



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

'Providing a Christ centred setting whereby everyone can live out the messages of Jesus with love, understanding and care'
St Nicholas Owen Catholic Multi Academy Company and St Mary's are 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 Officers: Ms O' Beirne, Miss Mosley, Mrs Brereton and Mrs Berry.
Child Protection policy available at www.st-mary-bh.dudley.sch.uk

October 2018

Principal: Ms O. O'Beirne

At the morning Mass at Casa Santa Marta, Pope Francis spoke about the importance of recognising that we are sinners, and knowing the love of Jesus Christ. He asked: Who is Jesus Christ for you? And explained that if someone asks us the question, "Who is Jesus Christ?", we should say what we have learned: He is the Saviour of the world, the Son of the Father, which we recite in the Creed. But, the Pope said, it is a little more difficult to answer the question of who Jesus Christ is "for me." It is a question that can embarrass us a little bit, because in order to answer that question, "I have to dig into my heart"; that is, we have to begin from our own experience. Pope Francis explained: "The first step is knowing oneself: [that we are] sinners. Without this understanding, and without this interior confession – that I am a sinner – we cannot go forward. The second step is prayer to the Lord, who with His power makes us know this mystery of Jesus, which is the fire that He has brought upon the earth. It would be a good habit if every day, in every moment, we could say, "Lord, let me know You, and know myself."

On Thursday 18th October, Year 4 were lucky to have the West Midlands Fire Service come into school to discuss the importance of fire and road safety.



The children were all shocked to see how quickly a fire can spread. They were taught where the best place to put a smoke alarm was and also how they could escape a building if it was on fire. The children answered the question the Fire Service asked and also asked important questions about fire safety. The Fire Service also explained the importance of not making hoax phone calls to the emergency services and gave the children an example of what could happen.

The Fire Service then spoke to the children about the importance of road safety and also how to be safe in a car. The children had a game to play where they had to find the correct actions and the incorrect actions, this was enjoyed by all.

Year 4, enjoyed the visit from the Fire Service and learned lots of important facts!

Holiday Club

This half term we will be hosting 5 days of Multi Sports & Arts Coaching .

Sessions start at 08:45am and finish at 3.00pm.

£10.00 per day or 40.00 for the full week.

Please ensure children have the following

- A packed lunch
- Change of footwear
- Any medication needed including inhalers
- Water bottle

If you haven't returned your form but would still like to book a place, please call Mr Bird on 07834 629 580.

Prayer

Dear Lord, thank You for fresh grace and a week full of promise. Lead me in Your ways and fill my heart with Your love and joy. Help me to see others as You see them, Guide every decision and response , effort and conversation I have for Your glory. Amen

Thank You!

A massive thank you to the Friends of St Mary's and everyone that helped with the school disco on Friday!

Your support is very much appreciated.

Ms O'Beirne

ARE YOU A CONFIDENT PARENT?

TV PRODUCTION COMPANY MONKEY KINGDOM ARE LOOKING FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AGED BETWEEN 5 & 13 FOR A BRAND NEW PARENTING EXPERIMENT!



ARE YOU CONFIDENT IN YOUR PARENTING ABILITY?

DO YOU HAVE A PARTICULAR PARENTING STYLE?

ARE YOU PROUD OF YOUR PARENTING?

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE YOUR APPROACH WITH OTHERS?

WHETHER YOU'RE A COUPLE OR A SINGLE PARENT, WE WANT YOU TO GET IN TOUCH AND TELL US WHAT MAKES YOUR PARENTING STYLE SO GREAT!

CONTACT

PARENT@MONKEYKINGDOM.COM



ALL CONVERSATIONS ARE CONFIDENTIAL AND THERE IS NO OBLIGATION TO TAKE PART. FOR MORE INFO ON HOW MONKEY KINGDOM LTD AND NBC UNIVERSAL GROUP COMPANIES HOLD, STORE AND PROCESS YOUR INFORMATION PLEASE GO TO [HTTP://WWW.NBCUNI.COM/PRIVACY](http://www.nbcuni.com/privacy)

Year 1 have had a wonderful time learning about healthy eating. All the children brought some fruit into school and they made their own fruit salad! They had a fantastic time making the fruit salad, but even more fun eating it! Thank you to all the parents for supporting the children and sending the fruit into school.



Operation Christmas Child



We are supporting Samaritan's Purse, Operation Christmas Child shoebox appeal again this year. Leaflets have been sent home with the children and another copy is also attached to this newsletter. The deadline for the return of the shoeboxes is Friday 9th November. We really hope you can help us and support this wonderful cause.

If you need any further information, please contact the school office or look on the following website: www.samaritans-purse.org.uk

Parking outside school premises



Please can we remind parents /carers that parking is **NOT PERMITTED** on the white lines / zigzags outside of school.

Parents must not park or drop off children on the white lines or zigzags.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Children In Need—Cake Sale

To raise money for Children in Need (Friday 16th November) we will be holding a cake sale after school on Thursday 15th November. Could we kindly ask for cake donations so that this sale will be a success and raise money for a worthy cause.



Inhalers, Epipens and Medication:

If your child has an inhaler or epipen please make sure that it is labelled and that the use by date will last for the whole term.

If your child needs to take medication whilst at school, please complete a form available from the school office. Only prescribed medication will be administered.

All medication must be provided in the original pharmacists' packaging or container with your child's name, dosage and date clearly visible.

School Life App

We are aware that some parents/carers are experiencing difficulties with receiving notifications from the School Life App. We have been in touch with School Life and are working to find a solution. In the meantime, please could you check your messages regularly to ensure you are not missing important information or check the calendar section of the app or the newsletter for all upcoming dates

Admissions

Is your child starting primary school or secondary school in September 2019?

Children starting secondary school in September 2019, need to submit applications by no later than **31st October 2018.**

If your child is starting primary school in September 2019 you will need to apply for a place by no later than **15th January 2019**

ATTENDANCE

As a school we have a duty to monitor all pupils' attendance. As you know, good attendance is very important to us here at St Mary's and we are working hard to make sure that all children attend school as often as possible. We understand that children cannot help being ill, but we would urge parents to do their best to ensure that medical and dental appointments are made for outside of school hours. Below is a table showing how time off affects our child's learning.

97% and above	Less than 6 days absence a year – Less than 30 hours of learning lost Excellent attendance. Your child is giving his/herself the best chance of achieving their full potential at school.
95%	10 days absence a year – 50 hours of learning lost Your child may start to find it difficult to maintain their target levels/grades Pupils who take a 2 week holiday every year can only achieve 95% attendance.
93%	13 days absence a year – 70 hours of learning Lost Missing this much time is putting your child in an unfair position when it comes to achieving their potential.
90% and below	19 days absence – 95 hours of learning lost Your child is now classified by the Government as "Persistently Absent". Missing so much time means it will almost be impossible for your child to learn effectively. Parents of young people in this group could also face the possibility of legal action being taken by Dudley Council, including the issuing of Penalty Notices and Fines.

CALENDAR DATES

Event	Date	Time
Children break up for Half Term	Friday 26th October	3.00pm
Multi Sports Club at St Mary's	ALL WEEK	08.45—3.00pm
Last day for Senior School Admissions	Wednesday 31st October	All Day
Children return to school	Monday 5th November	8.40am
Samaritan's Purse - Shoe Boxes to be returned	Friday 9th November	All Day
Children In Need—Cake Sale	Thursday 15th November	3.00pm onwards
"Odd Sock Day" - Bring a Jar of sweets	Friday 16th November	All Day
Christmas Fair	Friday 30th November	3.00pm—5.00pm
EYFS Christmas Production	Thursday 6th December	09.00am—10.00am
Whole School Mass—Year 5	Friday 7th December	09.00am—09.30am
Flu Nasal Vaccines	Wednesday 12th December	1.00pm—3.00pm
Class Mass—Year 4	Friday 14th December	09.00am—09.30am
Afternoon Tea with Santa	Friday 14th December	Time to be confirmed
KS1 Christmas Play	Monday 17th December	Time to be confirmed
Christmas Lunch	Wednesday 19th December	12.00pm—1.15pm
Christmas Jumper Day in support of Spinal Muscular Atrophy	Wednesday 19th December	All Day
Carol Service	Thursday 20th December	Time to be confirmed
Whole School Mass	Friday 21st December	09.00am—09.30am
School closes for Christmas Break	Friday 21st December	3.00pm
Children return to School	Monday 7th January 2019	All Day
Whole School Mass—Year 6	Friday 11th January	09.00am—09.30am
Last day for Primary School Admissions	Tuesday 15th January	All Day
Whole School Mass—Year 5	Friday 18th January	09.00am—09.30am
Whole School Mass—Year 4	Friday 25th January	09.00am—09.30am
Whole School Mass—Year 3	Friday 1st February	09.00am—09.30am
Whole School Mass—School Council	Friday 8th February	09.00am—09.30am
Pyramid Concert	Thursday 14th February	Time to be confirmed
Children break up for half term	Friday 15th February	3.00pm