



## Cardinal Newman Catholic Primary School



Dear Parents

Thank you for all your very kind and supportive emails again this week. We have had excellent feedback from many families, which is really helpful for staff to hear. Interestingly, I was in a Surrey Heads meeting (via Zoom!) earlier this week and their “best practice for home learning” principles fitted almost exactly what we had already set out as a school:

- Consolidation of knowledge prioritised over new content
- Support and encouragement for pupils to read aloud and regularly
- Promote family communication and activities which support interaction with words

It has been great to understand that many families are finding the structured timetable useful – though I have also heard wonderful stories about days off timetable to enjoy preparation for camping out and tea parties and mini-Olympics! Every family will find their own preferred way of doing things in their unique situation – do continue to trust your instincts and do what is right for your child.

Above all, please don't worry about academic work – this is a stressful time for many families in lots of ways, but don't let school be an added stress – do what you can and enjoy this time with your children as best you can despite the challenges. Do prioritise their emotional and mental health (and your own) - everything else can and will be re-learnt and re-done when schools eventually reopen. If there is any way the school can support you further during this time, do let us know and we will do the best we can.

I have been in numerous meetings this week on the topic of schools re-opening. I'm sorry to say I have no concrete news about this, though I know this is the question on everyone's lips. The only things which seem likely are that it isn't very imminent and that when schools do re-open it will be gradual and phased rather than everyone in together from Day One. Schools will also have a primary focus on supporting the children's emotional, spiritual and physical wellbeing above all else during this very challenging time. I am working closely with the other Xavier heads as well as colleagues from local schools and Surrey local authority to ensure that we are as well briefed as we can possibly be when the time does come. I realise that this is very frustrating for parents, as it is also for staff, but I will continue to keep you updated as best I can. Children's Mental Health – We are hearing from a number of families that

WE DIDN'T REALISE WE WERE  
MAKING MEMORIES, WE JUST KNEW  
WE WERE HAVING FUN



some children are experiencing anxiety and withdrawal symptoms from the loss of their regular routines and social contacts.

### **Private Number Calls**

Thank you to everyone who has taken time out to speak to staff and let them know how you are getting on at home. Just a reminder that all school staff are working at the moment, but some are working from home where they can. If this is the case, they will be calling from their own mobile and have been asked to withhold their personal number for safeguarding reasons – if you get a call from a “private number” this may be the call from your child’s class teacher. We know not everyone answers a call from a private number, so we wanted to make you aware. If you would rather not have this contact from school, do just let us know. Teachers are enjoying hearing from the children and I believe the children are also benefitting from maintaining some contact with school staff.

**E-Safety** – This is our Weekly reminder – please see info on the school website [here](#) and remember to check settings on your child’s devices. They should ideally be in the same room as an adult when accessing online resources. Please remind them to tell you straightaway if they see anything online which makes them uncomfortable - See / Stop / Tell. You may find the attached book useful to share with them about Internet Safety (please don’t share beyond our school community or on social media for Copyright reasons)

### **Photos for Website**

Thank you for your continuing correspondence with teachers by phone and by email – it is great for all of us to see what your children have been doing. The link to some new home learning photos is [here](#) and it would be great to have even more for next week. Please could you put the subject line as “Photos for Website” so that the office can effectively filter the correct photos! Please also see our **Year 3 pupil Carlos** on this link <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=82ZWlpE67Vs> as he did the readings at Mass (from home!) on Sunday. Well done Carlos, we are all very proud of you! There are more resources for Sunday worship on the accompanying sheet which I hope will be helpful.

### **TT Rock Stars Battle**

Our congratulations to the victorious Emerald Class who were the outright winners of our Times Tables Battle. Mr Joice is very proud of you all – well done! The Class Leader Board looks as follows:

**1<sup>st</sup> Place - Emerald: 49,162**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Ruby: 36,995**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place - Coral: 33,662**

The individual class winners are:

**Emerald: Sara Farcasi (13766), Ella Clowes (7914), Simon Garces (5900)**

**Ruby: Fabio Grizzanti (9200), Gabriela Bahoshy (4606), Rory Malloy (4480)**

**Coral: Natalia Farcasi (7478), Maxwell Ziegler (6216), Alessandro Natalizia (2503)**

**Opal: Peter Ziegler (10583), Odhran Hennessy-Goodwin (3783), George Rizzi Otter (3000)**

**Sapphire: Nathan Saddam (5931), Alicia Targett (3613), Maya O'Brien (3181)**  
**Topaz: Mario Bahoshy (11025), Isla Lovell (1677), Frank Mrowiec (1075)**  
**Amethyst: Erin Cook (4262), Ella Spagatner-West (1312), Amy Sheridan (480)**  
**Garnet: Evie Arundel (587), Oliver Chaudoir (182)**

Congratulations certificates have been sent to all of our winners – well done! Our congratulations to everyone who has taken part – I have heard great stories of children who are finding I Can Do Maths much easier because they have reached an “automatic” level of tables knowledge! National Year 4 Times Tables tests have been suspended for this summer of course, but Year 3 children will be working towards their own test next year. This is a great foundation for all children, supporting their Key Stage 2 and secondary work in Maths and Sciences, so well worth spending some time on.

The next TWO WEEK BATTLE has already been set – let the competition commence!!

### **Newsletter Week References**

Over the Easter break, Hamilton (for English) and White Rose (for Maths) re-organised their home learning pages, so staff have asked me to clarify that the coming week (from Monday) the resources suggested to use are labelled (at the moment!!)

Hamilton Week 4

White Rose Summer Term Week 2

From next week, we understand the White Rose lessons will also link to the BBC Maths programmes and resources, so watch this space.

There follow below some general resources which may be of interest to families:

### **Chipper Club**

<https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=3&ved=2ahUKEwiLz4jDmP7oAhVIIFwKHcFfC2IQFjACegQIARAB&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.inyourarea.co.uk%2Fnews%2Fchipper-club-challenge-thank-you-from-surrey%2F&usg=AOvVaw3CY-UhiWDXZEe4Pp2yRcIE>

### **National Theatre**

These resources are not super child-friendly (Shakespeare definitely wasn't U-rated!) so they shouldn't use this login on their own! There is a nice recording of the production of “Peter Pan” which they might enjoy and some children may be interested in the behind the scenes access to props / costumes / sound and lighting equipment. For adults, there is also access to the National Theatre Live range which have been showing in cinemas nationally, if you fancy a “virtual cinema” evening!

The National Theatre have also asked that this login shouldn't be shared beyond our own school community and definitely not on social media please.

Your access details are: <https://www.dramaonlinelibrary.com>

**Username: 7Diz5Ed@y+**

**Password: 4Ga!8OpAw+**

(The Log in button is in the top right-hand corner of the landing page. Please insert your username and password to left-hand option of the login pop-up.)

#### **DAILY CHALLENGE PE ACTIVITIES FROM HOME**

Daily challenges:

[http://www.activesurrey.com/activesurrey/uploads/get\\_started/coronavirus/schooling/Daily\\_Challenges.pdf](http://www.activesurrey.com/activesurrey/uploads/get_started/coronavirus/schooling/Daily_Challenges.pdf)

Co-ordination Challenge for KS1 / LKS2 / UKS2

<https://www.youtube.com/user/activesurrey/videos>

#### **Colouring Sheets – Be the Change**

<https://www.mccrimmons.com/library/files/BTC-Colouring-v3.pdf>

“You must be the change you wish to see in the world” – Mahatma Gandhi

You might choose to colour these, to create your own or to show us how you have acted to make the change, maybe by planting seeds, by picking up litter or another act of kindness for the Earth or for each other. We would love to hear about your Acts of Kindness at home, so do let us know. Or if someone has been kind to you – Give them a Shout Out!

