

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mill Street, Brierley Hill

Telephone: 01384 818435

NEWSLETTER



Summer 1 2009

Dear Parents and Children

Welcome back to the last full term of the school year. I hope that you all had a very restful Easter break.

This term we welcome Miss Jenny Nicholson and Miss Katherine Pace to our school community. We also remember Mrs Keegan-Hobbs in our prayers as she takes up her new post at St Mary's, Brewood.

Later this term we will have our annual St Mary's Assembly and we will remember when Mary appeared to St Bernadette. Please try to come to this assembly as Mary is the patron saint of our school and she is very special to all of our children.

As you will see from the newsletter, we have many other events planned for this term and we look forward to seeing you at them. Remember, all parents and parishioners are invited to all school Masses and Assemblies. Please do not feel that you cannot attend if your child's class is not directly involved.

Ms A Maher
Headteacher

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



The following children have birthdays during May and June. 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:

Jamie Yr 5	Alfie Rec
Zak Yr 5	Christine Yr 4
Lucy-Leigh Yr 1	Korey Yr 3
Charlie Yr 6	Thomas Yr 4
Alanna Yr 3	Oliver Yr 4
Liam Yr 6	Daniel Yr 6
Grace Yr 2	Helena Yr 6
Holly Yr 3	Chanai-Alis Yr 1
Megan Yr 1	Jennifer Yr 2
Aimee Yr 6	Sean Yr 4
Lisa Yr 2	Aaron Yr 6
Katie Yr 2	Eleanor Yr 5
Sophie Yr 2	Abby Yr 2
Rhys Yr 6	Uwais Yr 1
Devvrat Yr 6	Niamh Yr 4
Liam Yr 1	Renee Yr 1
Ivan Rec	Rose Rec
Gemma Yr 2	Byron Yr 5
Adam Yr 1	Sepideh Rec

Attendance Return 23rd February 2009—3rd April 2009

Rec—91.55%
Yr 1—92.99%
Yr 2—97.64%
Yr 3—96.22%
Yr 4—95.38%
Yr 5—96.08%
Yr 6—95.72%

Well done Year 2. You are this half term's winners.

Our overall absences were:

4.20% authorised
0.87% unauthorised

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.

GENERAL REMINDERS



School begins at...

The bell rings for the start of the school day at 8.50am and children should be in the playground before this. Latecomers disrupt the class and cause delays for the staff, but it is the children who miss the start of their lessons and have to try to catch up so please get your children to school on time.



P.E. Kit

Children should have a P.E. Kit available, in school, every day during term time. It is only used for a short time each week and will need washing only once or twice during the term. P.E. kit consists of white t-shirt, black shorts, pumps for indoor P.E. and trainers for P.E. on the field.

Whole School Masses

Weds 29th April	Year 2	9.15am	Fr Darley
Weds 13th May	Year 5	9.15am	Fr Darley
Weds 20th May	Year 6	9.15am	Fr Darley
Weds 10th June	Yr 3 and Y6 Celebration	9.15am	Fr Darley
Weds 17th June	Year 1	9.15am	Fr Darley
Weds 1st July	Year 4	9.15am	Fr Darley
Weds 15th July	Year 6 Leavers Mass	9.15am	Fr Darley

Diary Dates

Fri 24th April	St Mark's House Day
Sat 25th April	St George's Celebration, Brierley Hill Town Centre
Thurs 30th April	Year 4 INSPIRE 9.15-10.15am First Holy Communion meeting 6.00pm in school
Thurs 7th May	Reception INSPIRE 9.15-10.15am
Tues 13th May	First Holy Communion Piety meeting 3.00pm in school
Thurs 14th May	The Big Stand
Sat 16th May	First Holy Communion 10am St Mary's Church, Brierley Hill
Tues 19th May	Year 3 INSPIRE 9.15-10.15am Confirmation Meeting 6.00pm in school
Thurs 21st May	Sports Day
Thurs 21st May	BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM



Important Dates

Mon 11th—Fri 15th May KS2 SATs

INSET Days

Monday 27th April	INSET Day—school closed to pupils
Monday 4th May	May Day—school closed
Thurs 21st May	Catholic Inset Day
Thursday 4th June	European Elections - school closed to pupils

Class Assemblies

Fri 8th May	Year 1 Assembly	9.10am
Fri 5th June	Year 5 Assembly	9.10am
Fri 12th June	Year 2 Assembly	9.10am
Fri 26th June	Ms Maher Assembly	9.10am
Fri 3rd July	Year 3 Assembly	9.10am
Fri 10th July	Foundation Stage Assembly	9.10am
Fri 17th July	Year 4 Assembly	9.10am

Attendance and Absences

Well done to all those children who received certificates for 100% attendance last term. At the end of the Summer term we will be inviting the parents/carers of children whose attendance is over 95% for the **whole year** to a special celebration assembly. 95% is the Government target for school attendance for all pupils so all children reaching this target will be awarded certificates. There will be special prizes for anyone achieving 100%. We look forward to seeing many of you at this assembly.

Please can you ensure that all contact numbers are up to date. If we cannot contact you about a child's absence we have to inform the Educational Social Worker who may need to make a home visit to check on the safety of children. Could you also make sure that all medical appointments cards are brought to the office and photocopied.

Mass of Thanksgiving Easter Monday

I'm so much in your debt for making this occasion such a happy, friendly and welcoming time for my guests. Everyone commented on how lovely your Church looked, your friendly and warm welcome to them. If I am ever tempted to say anything different—ever again— please remind me of this!!

Your kindness, concern, care and gracious generosity will always stay with me.

My thanks and prayers that the Risen Christ of Easter always touches your lives, as you have touched my life these last fifteen years.

Ever thank you.

Fr John Darley xXx

HOLIDAYS DURING TERM TIME

Please remember that holidays should not be taken during term time. If there are **extenuating circumstances** which mean that you need to request leave for your child, a written request must be made to the Governing Body c/o the school office before arrangements are made. All requests will be considered individually and a response will be given. Thank you.

Mon

Circuit Training
Yrs 2-6

3.15-4.15pm

ICT Club
Yrs 2-6
Mrs Addis

3.15-4.15pm

Tue

SATs Club
Year 6
Ms O'Beirne

3.15-4.15pm

Wed

Irish Dancing
KS1 & 2

3.15-4.15pm

Thursday

Tennis
KS2

3.15-4.15pm

Environment Club
KS2
Mrs Brereton

3.15-4.15pm

Friday

Football
KS2

3.15-4.15pm

Street Dance
Yrs 2-6

3.15-4.15pm

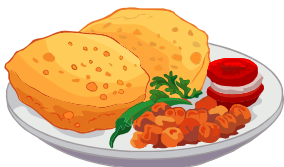
Due to costs incurred for materials used etc. we would be grateful for a voluntary contribution of £1 for all after school clubs run by members of St. Mary's staff. All clubs run by professionals incur their own cost which is paid directly to the organisation concerned.

School Dinners

School dinners now cost £1.70 per day, £8.50 per week. You can pay either daily or weekly and any cheques should be made payable to DMBC.

Could your child please pay for dinners at the till point on a lunchtime. Please make sure the money or cheque for the correct amount is put in an envelope with your child's name on the front so that they can hand it in at the till.

Milkshakes, fruit drinks and squash are 18p each, cartons of milk are 12p and this needs to be paid to Mrs Cooper at the dinner hatch. Many thanks for your help in this matter.



Eco-Warriors Report



Hello from the eco-warriors. We are very pleased that the bulbs which were planted last term are now growing. Our compost bins have arrived and we have energy saving labels up in school. Our sale of watercress which took place just before Easter was very successful and we were sold out in a matter of minutes. Watch out for more sales of home grown produce this term.

You can help earn valuable resources us by filling in an energy savers report on the British Gas website and donating leaves to our school.

The next textile collection will take place on Tuesday 9th June so if you have any unwanted clothes, shoes or bedlinen please send them into school on 9th June.

Message from the Governing Body

Thank you to all those of you who send a donation in the little coloured envelope every half term. Every pound that is donated gives us a buying power of £10. This means that if you have 1 child at St. Mary's your donation of £5 allows us to spend £50 for your child on improving the school eg. new playground, laptops for children.

We are hoping that soon we will have enough money to provide a food technology room for the children so all donations, however small, will be very gratefully received in the envelope attached to this letter.

Friends of St Mary's

Thank you to the Friends and to Mr Millett for a great Easter disco. The children thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon and are looking forward to the next disco.

Thank you to all those who sent in the £1 donation for the disco as this really helps to provide much needed 'luxuries' for your children.

Breakfast Club

Thanks to everyone who returned the questionnaire regarding the Breakfast Club. After reviewing your replies there is not enough interest to run a breakfast club at the moment but we will be reviewing this in the future.



Lost Property

We have many items of lost property in the box outside the school office. If this isn't claimed by half term then we will be sending it to be recycled. Please feel free to have a rummage through the box if you have any missing items.

Have a very restful half term

We return to school on Monday 1st June