



24th September 2021

Dear parents / carers

Our new Saints



This term we have rechristened all our classes with new saints' names. As part of a wider school drive to develop our inclusivity and celebration of diversity, we decided to review the saints we had chosen to name our classes. We found that a significant number were male, white and European. We researched an increasingly diverse range of saints; looking for a balance of women and men, individuals from a range of places and ethnicities and including saints from our locality. We also looked for saints who linked to our curriculum, in order to make those all-important connections for the children. We are very happy that our final choice of saints presents and celebrates an increasingly diverse representation of significant religious people in the Catholic Church. For example, in recognition of the sizeable Coptic community at our school, we have chosen the Coptic saint St Josephine Bakhita, who was born in Sudan in 1869 and spent her life as a nun working to develop the Church's mission in different countries. St Lewinna [Year 4] was a local Sussex saint who lived during Anglo Saxon times and was martyred by Saxons in 687 A.D. She is buried locally in Seaford. Each class has spent time researching and learning about their saint, and further work is planned to introduce all our new saints to the children through assemblies. Please do ask your child about their class saint and prepare to be impressed with their knowledge.

R	St Peter
R	St Bernadette
Y1	St George
Y1	St Teresa
Y2	St Patrick
Y2	St Monica
Y3	St Martin de Porres
Y3	St Cecilia
Y4	St Cuthman
Y4	St Lewinna
Y5	St. Oscar Romero
Y5	St Josephine Bakhita
Y6	St Maximilian
Y6	St Benedict the Moor



"Singing is another way to express God's word"

During their entrance to Songs of Worship this week, children enjoyed listening to Mrs Tubb play her cello, erupting into a spontaneous round of applause once she had finished. As we were talking about the importance of song, and music, as a part of worship, Ella, Year 4, noted that "Singing is another way to express God's word". What a wonderful way to explain it – I just had to share it with you. We are looking for talented musicians to play on entry to and from our acts of worship so please do contact Mrs Tubb if this is something that your child may wish to do. We are looking for children who are proficient in their chosen instrument.



Languages Day

European Day of Languages is on Sunday 26th so, in school, we celebrated every language that is spoken within our school family today. During worship, we celebrated the many languages that our children speak and found out some worldwide language facts. Each class identified the languages spoken by their friends and made signs to celebrate these for their classroom door. These signs will stay up all year. Mrs Mullans will also update our celebratory school languages photograph board. In class, children learnt simple words or phrases from their peers as well as other things. Thank you to Ms Sezless (Year 4 teacher and Languages lead for organising this). If you would like to further explore this at home, there are some online multilingual family e-story books that you may wish to share. For children aged 0 – 6, there is an animated story in 4 languages about birds with some ideas for art activities at the end <https://www.ourboox.com/books/multilingual-families-estory-book-for-children-0-5/> For children aged 6 – 10, a video book with children from different countries teaching you 3 different words each time <https://www.ourboox.com/books/multilingual-families-estory-book-for-children/>

As ever, please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or suggestions or need anything at all. Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend. Rachel Breen, Headteacher

**get in touch*

First Holy Communion

The 2021-2022 First Holy Communion program, at the Sacred Heart Church, is hoping to begin on Saturday 9th October. Parents / carers can collect an application form from the entrance porch of the church. Ideally, these need to be completed and handed back to the church by Monday 20th September 2021. On behalf of Fr Colin, many thanks.

The First Holy Communion program at St Peters is also due to begin shortly. This program asks one parent to attend each Saturday class with their child. Parents can find further information on their website at: www.stpeters-hove.org.uk



Grandparents' Week

Each year at Cottesmore, we celebrate Grandparents' week. As usual, we would like to gather images of the children's grandparents for a special slide show to show our grandparents just how much we care for them. If you wish for your family to be included, please email photographs of children's grandparents (both with us or in Heaven) to colettefairbanks@cottesmore.brighton-hove.sch.uk. Please do so **by Thursday 30th of September**.



Rainbow Dress up day

Show your support for World Mental Health day by coming to school on Friday 8th October in rainbow clothes. We will be collecting donations, on the day, with all money going to our local NHS CAMHS team in order to help enhance and support their services. All donations welcome. We really want the visual event to be as inclusive as possible so all students can participate without feeling excluded as parents are not required to purchase any new clothes or fancy dress and students can wear whatever colours they would like. On the day, children will carry out various activities that promote wellbeing and we will symbolise hope through the use of rainbow.



Nut free school

At Cottesmore St Mary, we provide a safe learning environment for all. Due to allergies, we are a NUT FREE SCHOOL. We ask all members of our school community for their help in minimising the risk to certain children by, avoiding giving children nuts or nut products in their packed lunches, Caterlink, who provide our school lunches, ensures that all they provide is nut free. Please do not give children nuts, nut products or snacks / bars containing nuts for break time snacks or as part of a packed lunch. We do acknowledge that many foods are labelled as 'may have been produced in a factory handling nuts' or 'may contain traces of nuts'. Such items can be brought into school, we are referring to those that identify that nuts are present. Please note, where a member of staff notices a pupil eating something that is not permitted (this also includes other food not permitted in school, such as sweets), the item will be removed and the member of staff will explain why this has to be done. We thank you in advance for your co-operation and support regarding this matter.



Money for clubs and money for the school

Would you like a £50 towards an afterschool club, free breakfast club, a free uniform from the SOCs swap shop, and heavily subsidised music tuition from the Brighton and Hove Music School? If so, did you know that registering for Free School Meals if you are eligible, means that our school gets extra money that can be used for intervention or enrichment activities for your child? All children in the infants now receive a free school meal daily, but if you qualify for Free School Meals, due to a low family income, please apply as this will entitle your child all the benefits mentioned above. Just because you are registered for free school meals, doesn't mean you have to stop having packed lunches if that's what your child prefers. **Your child may be entitled to free school meals if you are entitled to receive one of the following**

- Income Support (IS)
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA)
- Income-related employment and support allowance (IR ESA) (this benefit was introduced 27 October 2008)
- support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit (provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit) and have an annual income that does not exceed £16,190 (as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs). Note - from 1 May 2009, where a parent is entitled to Working Tax Credit during the four-week period immediately after their employment ceases, or after they start to work less than 16 hours per week, their children are entitled to free school lunches.
- the Guarantee element of State Pension Credit

Please note - if you are in receipt of any Working Tax Credit you will not be eligible to apply for Free School Meals

Please register now to make sure your child does not miss out and to ensure that the school gets extra related funding.

<https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/contact-council/apply-free-school-meals>

Safety in Radinden Manor and the Upper Drive

Way before my time, an unofficial one way system began down Radinden Manor. This was to help prevent the congestion that can sometimes occur at pick up. Many parents have asked that I raise this with you in the hope that as many parents as possible refrain from driving up Radinden Manor (from the direction of The Old Shoreham Road) but instead, drive down from the direction of Dyke Road (so that the school gates are on your left). This may take some families on a longer route but it would help with traffic. Obviously this isn't something that the school can enforce hence just raising it as a suggestion.

In order to ensure safety of all, please also refrain from pulling in on the zig zags at drop off and asking children to jump out of the car. Please park in a designated place.

This is the same for both Radinden Manor and The Upper Drive.

[We received a request from Newman last week to ask our parents to parent respectfully and follow parking regulations on The Upper Drive as they felt many were parking without due care or consideration toward the safety of others.](#)

One final request, is to also kindly park with respect to our neighbours, not to mention not parking on double yellow lines. In the past, we have had emergency situations where people were unable to get out to vital appointments, not to mention danger for pedestrians. Your support with all the above is greatly appreciated. Please always email the school with any items that you wish to be discussed or raised.



	OCTOBER = MONTH OF THE ROSARY and BLACK HISTORY MONTH
MONDAY 27th	
TUESDAY 28th	
WEDNESDAY 29th	- Y1 St Teresa Forest School – AM - Y6 St Benedict Forest School - PM
THURSDAY 30th	- King's School Open Evening - Welcome Service with Father Alexander and Father Milner (children only)
FRIDAY 1st	Year 6 boys football – away match
Saturday 2nd	
Sunday 3rd	Grandparents' Day – see 15th for more information
MONDAY 4th	- Judaism Fortnight - King's School Open Morning - World Teachers Day
TUESDAY 5th	King's School Open Morning
WEDNESDAY 6th	- King's School Open Morning - Y1 St George Forest School - AM - Y6 St Oscar Forest School - PM
THURSDAY 7th	- King's School Open Morning - CNCS Open House - School census - Virtual Rabbi Visit
FRIDAY 8th	- Rainbow Dress Down Day – hope and mental health development - Year 6 girls football – away match
Saturday 9th	
Sunday 10th	- World Mental Health Day
MONDAY 11th	Assembly on The Rosary
TUESDAY 12th	
WEDNESDAY 13th	- Y4 Trip to Fishbourne Roman Palace - Y1 St Teresa Forest School - AM - Y5 St Joseph Forest School - PM
THURSDAY 14th	- PTA AGM 7pm School hall
FRIDAY 15th	- Reception Disco 4.30pm - 5.45pm - Grandparent celebration 2pm onwards
MONDAY 18th	KS1 Harvest celebrations per year group during the week – more information to follow
TUESDAY 19th	Possible parent Consultation phonecalls and SEN phonecalls 3.15pm – 6pm. More information to follow.
WEDNESDAY 20th	- Honeypot celebration - Y1 St George Forest School – AM - Y4 St Cuthman Forest School - PM
THURSDAY 21st	- Proposed KS2 Harvest Mass at Cardinal Newman chapel – parents invited, More information to follow but likely in the morning. - Possible parent Consultation phonecalls and SEN phonecalls 3.15pm – 6pm. More information to follow.
FRIDAY 22nd	Show racism the Red Card Day – wear red NB – Year 6 parents, deadline to apply for secondary schools is Saturday 31st October