

7th May 2021

Dear Parents,

May is the month of Our Lady but sadly we cannot meet at the front of the school to pray a decade of the rosary in the morning like we used to. Perhaps you would like to pray a decade at home instead. If children can find their miraculous medal with the blue ribbon, they can wear them during May. (Year 1 didn't get theirs last year, but will be getting them shortly!)

Chicks and ducklings – There has been great excitement today with the arrival of chicks in Year 1 and ducklings in Reception hatching from their eggs! The staff will try to upload footage onto Google Classroom and Tapestry. A huge thank you to The Friends whose funds enabled this to happen!

Covid – The rate of infection in our local area is decreasing however, a local school had three cases this week and had to close bubbles, so please continue to be vigilant in following the rules.

Bags to school – We have been very cautious about limiting the risk of covid-19 infection in school and had stopped children from bringing bags into school. I am happy to say that we feel this decision can now be reversed and children can bring their school bags into school (if they need to) from Monday.

Reading Folders – Please can all infant children now bring their reading folder into school EVERY DAY.

Year 4 football match – One of our dads, Rob Marengi organised a football match at Firs Farm playing fields on Thursday evening between Classes 4G and 4Y. It was a wonderful occasion and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. 4G were the winners (6-5) and brought the cup to school to keep in their classroom (until the next one!) Sincere thanks to Rob for organising this and buying all the medals, snacks and trophy for the children to enjoy. Another thank you to the many parents who helped and for donating money. We received £130 in cash and other parents donated to The Friends online. Thank you all!! If any other parent wants to organise this for their child's year group, you're more than welcome!

Last One Standing! – Another huge thank you to another one of our dads, Tom Conlon, who organised this fund raiser for the school! A total of £835 was raised for The Friends and thanks to RedLoft for sponsoring it and providing the cash prize of £100. The winners have very generously donated their winnings back to the school!!

Tom Conlon's message: After 10 weeks, 323 total selections, and one tense penalty shoot out, the 2021 Last One Standing Champions are the father and son managerial duo of Gary and Joseph Kennedy!



Congratulations to Team Kennedy - a tremendous effort over the last few months.

Well done also to Kieron and Owen for making it so far. As I said at the start, we weren't quite sure how many people would be interested so thank you again to everyone for getting involved, and in particular to Alex Farrugia at the Friends for supporting the idea and helping to get it up and running. It was a shame the most brutal week by far was week 1 so more of you didn't get a longer run. However, we'll be back next year so please do have another try then! We'll aim to raise £1,000 in the next one!

Poker Night - Due to the success of the last PokerStars event, everyone is gearing up for another round. Put the evening of 28th May in your diaries. Watch this space for more announcements.

The Big Ask – Children in England are being asked to give their views to the Children's Commissioner for England. There are age appropriate surveys as well as one for adults. You can find the links here <https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigask/>

Mental Health Awareness Week - This takes place next week. See attachment for more details.

Have a lovely weekend.
Kind regards,

Kate Baptiste, Headteacher