



7th February 2025

Dear parents / carers

Buddy Mass

It was lovely to attend Reception and Year 6's first Buddy Mass this week. It was yet another wonderful reflective act of worship, held in the chapel at Newman. The mass coincided with the memorial of St. Paul Miki (d.1597) and his companions, the Martyrs of Japan. Due to this being a Day of Martyrs, Canon David wore red vestments. During the mass, children thought about how the Saints followed in the footsteps of Christ and how they could too. We remembered our own school martyrs – Howard, More, Fisher and Campion. Children in Reception painted coats of arms for our martyrs and Year 6 children wrote the prayers of the faithful. Another reason this mass was special was due to the fact that, in all his years of being a priest, it was the first time that Canon David had said mass in this chapel – special to him because he went to Cardinal Newman school as a teenager. We were very impressed with how reflective all children were throughout the mass and how well the Year 6 children took care of their buddies. We received the following email from a parent who also thought the same. What a lovely message for all to receive. *I just wanted to say how impressed we were with just how kind the older children were to their buddies today on the walk to and from mass and in the chapel. I helped walk the children over and I was blown away with how they were treating the little ones with such kindness, holding their hands keeping them safe and the way they were talking to them was just so sweet. What a true credit to you as the school, you should be proud. It was also lovely to attend the mass, so thank you for the invite.*



Harriet Tubman

As part of their History topic, Historic Heroines, Year 1 learnt about Harriet Tubman. Children found out how, during the Civil War, Harriet Tubman helped enslaved people escape by leading a number of escapes and helping approximately 300 people find freedom. Children were inspired by Harriet's bravery and designed medals for her. To find out more at home, please visit -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HhCKsbPPtOI>



Chinese New Year

In Reception, children had a fantastic time learning about Chinese New Year. They created colourful lanterns, dragon masks and dragon puppets. In PE, children even created their own dragon dance. Children painted their names in Chinese and tasted some delicious Chinese noodles. What a fun and exciting way to explore this special celebration.



Ugandan Visitors

We recently had the pleasure of hosting Tom and Brother John, two Headteachers from a Ugandan Catholic school, who were visiting schools in Brighton as part of a British Council partnership agreement. Their aim was to see how we teach reading and writing. Children in KS2 enjoyed an assembly where they met our visitors and watched a short video sharing a typical Ugandan school day. Our guests then visited KS2 classrooms and answered questions about Ugandan life, education and what inspired them to become teachers. Ms McCartney has been linked to their school, in Uganda, for over 12 years and has previously raised money for a water purification system, books, sports clothing, brass instruments and, most recently, better menstrual arrangements for the older girls. Ms McCartney also sponsors a child, David, in the school, paying for his education. A year's education, school meals, uniform and writing equipment costs £120, if anyone would like to sponsor a child's education, please follow the link

<https://fulfillingfutures.org.uk/>



Have a lovely weekend and thank you for your continued support. Rachel Breen, Headteacher

Young Artists Summer Show – Royal Academy of Art competition

Every year the Royal Academy of Art hosts a Young Artists' summer show. It is a free, open submission exhibition for young artists aged 4–19 years studying in the UK. This year Cottesmore have entered the competition. This is a fantastic opportunity for our children to experience entering into a real public art competition. If successful, then they could have their work displayed on their online gallery or in the Royal Academy of Arts. The project is generously supported by Robin Hambro, a passionate advocate for the importance of access to art, and the benefits of encouraging the arts, for children and young people.

Submitting artwork is completely free and it is done online. Each child entering will need a parent or guardian to submit their work on the website. You can do this by making an account and entering our school name. Please see the FAQ's on the website if you have any further questions or need help with this process:

<https://youngartists.royalacademy.org.uk/>

Each student can submit one piece of art.

When you enter, they will ask for an image of the artwork plus some information about the piece such as title, size, and a little text about the artwork and why it was made.

The artwork will be seen by a panel of judges and the selected pieces will be shown in their online exhibition. Some of the artworks will also be shown at the Royal Academy of Arts in a public exhibition.

Prizes are awarded each year for inspiring artworks, as chosen by the President of the Royal Academy, this is usually a gift voucher to purchase some art materials. You will also have the opportunity to vote for your favourite artwork in the Annual People's Choice Award.

The artwork can be made using any material; it can be a painting, sculpture, photograph, installation, video, drawing, or a combination.

There is no theme so artworks can be of any subject and they don't mind when the artwork was created, as long as your child is between 4-19 years old when you submit it. You are also welcome to submit collaborative pieces made by more than one student.

All submissions must be made by WEDNESDAY 5TH MARCH 2025. If you do submit any work, we would also love to receive an online image so that we can add it to this newsletter. Many thanks. Mrs Sharp. Art Specialist Teacher



World Book Day

On Thursday 6th March, we will celebrate World Book Day at Cottesmore.



Children can come to school dressed in pyjamas or comfy clothes as, over the day, they will enjoy some cosy reading time. Please ensure that suitable footwear is still worn. Children can also bring in their favorite book from home. During the day, children will take part in a range of reading based activities. For example, a story time assembly, a mystery reader visiting class, as well as times of the day when we can 'drop everything and read!' Children will also receive a voucher for a free book, which they can use in participating independent book shops, or a range of retailers such as Tesco, Asda, The Works, WHSmith, Lidl and Waterstones. There will be a selection of books specifically for World Book Day available. We can't wait to celebrate our love of reading at Cottesmore with the children.

