

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

'providing a Christ centred setting whereby all can live out the messages of Jesus with love, understanding and care'

St Mary's is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff, volunteers and visitors to share this commitment

Designated Child Protection Officer: Ms A Maher
Child Protection policy available at www.st-mary-bh.dudley.sch.uk

Spring 2 2014



Dear Parents and Children

Welcome back to another half term at St Mary's. I am delighted to tell you that our new outdoor library is well on its way to completion and that work has now started on enlarging Y2 and Y3 classrooms. We are hoping that the work will be completed by Easter. Before then, we will journey through Lent together and, as we move through Lent in preparation for Easter, we will be saying The Angelus everyday in class in addition to our daily prayers. The Angelus is traditionally prayed at 12noon and 6pm. There is a copy of the prayer in the Newsletter and we invite you to say The Angelus at home in the evening with your children so that you too can share in their Lenten journey. The Stations of The Cross will also be displayed in our playground to remind our school community of the events of Holy Week and our Liturgical Leaders are preparing a quiz to engage children and parents in this activity.

I hope you and your children will enjoy all the activities that we have planned for our school community this term.

With best wishes,

Ms A Maher
Headteacher



School Meals Price Increase

With effect from 28th April 2014 the price of a school meal will increase to £2.00 per day, £10.00 per week. Could you please ensure that school meals are paid for at the cash point at lunchtime and not at the school office. Meals can be paid for by cash or cheque and on a Monday for the whole week if you prefer. Please ensure cheques are made payable to **DMBC** and not St. Mary's. Thank you.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



The following children have birthdays during March and April. If your name is not on the list please let us know so that we can check we have the correct date of birth on our records:

Ruby REC	Natalie Y6
Joshua Y4	Holly Y1
Briony Y3	Harry Y3
Ben Y5	Lena REC
Ivy Y2	Ellen Y6
James Y4	Avni REC
Ismail REC	Chloe Y5
Mario Y2	Bianca Y5
Colby Y1	Ocean Y2
Zara Y6	Hollie Y3
Rowan Y3	Kristian Y5
Aaliyah Y1	Jack Y5
Georgia Y4	Maisie REC
Gayatri Y1	

Attendance Return

6th January 2014—14th February 2014

Rec—95.48%
Yr 1—94.58%
Yr 2—93.75%
Yr 3—98.93%
Yr 4—93.98%
Yr 5—96.37%
Yr 6—96.88%

Well done Year 3. You are this half term's winners.

Our overall absences were:
4.64% authorised
1.26% unauthorised
Our overall attendance was 94.10%

Please note that unauthorised absences count as truancy so if we have not heard from you by 10am we have to keep a record for our Education Welfare Officer. **Please remember that holidays in school time are also unauthorised.**

Please also note that if your child arrives late, after registers are closed, this is counted as an absence so please try to be on time.



Whole School Mass List

Tues 11th Mar	Year 5 Mass	9.15am
Tues 25th Mar	Mass of Annunciation Y1	9.15am
Tues 8th Apr	Easter Mass Y6	9.15am

We look forward to seeing as many parents and parishioners as possible at our whole school Masses.

Diary Dates



Tues 4th Mar	Y5 visit to Hindu Temple
Mon 10th Mar	Foundation Stage INSPIRE morning 9.15am First Aid Training Y2-Y6 Y6 Liturgy with Sr Grace 2.30pm First Holy Communion Meeting, Parish Centre 7.00pm for Y3 parents
Sun 16th Mar	Children's Liturgy, St Mary's Church 11am Mass
Tues 18th Mar	Y2 INSPIRE morning 9.15am
Mon 24th Mar	Y2 Liturgy with Sr Grace 2.30pm
Weds 26th Mar	Eye tests REC class KS2 Production 1.30pm KS2 Production 6.30pm
Sun 30th Mar	School Choir to sing at 11am Mass at St. Mary's Church
Mon 31st Mar	First Holy Communion Meeting, Parish Centre 7.00pm for Y3 parents
Tues 1st Apr	Y1 INSPIRE morning 9.15am
Weds 2nd Apr	Anti-Bullying Workshop in school with Bishop Milner Catholic College 1-3pm Parents Evening 5.00-7.30pm
Sun 6th Apr	Children's Liturgy, St Mary's Church 11am Mass
Mon 7th Apr	Easter Confessions
Weds 9th Apr	Parents Evening 3.10-5.00pm
Thurs 10th Apr	Easter Egg Hunt Y6 visit to the Sikh Gudwara
Fri 11th Apr	BREAK UP FOR EASTER
Mon 28th Apr	CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL

Important Dates

Sat 17th May	First Holy Communion 10.00am, St Mary's Church
Thurs 22nd May	Local Elections—School closed to children

Class Assemblies

Fri 7th Mar	Year 1 Assembly	9.10am
Fri 14th Mar	Preschool Assembly	9.10am
Fri 21st Mar	A whole school St Patrick's Assembly with Irish musicians. Parents invited to attend 9.00-9.30am	9.10am
Fri 4th Apr	KS1 Child Initiated Learning Assembly	9.10am



Text Messaging

We are constantly trying to improve our means of sharing information with parents. Currently this includes class letters, newsletters, portal, online diary, website and text messages. A new initiative is the facility to scan the code below to your phone or tablet to access the online diary.

For these reasons we will now only use text messaging when we need to contact individual parents or in cases of emergency.

Thank you for your cooperation.



Parent Calendar

Thank you to those parents who have given positive feedback for our online parent calendar. It is constantly updated to keep you aware of all the events happening in school including school visits, after school clubs, masses, assemblies and term dates. If you haven't already subscribed to this calendar and would like to do so, just scan the code on the right from your phone or tablet and you should be able to subscribe to the calendar.



Year 6 SATs Week

Reminder that Year 6 SATs week will be Monday 12th—Friday 16th May.

The Angelus

The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary
And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary....

Behold the handmaid of the Lord
Be it done unto me according to thy word.

Hail Mary....

And the Word was made flesh
And dwelt among us.

Hail Mary....

Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.



Parent's Evening Online Booking System

This term you will be able to book places to see your child's teacher on parent's evening via an online booking system. The system is very easy to use and instructions on how to book an appointment are attached to this newsletter and booking is available now. If you do not have access to the internet, an appointment can be reserved for you by phoning the school office. We hope this new improved system will make it easier to book appointments to meet with your child's teacher.

Extra-Curricular Activities

To begin Week Beginning 3rd March

	8.00-8.50am	Lunchtime	3.15-4.15pm
Monday	Ace Coaching KS1 & KS2	Football KS2	Football KS1 & KS2 Netball KS1 & KS2 Martial Arts KS2
Tuesday	Ace Coaching KS1 & KS2		Yoga KS1 & KS2
Wednesday	Ace Coaching KS1 & KS2	Football KS2	Irish Dancing Una Rollinson KS1 & KS2 Arts and Crafts KS1 & KS2
Thursday	Ace Coaching KS1 & KS2	Gardening Club Mrs Brereton KS2	Zumba Jackie Powis Family class (3.30-4.30pm) Multi Sports Ace Coaching Y1-Y6
Friday	Ace Coaching KS1 & KS2		Gymnastics Ace Coaching Y1-Y6

A number of parents have enquired about their pre-school child attending our after school clubs. The pupil : adult ratio, by law, is very different for children who are not yet of statutory school age so if a pre-school child attends an after school club additional adults are needed for supervision. This means that we would require parents to attend the club with their child. As parents will be in a supervisory role they will need to be CRB cleared in order to fulfil all safeguarding guidelines before attending the club. Forms for CRB clearance are available from our school office and clearance usually takes about six weeks. If you do wish your child to attend our after school clubs we would need you to gain CRB clearance first. Once children are older and reach Reception class and are in full time education they will be able to attend after school clubs without additional adult supervision.