission details can be found. Please ensure you have read the Active Surrey Privacy Policy located at the bottom of the page before submitting results on behalf of your child.

Re-Opening of Churches

In case it is of interest, there is a link here <https://www.thecatholicuniverse.com/cardinal-says-government-may-be-making-political-decisions-over-churches-lockdown-say-cardinal/> to the excellent BBC interview with Cardinal Vincent Nichols about the re-opening of churches.

The Cardinal is working hard to assure the Government that our Catholic Churches are ready to open for private prayer immediately.

Headteacher's Awards And finally – a very long list of Headteacher's Awards this week for all our amazing children. Keep up the great work!

For Fantastic Home Learning: 18th May – 1st June

Class	Children
Red	Jack G Federico S
Orange	Elena M Romy L
Green	Isaac H Jean-Pierre C
Yellow	Emma V Sean C
Blue	Ethan W Charlotte S
Violet	Grace B Raffy M
Ruby	Kieran H Lily R
Topaz	Charlie M Elvis O
Coral	Jaxon M Lea J
Opal	Jude W Tilly H
Emerald	Sophie S Romina S
Sapphire	Matteo R Ben S
Garnet	Keeva J Nathan L
Amethyst	Jack M Emily M

The staff team have also nominated the following children to receive Headteacher's Awards for their **fantastic behaviour and for acting as role models for the new systems** in their first week back at school this week:

KS1:

Sebastian S (YR); William H (YR); Oliver H (YR); Teddi R (YR); Beatrice R (Y1); Georgia S (Y1); Clodagh B (Y2); Elijah K (Y2);

KS2:

Hattie F (Y3); Henry P (Y4); Harry E (Y4); Oliver H (Y4); Lea J (Y4); Ella C (Y5); Alice M (Y5); Eny S (Y5); Niamh S (Y5); Lucy W (Y5); Jasmine P (Y5); Daisy P (Y5); Oliver C (Y6); Thomas D (Y6); Oliver G (Y6); Ela-Jo H (Y6); Jack K (Y6); Florence S (Y6); Dominic P (Y6); Olivia P (Y6)

Well done to all of you!

Thank you again to all families for all your support for your children's learning. Have a wonderful weekend.

Catherine Burnham