



School Newsletter

6th May 2019

Academic year 2018-19

Number 20

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is a brief newsletter as I am rushing off now to join Y4 on their residential in Ashdown Forest. Miss Holloway, Mrs Garcia, Coach Keira and Mrs Cormican will be away as well, returning on Wednesday afternoon. I will post blogs as we go to keep you updated of our adventures.

Most clubs start this week, with a few exceptions. There will be no Eco club on Tuesday and no athletics club on Wednesday as we have no staffing to cover them, owing to our residential. Netball club will continue to half term, as will football squad.

Very important notice – Parent help needed!

Next Saturday we host all the Catholic schools in the deanery for our annual netball and football tournament. We will have upwards of 200 children competing and about the same number of adults. Our school has an outstanding reputation for running the best tournament of the school year and providing the best hospitality. We have two netball teams and three football teams competing, and obviously their parents are very keen to watch their children play. This means we need lots of help from parents of children in the infants and lower juniors to staff the refreshments stalls through the day. The event commences at 9.00 next Saturday and finishes about 1pm, but there's also lots of setting up to do beforehand and clearing afterwards. PLEASE consider offering your support with helping – even if it's just for an hour. I could do with some support to set up marquees at the start of the morning; from about 7.30am, and again at the end between 1 and 2. Please speak to your PTA class reps and offer some help if you haven't already. Many, many thanks.

PTA items –

The Big Battery Hunt - More info to follow but please start keeping your batteries and toner/ink cartridges for a new PTA green initiative we are rolling out soon. Anna Bond has been leading on making our PTA and school generally much more eco-friendly. Keep an eye out for flyers.

Sports News:

I haven't yet recognized in the newsletter the amazing achievement of our school football team who won both Croydon Trophies this year. They won the Croydon Schools Cup – contested by over 70 schools and also the Croydon Small Schools Cup. This has never been achieved before! Here's the match report written by the team:

On Tuesday 2nd April, Margaret Roper Football Team travelled to Greenvale Primary School, to play Ridgeway School in the final of the Primary Schools Cup. We had not faced Ridgeway before, and at kick off both teams were very equal, playing some great football. In the second half the game continued to be very tight but then with attacking flair Ollie broke the deadlock and fired

the ball into the back of the net, clinching the game for us. This is the first time Margaret Roper have won this cup, which dates back to the 19th century.

Our second game of the week was on Thursday 4th April when once again we travelled to Greenvale's pitch to play in the final of the small schools cup against St Aidan's, which seemed very much like a local derby!

We played with great team work in this very tough game and at the final whistle the score was 3-0. Margaret Roper had won the Small Schools Cup for the 5th time in its history.

After receiving our medals and the cup we were told by the League Secretary, Peter Westlake, that we were the first school in Croydon to win both the Primary Schools Cup and the Small Schools Cup in the same season. Well done Archie, Adam, Dominic, Ollie, Charlie, Dan M, Dan B and Luca. What an amazing season!

We hope for further success in Saturday's competition. Good luck also to our netball team who are going from strength to strength, thanks to the excellent coaching and support of Mrs. Piper, Mrs. McCabe and Mrs. Dawson.

Green Fingred Kids – Woodcote Nurseries have relaunched their Green Fingred Kids Scheme – for every £10 you spend you receive a voucher. We've already had some in – ask your friends and family too. They help us to buy equipment and plants for our gardens. Alison Saunders came in recently and helped us to plant up our beds in the Fr. Salmon Garden. Thanks Alison – we'll keep watering them!

Attendance Letters – Recently we sent out attendance letters after our termly analysis of attendance figures. All families with children under 95% attendance will have received a letter. We fully understand where absence is taken due to illness, however by providing feedback it helps to improve attendance and punctuality overall.

Forest School – If you haven't already had a look, take a glance at our forest school area by the car park. Mr. Pittman and his team came in over the Easter holidays and developed part of the area and we're all very excited about using it now. Thanks Jeremy and team – you were so helpful. Miss Buchan is on a course this week in Sweden with other teachers from Croydon learning all about the Swedish approach to forest learning and will then be our forest school evangelist. We can't wait to find out what she has learned.

D Mooney

(see below our fantastic football cup double winners!)



Caring, Learning and Achieving together as part of God's Family