

Whole School Messages

Welcome back:

Welcome back to school! We hope everyone had a restful and joyful Christmas break filled with time to relax, celebrate, and recharge. We are really looking forward to another great half term and can't wait to see all the wonderful learning, effort, and enthusiasm happening in classrooms again.

Smartphone Free:

A reminder that from the start of January our **Smartphone free school decision comes into permanent effect**. If a child does bring in a smartphone into school the class teacher or HLTA will bring the smartphone or smartwatch to the school office and ask the office team to ring the P/C and ask them to collect it.

We have also reminded all our staff members in all areas of the school, that they should not be seen using a Smartphone anywhere around the building by the children and that from now on phones aren't to be on desks during staff training.

A big thank you to all our families for supporting this as we work to model better phone use to the children.

Smartphone Free Childhood Event:

There is a Smartphone Free Childhood event being held at Brighton Aldridge Community Academy on Thursday 29th January 2026. Parents and carers across Brighton and Hove are invited to a special event on the impact of smartphones on children's wellbeing, learning and safeguarding. This event is at 6:30 PM–8:30 PM (Doors open at 6:00 PM for a prompt start). The evening will feature expert speakers, a Q&A session, and an opportunity to connect with other families and educators. Please get your free ticket here: <https://luma.com/xvsegegm>

Social Media:

Stay connected with Hove Learning Federation by following us on Facebook and Instagram! You'll get regular updates on upcoming clubs and activities, highlights of what the children have been enjoying during the school day and important announcements and information. You can find us on @Hovelearningfederation

Could we please ask all Parent's/Carer's to ensure they have either accepted or declined permissions via Arbor for their child/ren to appear on our social media accounts under the 'Photographs for use on social media (such as school/PTA Facebook page)'.

Unwanted Gifts:

If you received a Christmas gift that you don't need, please consider donating it to the school for use in the Summer Fete tombola. A yellow donation box is located in the main reception for any unopened items. Please see the PTA poster below for more information.

Multisports:

There are still a few remaining spaces for the multisports after school club which include cricket, handball, footgolf, frisbee and target games. Please see the poster below for information on days and how to book a place.

Cardinal Newman proposed admission arrangements for the school year 2027-28.

Proposed changes are being made to admission arrangements for Cardinal Newman Catholic School for the school year 2027/28. The six-week (minimum) consultation will begin on *Friday 19th December 2025* with the closing date for submitting comments being *Friday 30th January 2026*. The proposed arrangements (admissions policy and supplementary information form (SIF) can be viewed on the school website: www.cncs.co.uk under [admissions policies](#). Alternatively, if you do not have access to the Internet and you wish to request a printed copy of the admissions arrangements and a response form, please contact our *Admissions Manager* at *Cardinal Newman Catholic School* – admissions@cncs.co.uk The proposed admission arrangements for consultation are detailed under sub category (b) in the oversubscription criteria 1 to 3, 5 or 7 in the 2027-28 Admissions Policy.

Comments on the proposed admission arrangements should be sent to *Cardinal Newman Catholic School* by the closing date (latest midnight on *Friday 30th January 2026*)

Cold Weather:

A gentle reminder that all pupils need to be bringing a coat to school during the colder months. Without one they will not be able to go outside during their break and lunchtimes. If you require support to purchase a coat, we are able to help. The PTA have second hand uniform and coats available.

Arbor:

The Parent Portal and Parent App allow you to manage your child's school activities and payments. You will also be able to book parents' evening appointments through the portal when booking becomes available.

The app can be downloaded to your mobile phone, and if you need any help doing so, please follow this link: [How to download the Arbor app](#)

Year Group Messages

Year 3:

We are really excited to begin our new topic, Trash to Treasure, in January. Our Stunning Start will be on **Monday 12th January** and the children will be wearing their usual school uniform for this. We would love your rubbish and were wondering whether you could please help us out by bringing in plastic bottle tops (e.g. from juice cartons) and used wrapping paper, the more colourful the better. We need these in school by Friday 9th January. Thank you ever so much in advance for your help.

Home Reading Books:

Please ensure that any home reading books are in your child's bag every day so that we can read with children and they can be changed.

Key Dates

Year 3	
January	
February	
13/02/26	Last day of term

Year 4	
January	
February	
13/02/26	Last day of term

Year 5	
January	
20/01/26	Trip to Brighton Girls School for science day (AM only)
February	
13/02/26	Last day of term

Year 6	
January	
21/01/26	Evacuee Day
27/01/26	6G & 6B – Downs Junior School Air Raid Shelter Trip (AM only)
28/01/26	6Y & 6R – Downs Junior School Air Raid Shelter Trip (AM only)
February	
13/02/26	Last day of term

UNWANTED CHRISTMAS PRESENTS?



**GET A GIFT
THAT'S JUST
NOT YOU?
DONATE TO
HOVE JNS PTA
ADULT AND CHILD GIFTS
ACCEPTED**

**BRING NEW AND
UNOPENED ITEMS
TO THE YELLOW
BOX IN
RECEPTION.
ALL ITEMS WILL BE
USED FOR THE
SUMMER FETE
TOMBOLA**





HIGH QUALITY
SPORTS COACHING
& CURRICULUM
SUPPORT



MULTI SPORTS CLUBS

AT PORTLAND ROAD

THIS TERM INCLUDES:

- **CRICKET**
- **HANDBALL**
- **FOOTGOLF**
- **FRISBEE & TARGET GAMES**

A FEW SPACES STILL AVAILABLE ON:

- **MONS YR3/4**
- **THURS YR5/6**

BOOK AT WWW.SPORTLEARNING.CO.UK

WEST HOVE
INFANT SCHOOL
A family of friends



**SMARTPHONE
FREE ZONE**

We are now

A SMARTPHONE

FREE SCHOOL.

Please do not send your child to school with a



WANT TO DONATE?

Make a contribution to
our School Fund! All
money raised directly
supports resources for our
children.

