



4th February 2022

Dear parents/ carers

Buddy Mass

This week, we were delighted to take children, from Year 1 and 5, over to the Chapel at Cardinal Newman school for their Buddy Mass. It was a pleasure to welcome so many parents. Children sat with such reverence and participated wonderfully - we couldn't have been more proud. The Year 5 children relish their roles as buddies and were super ambassadors, modelling how to participate in Mass to their younger buddies. Thank you to Canon Colin for saying Mass and for the wonderful music accompaniment by children from Year 5. We were all blown away by the children's talent - thank you to Alice, Zach, Miya and Youtong. During the Mass, Canon Colin encouraged the children to think before their actions and reminded them to always recall the saying WWJD – What would Jesus do. Parents took away prayers that the children had decorated, reminding us all to do what we can so that we are able to find pleasure in helping others as well as finding ways to make ordinary life come alive, not only for others, but for ourselves too. We look forward to worshipping with Year 2, 3 and 4 buddies next week.



Little Shepherds in action

We have seen some amazing Little Shepherds in action over the last couple of weeks. A few weeks ago, during assembly, the children and I thought about how, many of us, are lucky enough to open our cupboards at home only to see lots of food choices within them. We thought about how people with a lot less than us, probably don't have that experience regularly. Since then, children have been coming to school with contributions of their own money to add to a school collection to support those who have less than us. I have been incredibly moved by the children who have visited my office with money from their own money boxes, having made the choice to use money that they could put toward toys, or things that they would like for themselves, to help other people instead. Children have been so generous - such amazing Little Shepherds in action. Prior to Covid, we used to encourage the older children to give up time, noting that one doesn't always have to give money to help others and that time can be given instead. Children would give up part of their lunchtime to make sandwiches for a local charity who feed the homeless in our city. This sadly still can't happen at the moment, due to the charities Covid RA, but we will continue as soon as we can. In the meantime, the money that we are collecting will go to this organisation who go out on the streets and feed those needing nourishing meals.



Choir and Instrumental Group

Thank you to Mrs Tubb who has been running a before school choir, since September for children in Years 5 and 6. Last week, children from Year 4 were also invited to join and we now have over 25 children. We are also delighted to have begun our, before school group, instrumental group/ band for children who are at a certain level instrumental wise. If your child is interested in joining, please contact Mrs Tubb with details regarding the instrument they play and which grade they are at. Equally, if your child is interested in additional 1:1 or small group music lessons, via the music service who visit out school, please also contact Mrs Tubb. The whole school have already been blessed with performances by the choir during school worship and now we can't wait to listen to the band.



Chinese New Year

We celebrated Chinese New Year in school this week. Children in Reception, read the story telling them how certain animals represent a year. Children were excited to find out how this year is the year of the Tiger. Children made lanterns, dragon puppets and painted their name in Chinese. They even had a go at writing their numbers in Chinese as well as creating a dragon dance during PE. Children also talked about the similarities and differences between celebrations in England and in China. To finish their celebrations, all children in Reception went to watch The Tiger Who Came To Tea at the Theatre Royal in Brighton, which was a super treat. In music, Year 1 learnt to sing 'The Tiger' song and then enjoyed creating their own tiger masks. Children then moved like a Tiger in the jungle and found China on a map. Much fun was had by all.



Wishing you all a lovely weekend. Rachel Breen, Headteacher

Vacancy for Midday Supervisor Assistant

Cottesmore St Mary wish to appoint an enthusiastic, motivated, flexible and committed Midday Supervisory Assistant, and applications from parents are very welcome. Hours will most likely be 11.30am – 1pm daily.

This role will allow you to join our committed and hardworking team of MDSAs and requires you to be responsible for the supervision and to ensure the safety of pupils in all areas inside or outside the school building throughout the lunchtime break.

Applicants must have previous experience of working or helping with children, preferably in a school setting.

We are looking for someone who is committed to the Catholic vision of our school and has high expectations of our children.

Closing Date: Friday 11th February 2022

Interview Date: Tuesday 22nd February 2022

The application pack is available on the school website or can be requested directly from school. Please contact Natasha Camilleri on 01273 555811. We look forward to receiving your application. Cottesmore St Mary Catholic Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Photography project with Newman

We are looking forward to collaborating and working with Cardinal Newman Secondary School Art and Photography Department, to plan several sessions where Newman College Photography Academy students, and an art facilitator, will deliver a project to Year 5 Cottesmore students. The Academy students will have had prior coaching with the art facilitator, before working with our children. The photography project will have a link to our Year 5 art curriculum and take place in the summer term.

Calling all garden landscapers.

We are very excited to announce the redevelopment of the pond area in the KS2 playground into a Psalm Garden. This idea was a winning exhibit at RHS Chelsea in 2021 and is based on the calm words of Psalm 23. You may remember that children completed designs for these last term, during Grandparents Day. We would love a parent, or local business, to volunteer to get involved to help us create our own spectacular space.

Psalm 23

The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want;

he makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters;

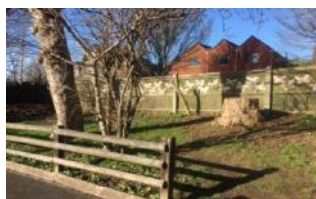
he restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness

for his name's sake.

The words of Psalm 23 lend themselves to a garden offering contentment and peace, somewhere to appreciate the beauty of God's creations. We have a dry pond that needs a new lease of life and some creative ideas for seating. Please get in touch if this sounds like a project you could help us with

jomccartney@cottesmore.brighton-hove.sch.uk



FCOP Valentines cake sale on 11th February at 3pm on the playground. On the day, children bring a cake for the sale and in exchange they can wear their own clothes! Please call Katie Head (07818453495) if you can help.

Message from Father Alexander (St Peters)

The Platinum Jubilee begins on 2nd February, which is the day, seventy years ago, when the then Princess Elizabeth acceded to the throne as Queen Elizabeth II on the death of her father King George VI. Some of our older parishioners, then children, may remember the day; Princess Elizabeth, with Prince Philip, had been undertaking a tour of the Commonwealth and was in Kenya, staying at Treetops, a game lodge in the Aberdare range, when the news came through that her father had died unexpectedly in the night. While 2nd February marks the start of the Jubilee, because it is the anniversary of her father's death, the Queen passes this day in prayer and reflection rather than celebration. The focus of celebration will be 2nd June, which was when the Coronation took place. Let us, as this Platinum Jubilee starts (the first in British history), pray for the repose of the soul of King George VI, and give thanks to God for the last 70 years in which we have all been enriched by God's blessings. On 21st April, 1947, on her 21st birthday, the then Princess Elizabeth said, in a broadcast to the Commonwealth: *We must not be daunted by the anxieties and hardships that the war has left behind for every nation of our commonwealth. We know that these things are the price we cheerfully undertook to pay for the high honour of standing alone, seven years ago, in defense of the liberty of the world. Let us say with Rupert Brooke: "Now God be thanked who has matched us with this hour".... I am sure that you will see our difficulties, in the light that I see them, as the great opportunity for you and me. If we all go forward together with an unwavering faith, a high courage, and a quiet heart, we shall be able to make of this ancient commonwealth, which we all love so dearly, an even grander thing - more free, more prosperous, more happy and a more powerful influence for good in the world - than it has been in the greatest days of our forefathers. To accomplish that we must give nothing less than the whole of ourselves... I declare before you all that my whole life whether it be long or short shall be devoted to your service and the service of our great imperial family to which we all belong.... But I shall not have strength to carry out this resolution alone unless you join in it with me, as I now invite you to do: I know that your support will be unfailingly given. God help me to make good my vow, and God bless all of you who are willing to share in it.*

ART COMPETITION - We, at St Peter's, are holding a competition, which we would like you to join. As part of our Platinum Jubilee celebrations, we propose to display three banners on the Church wall on Portland Road. To this end all the children of St Peter's, Cottesmore and St Mary's, are being invited to submit a design for one of the banners. They are looking for something original that will make passers by stop and look. Submissions need to be on a sheet of A4 which can then be sent to the printers, via email, and blown up to 5 times 3 meters, so they should be sufficiently detailed. They want this display up for June so submissions need to be sent before then. All best wishes, ALS.



Lateral Flow and PCR Tests

Lateral flow test kits can be collected, free of charge, from most pharmacies. Please visit <https://maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/> to check the nearest location you are able to collect tests from. You can also order online or, please do contact the school office who can help you. Hove Town Hall has a collection point, for boxes of 20, which is very handy particularly if someone requires the 7 day daily testing due to being a close contact of someone in their class with covid. Thank you to those who are testing twice a week.

MONDAY 7 th	
TUESDAY 8 th	• Safer Internet Day
WEDNESDAY 9 th	• Honey Pot Party AM & PM
THURSDAY 10 th	• Buddy Mass at CNCs for Y2, Y3 & Y4 with Father Alexander
FRIDAY 11 th	• Last Day of Term • FCOP Valentines cake sale at 3pm on the school playground. On the day, children bring a cake for the sale and in exchange they can wear their own clothes.
HALF TERM MONDAY 14 th – FRIDAY 18 th FEBRUARY	
	LENT
MONDAY 21 st	• International Mother Language Day • Fairtrade Fortnight
TUESDAY 22 nd	
WEDNESDAY 23 rd	• Hight Five Netball (Yr6) 2.30pm - 4.30pm
THURSDAY 24 th	• Buddy Mass at CNCs for Y6 & YR with Canon Colin
FRIDAY 25 th	
March	
MONDAY 28 th	• Fairtrade Fortnight • Forest School – Yr1 St George (AM) • Forest School – Yr3 St Martin (PM)
TUESDAY 1 st	• Shrove Tuesday
WEDNESDAY 2 nd	• Forest School – Yr1 St Theresa (AM) • Forest School – Yr4 St Lewinna (PM) • Children only Ash Wednesday Mass in School
THURSDAY 3 rd	• World Book Day • Parents Evening
FRIDAY 4 th	
MONDAY 7 th	
TUESDAY 8 th	• Parents Evening • International Women's Day
WEDNESDAY 9 th	• Forest School – Yr1 St George (AM) • Forest School – Yr3 St Cecilia (PM)
THURSDAY 10 th	
FRIDAY 11 th	•
MONDAY 14 th	• Science Week
TUESDAY 15 th	
WEDNESDAY 16 th	• Forest School – Yr1 St Theresa (AM) • Forest School – Yr2 St Patrick (PM) •
THURSDAY 17 th	• St Patrick's Day •
Friday 18 th	• Comic Relief (red nose day) Children to come to school in red or colourful clothes
MONDAY 21 st	•
TUESDAY 22 nd	• World Water Day •
WEDNESDAY 23 rd	• Forest School – Yr1 St George (AM) • Forest School – Yr2 St Monica (PM) •
THURSDAY 24 th	•
FRIDAY 25 th	• Annunciation of the Lord •
APRIL	
MONDAY 28 th	• Reception Trip to Drucillas • Y5 & Y6 visit Sacred Heart Church for the Stations of the Cross
TUESDAY 29 th	•
WEDNESDAY 30 th	• Honey Pot Party (AM & PM) •
THURSDAY 31 st	•
FRIDAY 1 st	•
SATURDAY 2nd	• World Autism Awareness
MONDAY 4 th	• 2.30pm Y6 - Outdoor Easter Liturgy outside with Parents • School Nurse Reception Hearing and Sights Screening •
TUESDAY 5 th	• 9.15am YR - Outdoor Easter Liturgy outside with Parents • 2.30pm Y5 - Outdoor Easter Liturgy outside with Parents • School Nurse Reception Hearing and Sights Screening • TAG Rugby - YR5 & Yr6 – 10am-12.30pm
WEDNESDAY 6 th	• 9.15am Y1 - Outdoor Easter Liturgy outside with Parents • 2.30pm Y4 - Outdoor Easter Liturgy outside with Parents • School Nurse Reception Hearing and Sights Screening • Y6 Netball Tournament – Portslade & Hove
THURSDAY 7 th	• 9.15am Y2 - Outdoor Easter Liturgy outside with Parents • 2.30pm Y3 - Outdoor Easter Liturgy outside with Parents
FRIDAY 8 th	• End of term – Easter Holidays
EASTER HOLIDAYS Monday 11 th April – Sunday 24 th April Outdoors Project Easter school all holiday	