



Good Shepherd Newsletter

Friday 8th September 2023

Welcome back!

It has been lovely to see the children looking so happy to be back at school this week. I have been extremely impressed with how hard they have been working, despite the heat. The Nursery and Reception children also started on Monday and are settling in very well.



Punctuality

Well done children for getting to school on time this week. The vast majority of children have been in class by 8:40am but unfortunately there will be some families who will be receiving 'late' letters today.



Don't be late please as your child will miss out on their learning.

Shoe Laces

We have a very large number of junior children who do not know how to tie up their laces and just tuck them in, meaning that their shoes or trainers fall off when they are running. At the end of term, I set some holiday homework for children to learn how to tie up laces nice and tightly.

Did you remember to teach your child?



RAAC update

I am sure you have all read my letter sent last Friday, however, here is a summary:

Recent media coverage has highlighted issues relating to Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) and its long-term durability. The Department for Education (DfE) has recently changed its guidance on the management of RAAC to take a more precautionary approach.

We do not have any confirmed RAAC in Good Shepherd and have not been asked to close any areas. However, we want to take care and to be sure, and are currently working with the DfE to actively check whether RAAC has been used in the construction of any part of our buildings. If RAAC is identified, we will let you know straight away as the safety of pupils and staff is of paramount importance.

Whole School Rule

Your children may have told you that we now have a new whole school rule which is:

Be kind and respectful

This goes alongside our Mission Statement which is:

Learning together as part of God's family

Nursery and Reception in September '24

Do you, or anyone you know, have children due to start Nursery or Reception next September? If so, applications have started already so please speak to the school office.

Respect

Responsibility

Determination

Positivity

Teamwork

Headteacher and Kindness Awards

There are no individual certificates to children this week but well done to everyone.



Dates for the Year

Please find attached dates for the academic year. You will find all important dates here such as class assembly dates, term dates, mufti days etc.

Nasal flu Immunisations

Letters were sent out to Reception –Year 6 this week regarding the annual nasal flu vaccination programme in schools. Please remember to return your completed form by 28th September.

Even if you do not wish your child to have this, please return the form so you do not get contacted by your GP's surgery.

Friends of Good Shepherd (FROGS)

There will be a coffee morning for parents in the Hub on Monday 11th at 8:40am—all welcome.



Free Lunches for Children

The Mayor of London has given all primary school children in London free school meals this year.

Your child will receive their free school meal automatically regardless of your individual financial circumstances. You do not need to complete any forms for your child to receive a school lunch.

Save time and money by letting them have a school lunch.

Please note that this is for children in Reception to Year 6 and Nursery children will still have to pay for a school lunch.

Fire Station Open Day

Croydon Fire Station (Old Town, CR0 1AR) are holding an open day tomorrow, Saturday 9th September 11:30-5:00pm.

There will be lots of fun activities, e.g. inflatable assault course and trampolines, as well as demonstrations and displays from the Fire Station along with the Ambulance and Police. Food and drink will be available to purchase.

Unfortunately there is no parking available on site and there will be a small charge for some activities that will go to the Firefighters' Charity.

Fr Con's Reflection

Hoping you are all well after the main school holiday period, and wishing all of you blessings and success for this new school year.



This 1st week ends on September 8th, the day when the Church celebrates the Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, of the Church and of us all.

As tutor to Jesus for the first half of his 30 or so years on earth, she is the ideal person to whom to commit and commend this new school year.

As Mother of the Good Shepherd, we ask her to intercede for everyone connected with our school during the academic year.

May we be assured of her ongoing protection, as "sheep" in the fold of her divine Son.

If you need to contact the office, please email or telephone **01689 841 771**
office@goodshepherd.croydon.sch.uk

Have a lovely weekend
Mrs Day

Learning together as part of God's family