

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 8

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY 21 September 2018

New to Sacred Heart

Some of the newest and smallest members of our school community joined us this week in our Nursery class. It was great to see how happy they all are in their new environment.

The children have been confidently playing with equipment and enjoying exploring their new surroundings when I have visited them this week. Staff are clearly enjoying their new charges and looking forward to a wonderful year ahead.

I have also been visiting the other new recruits to our school family. I have to say the Reception pupils are settling in incredibly well and are happily learning how to be fantastic learners.

The children have been excellent, keep it up!

Reception Class Photo

Our marvellous Reception pupils have had their class photographs taken. This will appear in the Watford Observer. If you would like to purchase a copy of the photograph, it was taken by Mrs Musgrove who can organise this for you.

Meet The Teacher

Meet The Teacher evening was extremely well attended with parents being given some key information about what has been already happening in class and what the year ahead has in store. Those who were unable to attend will be able to access the PowerPoint presentation that was shared; this will be added to the school website at the beginning of next week.

Playground Leaders

Year 6 children have taken part in a training program to become playground leaders recently. In this way all children will be able to receive some peer support during playtime to ensure that everyone has a happy playtime.

Mass

Fr. Jim celebrated a beautiful beginning of term Mass this morning. It allowed the children to reflect on the word 'Obey' and think about how we should listen to our parents and teachers, to try to do what is asked of us even when we don't always want to. We are very grateful to Fr. Jim for giving us so much of his time to our school and for helping us celebrate the holy sacrament of the Mass.



Star School

The CPRE Hertfordshire (Campaign to Protect Rural England) ran a

competition this year as part of their campaign against light pollution. Their concern is that even in the depths of the countryside, genuine starry nights are becoming harder to find. Security lights, floodlights and streetlights all break into the darkness and create a veil of light across the night sky. School children were asked to think about the night sky and to use their imagination to show what it looked like. Miss McCarthy encouraged staff to ask all children across the school to produce a picture about the night sky which would then be entered into the competition. There were individual prizes and also a school prize for the most entries. We are delighted to inform you that we were very successful in the competition. In the Year 3 and 4 category, Chloe was commended for her entry; in Years 5 and 6 Alexander Taplin came first and Poppy Morehouse (who has now moved on to secondary school) came second. Two entries were also commended for their strong message: Erin Musgrove and Fraser Ritchie. We are also pleased to tell you that we were the overall winning school. The winners, Poppy and Alexander, have been asked to attend a prize giving evening next month and we look forward to hearing from Alexander about his experience.



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School Crossing Patrol

Hertfordshire County Council is urgently looking for someone who would be interested in becoming the School Crossing Patrol for Sacred Heart. Further details about pay, contact numbers, etc. can be found on a leaflet at the school reception. A School Crossing Patrol would be a fantastic way of helping keep our children safe before and after school.

Parking & Road Safety

Unfortunately I have received more complaints from both residents and parents about parking and dangerous driving. The complaints have consisted of residents who cannot get out of their drives because there is not enough room, damage to gravel driveways and general litter that is left unattended to.



What is very alarming is that I have also had complaints about the dangerous nature of the parking (e.g. parking over the area that has always been used as a crossing for our pupils as well as parking on zig zag lines). To say there have been a number of near-misses would be an understatement.

I fully appreciate that it is a minority of inconsiderate parkers/drivers that are giving us a very bad name both with residents and the local community police. Unfortunately if this continues to happen the school will have no choice but to report the registration numbers of these people to the PCSO. I understand that the fact that we are a Catholic school does mean that our catchment area is wider and some parents have to drive. I will be organising a meeting with the school travel officer to search for alternative initiatives to try to solve this issue. Meanwhile please consider car sharing, or parking away from the school and walking in, it is safer for the children and good exercise.

Notices

- Places available in Premier Sport's gymnastics club on Thursdays for Reception to Y2.
- If your child is interested in learning the flute, saxophone or clarinet, please contact the school office.
- We have been notified that a pupil in 5/6 Phase has lost a pair of orange/black Adidas trainers. If you come across a pair please can you return them to the school office.

NLP & Coaching

Challenging Our Negative Thoughts and Limiting Beliefs...

Carol Lilley, a parent at Sacred Heart, who is a qualified Life Coach and NLP Practitioner, along with her colleague, Zeenat Noorani, will be delivering a workshop on the 28th September at the Sacred Heart Parish Hall from 19:00-21:00pm. This workshop will help you to understand how any negative thoughts and limiting beliefs often stop you from moving forward in your life and what you can do to change this. Carol and Zeenat are passionate about their work in education and will also be introducing Coaching and NLP and how both of these can support children from an early age. If you would like any further information contact Carol on 07787 163 365.

Please see the below link and book your space at Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/challenging-our-thoughts-and-beliefs-workshop-held-in-2-locations-bromley-kent-19-sept-and-bushey-tickets-47886359390>

Secondary School Applications



Please be aware that the secondary school's application process is now open. Please see important dates below:

- **September 2018** - online application system opens www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions

- September and October - Secondary and upper schools hold their open events (details available at

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/schoolsdirectory)

31 October 2018 - deadline for applications

I would like to leave you with a reflection for the weekend;

*Think deeply
Speak gently
Love much
Laugh often
Work hard
Give freely
Pray earnestly
And be kind*



Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Mrs Tregear , (Headteacher)

DATES FOR THE DIARY

October 2018

Tues 2nd October - Year 5 Cross Country at Queens

Tues 2nd October - 7.30-8.30pm FOSH Meet & Greet for new parents

Weds 3rd October - Year 6 Sports Day at St Michaels (*Details to follow*)

Tues 16th October - Year 4 to attend One World Festival at St Michaels (*Details to follow*)

Mon 22nd October - Scholastic book fair

Wed 31st October - Deadline to apply for secondary schools

Term Dates for academic Year 2018/19

Autumn Term 2018

5th September – 26th October Term time

29th October – 2nd November Half Term holiday

5th November -21st December Term time

24th December – 4th January Christmas Holidays

Spring Term 2019

7th January INSET – *School Closed to Pupils*

8th January – 15th February Term time

18th – 22nd February Half Term holiday

25th February – 5th April Term time

8th April – 18th April Easter Holidays

19 April Good Friday (Bank Holiday) –school closed

22 April Easter Monday (Bank Holiday) – school closed

Summer Term 2019

23rd April – 24th May Term time

6th May Bank Holiday - *School Closed*

27th May – 31st May Half Term holiday

3rd June – 19th July Term time

Monday 22nd July, INSET *School Closed to Pupils*

Tuesday 23th July, INSET *School Closed to Pupils*

Wednesday 24th July, INSET *School Closed to Pupils*