



CATHOLIC PRIMARY
SCHOOL & NURSERY, *with* THE
ARK, *a* SPECIALIST RESOURCE



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Happy New Year

to you all and Welcome Back to children and staff. A New Year is always an exciting time and we are looking forward to another really successful twelve months.



New Phone for Christmas?

We are coming up to the coldest time of the year. We very much hope that there will be no snow—and that if there is we will be able to keep the school open. But *just in case* we have to close unexpectedly, please make sure that we have your latest contact details.



Ruqayyah Kassam

Congratulations to Mrs. Kassam and her husband, Zeyn, on the birth of baby Ruqayyah who arrived on Wednesday, weighing a healthy 6 pounds..



Clubs (1)

Recorder club re-starts next week. Chess this term will not run after school but will take place at lunch-times. This is so that Mr. Cosgrove can help with Year 6 after school booster classes.



Mums' Programme

A course entitled "Personal Development–Confidence and Employability" starts on the 6th of March at Whitley Community Café and Reading University. Full details

were in [issue 392](#). For more information or to reserve a place please email c.l.fuller@reading.ac.uk.



February 6th

Hexagon Concert

The choir and Mr Krasnopski's class will both be taking part in this event which this year is in aid of Barnardo's and Creating Better Futures. The concert is on February 6th. from 7 – 9 p.m. and tickets are on sale now through the Hexagon theatre box office.

We are also seeking sponsors to help defray the costs, to make the most of the charitable proceeds. This coming week will

be the last opportunity to feature on the poster, so why wait? Email james@purplehare.space to get involved!



Thank You!

for £737.52 donated to save the Children from Christmas Jumper day and the collections after our Christmas performances. This is even more than the generous £702 you gave last year.



Our Newsletter is produced each week with the help of Purple Hare, who also assist with the Children Helping Children concert. If you have any event or graphic design needs, feel free to email james@purplehare.space.

NO NUTS!

Some of our children have serious allergies.



We started our week in English and finished in Swahili
"Good Morning!" "Jambol!"



RED: Read Every Day

Reading is Fun

Our New Year's Resolution is for all children to be RED in 2018. (RED = Readers Every Day!) Today we launch our new RED incentive scheme

Years 2—6: For every book a child reads he or she will be awarded points. 10 points for any book; 20 points for a book appropriate to the child's year group. (If in doubt teachers will be happy to advise.)

There are bonus points for having a Reading, Wokingham or West Berkshire library card. We will keep track of the points children earn and RED points will win prizes.

100 points earns the first badge;

For 250 points children gain a special bookmark;

500 points means the second badge and allows the child to choose a book to keep;

750 points earns the third badge and a £10 book token.

Those children who gain 1,000 points will have a special certificate, a star badge and a book token awarded in a special assembly.

How will we know if children from Years 3 – 6 have read the books they claim? Simple. For the award of points the child will have to talk to a member of staff about the book, to show not only that they have read it, but that they have understood it.

Reception and Year 1: Children who are still learning to read independently can also join in the fun. They can gain the

same incentives as the older children, but they earn these from sharing a book with an adult. As these books are shorter and it is possible to read one or more every evening, they will earn fewer points for each book. 5 points for each book shared with an adult could allow children to gain their first badge in less than three weeks, and even quicker if they earn the bonus points for having a library card.

Children in Reception could start today!

They will bring home a Bookstart book pack, with "The Bumble Bear" by Nadia Shireen and great ideas to help parents and children enjoy sharing books.



*Reading
Builds
Brainpower*

So let's all get reading in 2018!



Clubs (2)

Ballet and Judo resume the week after next. **Recorder, Choir and Art Club** all start next week.



Parking

Please could parents be considerate of our neighbours and be conscious of the safety of our pupils. There is very limited parking in either Durham Close or Lulworth Road: please do not park on pavements or across drives; and with three schools served by Exbourne Road traffic in the morning and the evening gets very congested and there have been several recent incidents of children being placed in danger by people parking inconsiderately. It may well be better to walk just a little further.



Reminder

At the end of the day... Please could parents remember to stand at the side of the playground or behind the level of the planter boxes and benches? It is easier and safer if the children can be brought out into their lines and then sent to their parents. If adults mingle with the children it is very easy to lose track of someone.

Congratulations!



Amber Harper who has gained her 50metre swimming award..

