



26th April 2024

Dear parents / carers

Anti Racist Conference

I was lucky enough to attend the Local Authority's anti-racist education conference last Friday. The day was very inspiring. The focus was Diversifying and Decolonising the Curriculum and aimed to equip staff from all stages of education to broaden the materials, sources and focus of the curriculum, to make what children learn more inclusive, diverse and relevant. We are proud to say that our school has been identified as school that has prioritised this work and that has lots of excellent practice in place that can be shared to support other local schools. Whilst at the conference, I was able to enjoy superb workshops, find new contacts, from a marketplace of community organisations, to help us on our continued anti racist journey not to mention being inspired by the guest speaker, David Olusoga. If you would like to find out more about the work we do within our Curriculum, please do get in touch.



Forest School Developments

Last week saw the first work start on updating items in our Forest School funded by the PTA. Mr Demel, a former parent and the original designer of the area, is undertaking some work to repair and replace some of our well-loved equipment. The beautifully crafted table is a fabulous addition, enabling children to work opposite each other on all activities and using our space creatively. Many thanks to all parents who have supported PTA activities, this is how the money raised is sometimes spent. Thanks also to Woodharts who part funded the table.



Uniform Please remember to send your child in correct school uniform each day. Grey socks with grey bottoms (white socks only with summer dresses). Black shoes or black trainers that are black in their entirety eg no coloured stripes or rims etc. Navy PE shorts or tracksuit bottoms for PE. Families in receipt of Pupil Premium are able to receive free seconds items – please contact the school office for what you need. We are also able to offer free seconds items to any others who need or to those who are unable to obtain the correct items. A reminder that all items should be labelled and that our seconds shop runs every half term with items at £1 or £2. In reminder that children are not able to wear any jewelry or have keyrings on bags as these can get lost, broken etc. Thank you for your support with all the above.

ANTI-RACISM

The practice of actively identifying and opposing racism - The goal of anti-racism is to actively change policies, behaviors, and beliefs that perpetuate racist ideas and actions

Year 5 visit Rampion Wind Farm

Report by Oli

At Rampion wind farm we got to use some model turbines. We experimented with how many blades would be the best to make electricity. We found out that three blades were the best because it is a balanced weight. We learned lots of facts such as there are over 350,000 homes (half of Sussex) which are powered by Rampion wind farm. In the whole wind farm there are 112 turbines, weighing 12 tons. Did you know there are precisely 84 bolts in every turbine? We learned that the wind farm is 8 to 12 miles out at sea and it would take about 40 minutes to get there on a boat. We went on a virtual reality experience out to the wind farm and it felt like we were actually there! Everyone had a great time and we learned lots!



KS2 playground

We are really pleased with the new markings on the KS2 playground. The new courts have made games easier to play and the refreshed snakes and ladders looks great! The children have all been especially interested with the huge chess board and the actual pieces are extra fun. All of Mr Mottram's chess club knowledge seems to be paying off! Thank you to our School Council who have helped improve our playtimes across the whole school.



Anti Bullying

This week a group of year 11 and 9 students from Cardinal Newman school came to visit Year 4 and talk about bullying. They are part of a communications study group and spoke to the children in year 4 about who to talk to if there is a problem, both in school and at home. They gave us leaflets and wristbands encouraging everyone to stand up and speak out against bullies. As many of our children will attend Cardinal Newman for secondary education, it was particularly useful for them to know how they will be supported in later years.



Thank you, as ever, for all you do to support the school and our community. Have a lovely weekend. Rachel Breen, Headteacher

Mary Mass – 24th May

Our annual whole school, outdoor Mary Mass will be held on Friday 24th May. May is the month that we celebrate Mary, our school patron. You are invited to join us.

Mass Time: 11.00 am- 11.55am

Picnic Time: 12.10pm - 1.10 pm

- Only Radinden Manor Road gate will open so please don't arrive at any other entrance. This gate will open at 10.45am - 11.05am. This will then be closed. The gate will reopen 11.55am - 12.15pm. It will then be closed during lunch and reopened 1.15pm - 1.30pm.
- We ask that all children bring in some flowers on the day of the Mass. These will be used to decorate the altar and crown Mary.
- Children will need to wear smart school uniform (NO PE KITS ON THIS DAY) but can wear sun hats and have sun cream applied in the morning.
- Please can all bring in named water bottles. Please can all children bring a packed lunch as the whole school will enjoy a picnic on the field after the mass. Children in receipt of free school meals who would like school to provide a packed lunch can do so, but we ask that you inform the office by Monday 20th May. There will be no hot school dinners provided on this day.
- There will be a retiring collection for families affected by what is taking place due to conflict around the world. We look forward to celebrating with you.
- If you wish to take your child at 1.15pm, you will need to email the teacher a week, or more, in advance. These children will return to class after the picnic and then be brought back out to you, at 1.15pm with their belongings. Please do not ask to take your child before 1.15pm as this won't be possible.



Autism in Schools Project

We are pleased to be launching the **Autism In Schools Project** in Cottesmore St Mary Primary School. This is a project funded by the NHS, which aims to:

- support schools to further understand autistic pupil's needs
- incorporate autistic pupils' voices and experiences into school provision
- support autistic pupils to further understand their own sensory and emotional needs
- develop a parent/carer forum for all parents/carers of children with SEND to strengthen connections and communication between parents, carers and schools.

This is a joint project with BHISS (Brighton and Hove Inclusion Support Service) and PACC (Parent Carers' Council). Specialist teachers and parent representatives will be collecting pupil and parent voice, as well as delivering staff workshops, parent carer workshops, neurodivergence workshops for pupils, and autism identity workshops for pupils. Please complete this short survey to contribute your views.

<https://forms.office.com/e/5dPvcQBQC2>



Choir and Orchestra for Key Stage 2

Message from Mr Bondonno (new music teacher)

I am delighted to announce that choir will be re-starting Mondays 8am-8.40am and that orchestra will be restarting Tuesdays 8am – 8.40am.

Both take place in the Music Room before school. In choir, we will sing a wide range of music and choir members will work towards becoming our school singing leaders. In orchestra, we will work at a variety of music which will be performed at school events.

If your child is interested in joining, please reply via email with your child's name and class

alexbondonno@cottesmore.brighton-hove.sch.uk

Groups have started but we can always welcome newcomers. If we do become oversubscribed, then children in higher year groups will be given priority.

Entrance will be via the gate off the path that is behind the staff car park onto the KS2 playground. Children are to use the path, not the car park. Children need to arrive promptly at 8am as we are unable to facilitate latecomers.

If you have any further questions, please email me.



Safe Parking

In order to ensure safety of all, please 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. Please also refrain from parking on any yellow lines or parking in a way that overhangs, even slightly, our neighbors drives. In the past, we have had emergency situations where neighbours were unable to get out to vital appointments, not to mention danger for pedestrians. There is always plenty of parking a couple of roads back so enjoy this weather and take the opportunity to get a few extra steps in (unless medical reasons obviously).

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. Parents usually ask 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. Your support with all the above is greatly appreciated. Thank you also for your kind emails and words of support this week as we have sent various Pings with regards to safe parking. For example one parent wrote,

Just a quick email to say thanks for taking the time to deal with the parking issues. I just wanted to take the time to say thanks to you and the team for what you're doing to keep our children safe whilst coming to and from school, as well as keeping relations with the neighbours cordial. It must be incredibly frustrating to have to deal with this stuff on top of all the actual work you have to do! You have our complete support.





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SATURDAY SOCCER

SWERVE SOCCER

- HOVE PARK
- 11:30 - 12:30
- SCHOOL Y4-Y6
- PAY AS YOU PLAY
- £8 PER CLASS

Our sessions are meticulously crafted to nurture individual talent, prioritising personal growth over group dynamics. With a laser focus on maximizing time with the ball, we create an environment where young athletes can hone their skills with precision and finesse.

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CLASS!**

FOOTBALL - FOOTBALL - FOOTBALL

APRIL/MAY	MAY – MONTH OF MARY
MONDAY 29 th	•
TUESDAY 30 th	
WEDNESDAY 1 st	- Year 3 St Cecilia Forest School am - Year 1 St George Forest School pm
THURSDAY 2 nd	
FRIDAY 3 rd	- Year 5 Swimming - Possible Albion Cup Sussex Finals Girls
MAY	
MONDAY 6 th	• Bank Holiday – school closed
TUESDAY 7 th	
WEDNESDAY 8 th	- Year 3 St Martin Forest School am - Year 1 St Teresa Forest School pm
THURSDAY 9 th	
FRIDAY 10 th	• Year 5 Swimming
MONDAY 13 th	- Year 6 SATS Monday – Thursday - Mental Health Awareness Week
TUESDAY 14 th	•
WEDNESDAY 15 th	- PGL Marchant Hill TEAMS meeting with parents at 3.45 pm - Year 2 St Patrick Forest School am - Year 1 St George Forest School pm
THURSDAY 16 th	• Year 2 Beach School Session
FRIDAY 17 th	• Year 5 Swimming
MONDAY 20 th	• Year 3 trip to Cuckmere Haven
TUESDAY 21 st	
WEDNESDAY 22 nd	- Honeypot Party - Year 1 school trip to Arundel Castle
THURSDAY 23 rd	• PTA uniform sale after school – items between £1 and £2
FRIDAY 24 th	- Year 5 Swimming 11am Mary Mass for all, followed by 12.10pm family picnic on the field
HALF TERM Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May Outdoors Project Holiday Club on school field	
JUNE	
MONDAY 3 rd	• INSET DAY – school closed to pupils
TUESDAY 4 th	
WEDNESDAY 5 th	- Year 2 St Monica Forest School am - Year 1 St Teresa Forest School pm
THURSDAY 6 th	
FRIDAY 7 th	- Year 5 Swimming - Reception and year 1 Drama Workshop
MONDAY 10 th	- Reception Bikeability - Year 1 (and some Year 2) Phonics Screening Test week - Confirm if Reception or Year 3 are being mixed at the end of the year.

TUESDAY 11th	- Reception Bikeability 6.20pm welcome meeting for new Reception (Sept 2024) parents
WEDNESDAY 12th	- Reception Bikeability - Year 6 St Maximilian Forest School am - Year 1 St George Forest School pm
THURSDAY 13th	- Reception Bikeability - Year 4 Beach School
FRIDAY 14th	- Year 5 Swimming - Reception Bike Day on KS2 playground
MONDAY 17th	Islam fortnight (17 th – 28 th June)
TUESDAY 18th	
WEDNESDAY 19th	- Year 6 – Residential trip to Marchants Hill (19th – 21st) - Year 5 St Josephine Forest School am - Year 1 St Teresa Forest School pm
THURSDAY 20th	- Year 6 – Residential trip to Marchants Hill (19th – 21st) - Refugee Day
FRIDAY 21st	- Year 6 – Residential trip to Marchants Hill (19th – 21st) - Year 5 Swimming - New Reception Starters Teddy Bear's picnic 1.30pm – 2.30pm
MONDAY 24th	
TUESDAY 25th	Year 5 Activity Day at E3 Adventures
WEDNESDAY 26th	Class / Leaver photos with JP Photographic
THURSDAY 27th	
FRIDAY 28th	- Sussex Police Youth Team Officers visiting Year 6 - Year 5 Swimming
JULY	
MONDAY 1st	Year 5 Cycle Bikeability
TUESDAY 2nd	Year 5 Cycle Bikeability
WEDNESDAY 3rd	- Year 5 Cycle Bikeability - New Reception storytime sessions. Group A 10.30am – 11.30am and Group B 1.30pm – 2.20pm - Year 6 St Maximilian Forest School am - Year 1 St Teresa & Year 1 St George Forest School pm
THURSDAY 4th	Year 5 Cycle Bikeability
FRIDAY 5th	- Summer Fair - Reports and new classes to go out
SATURDAY 6th	Faith in action Mass Arundel
MONDAY 8th	
TUESDAY 9th	
WEDNESDAY 10th	- Year 4 St Lewinna Forest School am - Year 6 St Benedict Forest School pm
THURSDAY 11th	FHC Mass & breakfast Y3 & Y4 (TBC)
FRIDAY 12th	Y6 Dress Rehearsal to School
SATURDAY 14th	Possible Newman Festival

FRIDAY 12th	Y6 Dress Rehearsal to School
SATURDAY 14th	Possible Newman Festival
MONDAY 15th	
TUESDAY 16th	Year 6 show to parents. 1.30pm – 3pm and 6.30pm – 8pm. Please sign up via the office.
WEDNESDAY 17th	Honeypot Party
THURSDAY 18th	- PTA uniform sale after school – items between £1 and £2 - Sports Day sessions for KS2 (parents welcome) 9.15am – 10.45am Year 3 and 4 1.15pm – 2.45pm Year 5 and 6
FRIDAY 19th	- Sports Day sessions for KS1 (parents welcome) 9.15am – 10.15am Reception 10.30am – 11.30am Year 1 1.30pm – 2.30pm Year 2 - Year 6 leaver's disco 5pm until 6.30pm (children only unless parent helpers)
MONDAY 22nd	
TUESDAY 23rd	9.15am Year 6 Leavers mass and picnic - Last day of term – school closed for summer