

# Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers,

3rd March 2023

Welcome to the first newsletter of the half term. It has been the usual hectic start to the half term, and it can at times seem overwhelming...but whenever you are stressed in a primary school, the actions and enthusiasm of the children can soon lift you up again!

I am pleased that we were able to offer some children a normal day yesterday, whilst respecting the rights of my colleagues. I remind parents that further action is planned for the 15th and 16th March. We will try to give you as much notice as possible, within the given constraints.

## School Developments and Building Work

Over the half term, a large amount of work was carried out in the school garden to clear many of the shrubs and trees, and repair the pond. It is a shock to see it so clear and I'm sure the local population is wondering what happened.

However, over the next few months, we will start to put back bird and insect-friendly native trees and shrubs (and additional growing areas), in a planned way to encourage greater use of the garden and pond. As spring comes we will want to see as many children enjoying the well-being that comes from interacting with nature.

I have also had some wonderful news from Earthwatch <https://earthwatch.org/>. They have received funding to develop the KS1 empty space into a Schools Garden pilot. Ms Stott and Ms Bolton are leading on the project. The build day is the 23<sup>rd</sup> May. It would be great if some parents were able to join in transforming the space.

We also had the staffroom upgraded over the holiday. I am very grateful to Shirley who project managed the work. She made the staff very happy indeed. **Happy Staff = Happy Children!!**

## PE House Points System

There are a number of USP's about Sacred Heart.

The access to green spaces and well-being areas, music education and sports coaching.

We are one of the few primary schools left with dedicated teachers for music and PE (and Computing) and Ms Ormonde has instigated a new house points scheme for PE lessons.

Your children have been split into four houses: St Mary Clitherow, St Martin Porres, St John Bosco and St Thomas More. They will win points for excellent behaviour and sportsmanship, as well as points for outstanding sporting performance. House points will also be issued at Sports Day, resulting in a winning 'House' at the end of the year. I have already seen children excitedly recording their points!



I know Ms Ormonde was pleased with the attitude of the two teams that she took to the Wandsworth Netball league at Burntwood School on Wednesday. The 'A' team ended up in 5<sup>th</sup> and the 'B' team 7<sup>th</sup>. Katie Hill in 6T tells me, "We had many instances of footwork but I can't pinpoint what the major problem was!" She had high hopes.

## Secondary Transfer

Year 6 children were notified of their schools for the coming year. We are sending children to a number of private schools, Catholic schools, academies and community schools. I will publish the list at a later date but I'm sure that all the children will be happy and successful in their new school-especially given the excellent start they have had at Sacred Heart.

## **Parent Partnership at Sacred Heart**

It was uplifting to see the youngest children perform so brilliantly in their first assembly on Wednesday. They brought Jack and the Beanstalk to life and then shared their wonderful work with their parents.

Next Tuesday (7th March) at 9:15am, Year 2 parents are invited into school. The parents' session will help parents develop their child's reading skills, as well as inform them about the forthcoming SATs tests in Year 2. I hope as many of you as possible will find the time to attend.

Parents will also have the opportunity to join us at their children's Celebration of the Word, starting from next week with Year 6 (please see below).

## **Fundraising**

### **One of the themes of Lent is 'AlmsGiving'**

Children will be taking in two fundraising events. One of these is the Cafod Big Lent Walk. The plan is for the children to walk at least a kilometer and raise at least £1. We are hoping for 400Km and £400 to help impoverished communities around the world.

### **The other event is [Run Kids Run](#) which is a charity event for schools in the Battersea area.**

Save the date: **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April** 10am-12pm at Battersea Park central bandstand.

Nursery /reception children will run 1k

Years 1 - 6 will run 2k

This event is a sponsored run for the school which guarantees the school makes £5K in sponsorship from local businesses. I will send more details in the coming weeks.

## **Catholic Life of the School**

As parents know, Sacred Heart was judged 'Outstanding' in its last Diocesan inspection. It was given this grade not just because of the unique depth of its parish links but also because of the way the religious and moral education at Sacred Heart benefits all children, regardless of their faith.

Each Friday we begin the day with a Family Prayer group led by children and Deacon Michael, but shared with a growing number of parents.

During the period of Lent, we move seamlessly from Friday Prayer Group into Stations of Cross, led by different year groups each week (with the remaining KS2 classes joining on Zoom).

Each Wednesday, we now change from class assemblies to the Celebration of the Word. Fr Peter and Deacon Michael will lead the children in a year group prayer service. The same aims of being able to speak to an audience and demonstrate teamwork and respect for one another, will be at the forefront. Hopefully wonderful singing will shine through as well. Parents of the hosting year group each week, are invited to join the service and then view their children's RE books after the prayer service. On Wednesday 8th March, Year 6 starts the programme.

### **Future Celebration of the Word Services:**

- **Year 5 - Wednesday 15th March**
- **Year 4 - Wednesday 22nd March**
- **Year 3 - Wednesday 29th March**
- **Year 2 - Wednesday 26th April**
- **Year 1 - Wednesday 3rd May**
- **Reception - Wednesday 17th May**

## The Celebration of 150 years of The Salesian Sisters in Battersea

On March 11<sup>th</sup> at 11.30am, the children of the school are invited to help Sr Brida and the Salesians sisters celebrate their 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The children are asked to join Mr Cronin in the hymn '**A woman for all time**', which they have been practising in school. Children have also submitted work to the Sisters and this will be on display at the back of the Church.

I hope as many children as possible can join the Sisters and me for their celebration.



## AFC Wimbledon Women's fixtures @ Plough Lane

AFC Wimbledon Women have 3 remaining fixtures to be played at Plough Lane this season, and we would love to offer your students tickets for the games.

It would be amazing to see so many young fans at the games, to collect your tickets you have 2 options:

1. Schools to sign up via this link, <https://forms.gle/HozwNGso5uYCTEpL8> it will then be the schools' responsibilities to allocate tickets.
2. Send the following link out to all parents/guardians for them to sign up for their own tickets, <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/afc-wimbledon-vs-chesham-united-foundation-tickets-566363778307>

**CHESHAM UNITED**  
5/3, 2PM

**CAMBRIDGE CITY**  
2/4, 2PM

**NORWICH CITY**  
30/4, 2PM

**GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!**

**Andy May**  
Education Manager

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🏠 Plough Lane, Wimbledon, SW17 0NR

🌐 [www.afcwimbledonfoundation.com](http://www.afcwimbledonfoundation.com)

 **AFC WIMBLEDON  
FOUNDATION**

Registered charity no.: 1154198



## Sacred Heart Primary School Term Dates 2022 - 2023

Please be aware that some dates differ from those published by Wandsworth.  
These are our term dates for the academic year.

<b>Autumn Term 2022</b>
<b>INSET Day: 1st September</b>
<b>INSET Day: 26th September</b>
<b>Autumn 1: 5th September - 20th October</b>
<b>Half Term: 24th - 28th October</b>
<b>INSET Day: Monday 31st October</b>

<b>Spring Term 2023</b>
<b>INSET Day: Tuesday 3rd January</b>
<b>Spring 1: 4th January - 10th February</b>
<b>Half Term: 13th - 17th February</b>
<b>Spring 2: 20th February - 31st March</b>

<b>Summer Term 2023</b>
<b>Summer 1: 17th April - 26th May</b>
<b>Bank Holiday: 1st May</b>
<b>Bank Holiday (Coronation of King Charles III): 8th May</b>
<b>Half Term: 29th May - 2nd June</b>
<b>INSET Day: 5th June</b>
<b>Summer 2: 6th June - 21st July</b>



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<b>INSET Day: 4th September</b>
<b>Autumn 1: 5th September - 20th October</b>
<b>Half Term: 23th - 27th October</b>
<b>INSET Day: 30th October</b>
<b>Autumn 2: 31st October - 21st December</b>

<b>Spring Term 2024</b>
<b>Spring 1: 8th January - 9th February</b>
<b>Half Term: 12th - 16th February</b>
<b>Spring 2: 19th February - 28th March</b>

<b>Summer Term 2024</b>
<b>Summer 1: 15th April - 24th May</b>
<b>Half Term: 27th May - 31st May</b>
<b>INSET Day: 3rd June</b>
<b>Summer 2: 4th June - 24th July</b>
<b>Two INSET Days TBC</b>