



Parents' Update: Thursday 10th March 2022

Dear Parents

FOR TRUE HUMAN FRATERNITY

Pope Francis entrusts his Worldwide Prayer Network each month with prayer intentions that express his great concern for humanity and for the mission of the Church. His monthly prayer intention is a worldwide call to transform our prayer into specific actions; it is a compass for a mission of compassion for the world.

We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.

At the time of writing, it is a very sunny morning and there is an air of spring pervading through the school. As ever, your children are a credit to you in their positivity, their energy and their ability to focus upon their learning. Last week's dress up day in celebration of World Book Week was especially inspiring, so I hope all of the children have further developed their love of reading as a result.

Events in Ukraine

I would like to thank you all for your donations for the people of Ukraine. Please keep them in your prayers and do please keep your donations coming, especially any help with first-aid equipment. We will then continue to send our donations across to Ukraine. Our friends over at Cricket Green special school are also partaking in this venture.

Catholic Ethos Matters

Last week we celebrated Mass for Ash Wednesday here at the school. It was good to see a small group of parents attending Mass and celebrating with us. From this point forward, you will always be welcome to come to Mass whenever we hold these at the school. Over the next two weeks, our children will visit the church and celebrate Mass there:

Tuesday 15th March 10.00am with Fr Gerry Years 5 and 6
Friday 18th March 10.30am with Fr Stephen Years 3 and 4
Wednesday 23rd March 10.30am Liturgy for Years 1 and 2

We are grateful to Fr Stephen and Fr Gerry for accommodating us.

In our assembly on Monday, we shared the Gospel story of Jesus being tempted by the devil. A small group of Year 6 children created their own prayers to accompany this reading and shared them with the children. This will now become our pattern of Monday worship.

The Mark 10 Mission might also help children to understand the temptation of the Lord.

Please find the links to this week's Wednesday Word, which is focusing upon the Transfiguration and how it emphasises encouragement. Tomorrow, Friday 11th March, children across the school will join with others across the country to watch the Cafod national assembly, which is timed to coincide



with the family fast day. We will be watching this live in school but you can also watch it again at home.

Events

Earlier this week, the children from year 2 travelled up to London to have a private viewing of a concert led by the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment. This is such a wonderful opportunity for the children in extending their experience (or further developing their "cultural capital" as according to Ofsted). Next week, our choir will be taking part in the Singfest festival at Mitcham parish church. Further to this, we have been fortunate to be able to work in partnership with Sonoro, a musical ensemble, to develop some work linking music, art and design technology for our Year 6 pupils. We are looking forward to this experience here in the school.

Yellow Lines and Zigzags

Having undertaken the morning duty at the Mitcham park gate, I have been horrified to see so many parents parking on double yellow lines and zigzags outside of school. This is presenting great danger to yourself and other people's children. From next week, we will be taking a much stronger line on parents who break the law in this way. It is disappointing that we have come to this, but I am seriously concerned that one of the children (or one of the parents) is going to be injured or worse. It seems like a harsh message from me, but nobody would want their child to suffer.

Entering and Exiting

At this time, we continue to make use of our two gates in order to limit numbers in any one area: Years 1 – 4 at the Cricket Green and Early Years plus Years 5 and 6 at the Mitcham Park entrance. If you have any questions regarding the new rules, please contact Miss Heasman or Miss Mitchell in regard to medical or attendance matters, and either the Assistant Headteachers or myself in regard to other matters.

For parents of children in Years 1 and 2, please stand back behind the floor drain/new benches in the Cricket Green playground when collecting your children – this makes it much easier and safer for school staff to see you and will lead to a swifter handover.

Donations, Cafod's Lenten Campaign and Easter Eggs

I know that we have asked you for lots of donations over the past few weeks, with mufti days and doughnut sales. However, I also encourage you to enable your child to take an Easter egg for the Easter egg competition: these only cost 50p and, whether your child is a winner or not, all Easter eggs that are decorated will be displayed in SS Peter and Paul church over the Easter holiday. We are also joining Cafod with their Lenten appeal, the Walk for Water. Please do sponsor your child in the walking activity that they are undertaking over the next two weeks.

Year 6 Meeting

We are looking forward to welcoming Year 6 parents into the school next week to discuss SATs and transition to secondary school. This will be the school's first face-to-face meeting for two years and we are looking forward to seeing real people instead of faces on the screen. This is heralding the beginning of your physical presence in the school!



SS PETER & PAUL CATHOLIC SCHOOL
'Learning Together, Achieving Together in Christ'
Head Teacher: Mr D Hennessey BEd (Hons), P.G. Dip. Ed., NPQH



Please keep in touch with the school's [Instagram](#) account for updates on children's work, our projects and insights into the working life of the school.

Pope Francis' Prayer for March

Good Father, source of Life in abundance, we know that you call us to be custodians of the gift of life that we receive from You. May your Holy Spirit give us courage and strength to put in the center of our interests the life of every human being from beginning to end. That faced with the challenges of bioethics we know to protect this gift in all times and circumstances, as your Son Jesus, our brother and friend, defended it. Give us courage and discernment to denounce what takes life away, and practice compassionate love to give life to others. Amen.

Wishing you well for the weekend,

David Hennessey
Headteacher