

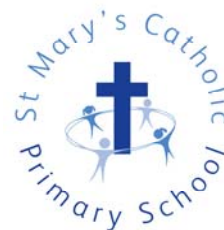
# ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

*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](http://www.st-mary-bh.dudley.sch.uk)*

Spring 1 2014



Dear Parents and Children

Happy New Year! Welcome back to another new term at St Mary's. I'd like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you for your most generous Christmas wishes and gifts and I hope that you all had a peaceful Christmas. As the new year begins we welcome Miss S Wooldridge to Y5 and Mr M Savary as IT Technician. We also look forward to the future and to the days ahead. As you will see by our diary dates, there are many things planned for St Mary's community over the next term. In addition, in 2014, St Mary's will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of the school being built on this site when it was relocated from its original position next to the church. We are planning to celebrate this event during the summer term so please look out for additional information as the year unfolds. In the meantime, if you have any photos or memories relating to this we would be delighted if you would share them with us so that we can create a 'Book of Memories'. Please send to Mrs Beese or email [admin@st-mary-bh.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-mary-bh.dudley.sch.uk)

I hope that you will enjoy all the activities which have been planned and I wish you and your families all the best for 2014.

Happy New Year!

Ms A Maher  
Headteacher

### Uniform

We are very pleased to see the children looking so smart on their return to St. Mary's after the Christmas Holidays and following the dress code which is:

- Navy Sweatshirt
- Blue polo shirt
- Grey or navy trousers or skirts
- Sensible black school shoes, no trainers
- No jewellery except stud earrings or watches
- Sensible haircuts (ie. No shavings) and no hair dye

Please label all uniform with your child's name.

Uniform is available to order online at [www.yourschooluniform.com](http://www.yourschooluniform.com)  
[www.tesco.com](http://www.tesco.com)



### HAPPY BIRTHDAY



The following children have birthdays during January and February. 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:

Aldren Y4	Naishe Y2
Anthony Y3	Kate Y5
Samuel Y5	Zoe Y4
Piper Y6	Hannah Y2
Rayne Y2	Ethan Y1
Colbie Y5	Alfie REC
Ellie-May Y1	Mollie REC
Bernadette Y5	Gian REC
Savanna Y6	Isabel Y3
Poppy Y2	Wiktorija Y3
Isabell Y3	Shihaam REC
Yash Y3	Joseph Y4
Zachariah Y1	Jacob Y3
Rona Y1	James Y3
Joe Y4	Rithika REC
Myenna Y1	Klaudia Y6
Jessica REC	Timothy Y4
Alesha REC	Rosie Y5
Darci Y5	Thomas Y1
Amie Y5	Chloe Preschool
Poppy Preschool	Sophie Preschool

### Uniform Sales

School uniform will only be available to purchase from school on Friday afternoons. Alternatively you can buy uniform from our online suppliers. Details are available on the school website [www.st-mary-bh.dudley.sch.uk](http://www.st-mary-bh.dudley.sch.uk). You are now also able to pay online for uniform and collect from the school office on Friday afternoons. Please see the web links page on our website for details of how to do this.

### Whole School Mass List

Tues 14th Jan	Year 4 Mass	9.15am
Tues 28th Jan	Year 3 Mass	9.15am
Tues 11th Feb	Year 2 Mass	9.15am
Tues 25th Feb	School Council Mass	9.15am
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

### Diary Dates



Sun 19th Jan	Children's Liturgy, St Mary's Church 11am Mass
Tues 21st Jan	Preschool INSPIRE morning 9.15am
Weds 22nd Jan	School Council visit to Council House, Dudley
Mon 27th Jan	Y1 Liturgy with Sr Grace 2.30pm
Sun 2nd Feb	Children's Liturgy, St Mary's Church 11am Mass
Thurs 13th Feb	Hagley Music Extravaganza
Fri 14th Feb	BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM
24th—28th Feb	KS1 Child Initiated Learning Week
24th Feb—9th Mar	Fair Trade Fortnight
Mon 24th Feb	Y4 Liturgy with Sr Grace 2.30pm
Sun 2nd Mar	Children's Liturgy, St Mary's Church 11am Mass
Mon 3rd Mar	Y5 Liturgy with Sr Grace 2.30pm
Tues 4th Mar	Y5 visit to Hindu Temple
	Foundation Stage INSPIRE morning 9.15am
Mon 10th Mar	First Aid Training Y1-Y6
	Y6 Liturgy with Sr Grace 2.30pm
	First Holy Communion Meeting, Parish Centre 7.00pm
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	KS2 Production 1.30pm
	KS2 Production 6.30pm
Mon 31st Mar	First Holy Communion Meeting, Parish Centre 7.00pm
Tues 1st Apr	Y1 INSPIRE morning 9.15am
Weds 2nd Apr	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
Fri 11th Apr	BREAK UP FOR EASTER

### Important Dates

<b>Mon 3rd Feb</b>	<b>INSET—school closed to children</b>
<b>Sat 17th May</b>	<b>First Holy Communion 10.00am, St Mary's Church</b>

### Class Assemblies

Fri 24 Jan	Year 6 Assembly	9.10am
Fri 31st Jan	Year 2 Assembly	9.10am
Fri 7th Feb	Foundation Stage Assembly	9.10am
Fri 7th Mar	Year 1 Assembly	9.10am
Fri 14th Mar	Preschool Assembly	9.10am
Fri 4th Apr	KS1 Child Initiated Learning Assembly	9.10am

### **Building Work**

We are very pleased to tell you that building work has started on our new outdoor library. Once again thank you for all the donations that you send to school in the little envelopes attached to our newsletters as this money enables us to make wonderful alterations to our school. Weather permitting we hope that the outdoor library will be completed by Easter and we are also hoping that building work will have taken place in the old library to add additional space to the existing Y2 and Y3 classrooms.



### **Adult Reading Buddies**

If you have already begun working as a reading buddy, have signed up to be a reading buddy or would like to become a reading buddy, please come to a meeting on Friday 24th January with Ms Maher at 2.00pm so that we can create timetables for the new year.

### **Well done to staff and pupils**

National data for overall achievement at the end of KS1 and KS2 was published at the end of last term. This shows the achievement of whole classes, not individuals, in every school across the country at the end of the last academic year in July 2013. St Mary's has achieved above national averages in both key stages and St Mary's is the top Catholic school in Dudley for the percentage of pupils achieving level 4 or above in Reading, Writing and Maths. Thank you to all the staff involved in these wonderful achievements across the school.

### **SMA Trust Black Tie Event**

On Saturday 10th May there will be a Black Tie Event in aid of the SMA Trust. The evening will begin with a red carpet arrival plus a drink followed by a two course silver service meal. The entertainment for the evening will be a Robbie Williams and Michael Bublé tribute act and then a disco until 1.00am.

Tickets cost £30 each and all proceeds will go to the SMA Trust. If you would like tickets, please ask at the school office.



### **Canopy**

More good news. A canopy to shelter parents if it is raining and to provide shade for children during lunchtimes on sunny days has now been erected on the play-ground at the back of Y3 classroom.

### **Attendance Return**

#### **4th November 2013—20th December 2013**

Rec—97.84%  
Yr 1—92.43%  
Yr 2—93.51%  
Yr 3—96.52%  
Yr 4—96.28%  
Yr 5—97.39%  
Yr 6—96.68%

Well done Reception. You are this half term's winners.

Our overall absences were:

3.45% authorised

0.73% unauthorised

Our overall attendance was 95.81%

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.

### **PTA News**

Thank you for everyone for your support last term. The Christmas Fair raised £645.50 and some of this money has been used to buy a new football strip for our school team. This has now arrived. Look out for a photo on our school blog on the website in the near future.

Following the tremendous success of tip tops last year, these will be on sale again after half term.

And finally, we urgently require new members for our PTA so if you have the time and would like to help out, please speak to Mrs Hambridge in the school office.

### Extra-Curricular Activities

To begin Week Beginning 13<sup>th</sup> January 2014

	8.00-8.50am	Lunchtime	3.15-4.15pm
Monday	Ace Coaching KS1 & KS2	Football Club Ace Coaching KS2	Football KS1 & KS2  Netball KS1 & KS2
Tuesday	Ace Coaching KS1 & KS2		Yoga KS1 & KS2
Wednesday	Ace Coaching KS1 & KS2	Football Club Ace Coaching 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 <b>(3.30-4.30pm)</b>  Multi Sports Ace Coaching Y1-Y6
Friday	Ace Coaching KS1 & KS2		Gymnastics Ace Coaching Y1-Y6  Supreme Science KS1 & KS2

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.