

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*

Summer 1 12



Dear Parents and Children

Welcome back to the Summer term which is the last term of the school year. The school year is going by very quickly! I hope that you all had a very restful Easter break.

As you will see from the newsletter, we have many 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.

This year, during May, we will again be inviting parents to join the children in our Prayer Garden from 2.45-3pm to pray The Angelus in honour of Mary, the mother of Jesus, the patron saint of our school. May is the month when we honour Mary. The Angelus (the prayer which was included on our last newsletter) tells of how Mary accepted the will of God. I do hope that as many parents/carers as possible will join us. During this term, I would also like to invite parents and children to join me for a tour of our new school extension. This has been made possible through the donations that you send in the little envelopes attached with each newsletter and I hope that you will enjoy viewing the results of your generosity. Every year, teachers have to work five extra days above their teaching commitments. Children attend for 190 days and staff must work an extra 5 days in addition to this. These are known as INSET days. You will see from our newsletter that one of these INSET days is on June 1st. The children will break up for half-term on May 31st but staff will not be able to finish until Friday June 1st. As this will not be a school day for children, I would like to take the opportunity to invite families to attend together for a tour of the school on this day. Tours will take about 1 hour and need to be booked in order to accommodate numbers. Please see the booking form attached to the newsletter. I look forward to showing the new building to you on June 1st.
Best wishes

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:

Alfie Y3	Alexis Y1	Hrithik REC
Lucy-Leigh Y4	Korey Y6	Uwais Y4
Georgia Y1	Tommy REC	Liam Y4
Christopher Y2	Emma REC	Logan Y1
Sam REC	Amy Y2	Martin REC
Alanna Y6	Naomi REC	Renee Y4
Martin Y3	Grace Y5	Ivan Y3
Holly Y6	Abbey Y5	Rose Y3
Chanai-Alis Y4	Jacob REC	Gemma Y5
Megan Y4	Jack Y2	Adam Y4
Jennifer Y5	Hamish REC	Hibah Y5
Lisa Y5	Lindsay Y2	Sepideh Y3
Katie Y5	Liam Y1	Aira Mae Y2
Sophie Y5	Abby Y5	

Attendance Return

20th February 2012—30th March 2012

Rec— 95.47%
Yr 1— 94.01 %
Yr 2— 94.13%
Yr 3— 97.09%
Yr 4— 95.65%
Yr 5— 96.55%
Yr 6— 95.51%

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

Our overall absences were:

3.92% authorised

0.58% unauthorised

Our overall attendance was 95.50%

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.

Punctuality is improving so well done to those of you who are trying hard to get to school on time.



Diary Dates

Monday 30th April	Year 6 Leavers photos
Tuesday 1st May	Confirmation Enrolment Meeting for Year 5 parents 7.30pm, Parish Centre
Wednesday 2nd May	Sponsored Bounce
Tuesday 8th May	Whole School Jubilee photo
	First Holy Communion sale of Piety and final arrangements 3pm in school
Thursday 10th May	First Holy Communion Meeting for Catechists and Y3 parents 7.30pm, Parish Centre
14th-18th May	KS2 SATs
21st-25th May	Multicultural Week
Thursday 24th May	Stour Valley Network Maths Quiz
Saturday 26th May	First Holy Communion 10.00am, St. Mary's Church, Brierley Hill
Sunday 27th May	Confirmation Mass of Commitment for Y5 11.00am, St. Mary's Church, Brierley Hill
Thursday 31st May	Sports Day/Jubilee Lunch—details to follow later
	BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM
Monday 11th June	RETURN TO SCHOOL
Thursday 14th June	Stour Valley Olympics - Dell Stadium
	Reconciliation Meeting for Catechists and Y2 parents 7.30pm, Parish Centre
Tuesday 19th June	Reconciliation Meeting—Final arrangements—Y2 parents 3.00pm in school
Friday 22nd June	Mufti for Summer Fair (bring a bottle)
	Preschool Induction for September 2012 starters for parents and children 9.15am
Tuesday 26th June	Family Life/Secondary Transfer Meeting for Y6 parents 7.00pm in school
Wednesday 27th June	Y5 INSPIRE
Thursday 28th June	Reconciliation Meeting for Catechists and Y2 parents 7.30pm, Parish Centre
Friday 29th June	Stour Valley Network Book Quiz for Y3 & Y4
	Preschool Induction for September 2012 starters for parents and children 1.30pm
Saturday 30th June	School Fair 12 noon
2nd-6th July	Scholastic Book Fair
Tuesday 3rd July	Foundation Stage Induction for September 2012 starters for parents 6.30pm
Wednesday 4th July	Y1 INSPIRE
Friday 6th July	Preschool Induction for September 2012 starters for parents and children 1.30pm
Monday 9th July	Mass of Anointing—Y6 to St. Mary's Church, Brierley Hill
Wednesday 11th July	Big Bash—Y6 6.30pm
Thursday 12th July	Reconciliation—St. Mary's Church 11.00am for Y2 and parents
	Foundation Stage Induction for September 2012 starters for parents and children 1.30pm
Friday 13th July	Y6 Vocations Road Show
	10p trail
	End of term disco and parties
Thursday 19th July	Foundation Stage Induction for September 2012 starters for parents and children 1.30pm
Friday 20th July	BREAK UP FOR SUMMER
Wednesday 5th Sept	RETURN TO SCHOOL

Closure Days

Thursday 3rd May	Local Elections—school closed to children
Friday 4th May	INSET Day—school closed to children
Monday 7th May	Bank Holiday Monday
Friday 1st June	INSET Day—school closed to children

Whole School Mass List

Friday 29th June	SS Peter and Paul—prepared by staff	Fr Darley 9.15am
Monday 2nd July	Y3 & Y6 Sacramental Thanksgiving	Fr Darley 2.00pm
Monday 16th July	Leaver's Mass— Prepared by Y6	Fr Darley 1.30pm

Fr Darley is currently on holiday until 27th April and again from 4th—27th June

Class Assemblies

Fri 18th May	Foundation Stage Assembly	9.15am
Fri 15th June	Child Initiated Learning Assembly	9.15am
Fri 6th July	Pre School Assembly	9.15am
Fri 20th July	Year 6 Leaver's Assembly	9.15am

Head lice Alert



As we have had some head lice infestations recently, we ask that all children with hair longer than collar length have their hair tied back to prevent the spread of head lice (boys we mean you too!!).

The school nurse has advised that parents should regularly check all family members, including adults, and that treatment is readily available from local chemists should it be needed.

Jubilee Celebrations in School

To mark the Queen's Jubilee we will be having a whole school photograph taken on Tuesday 8th May on the field. Please keep your fingers crossed for fine weather!! We have never had a whole school photograph taken before so it will be a great moment for this jubilee year and will be available for parents to buy.

We are intending to combine our Sports Day on 31st May with a jubilee lunch/picnic for parents and children so please keep your fingers crossed again for fine weather. Also the children will be receiving a jubilee bookmark. We thank the Friends of St Mary's who are funding this gift.

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Tour of St Mary's School Friday June 1st 2012

I wish to book a tour of the school with my family at the following time (please tick ONE session):

9.30-10.30

11.00-12noon

12.30-1.30pm

2-3pm

Name of parent/carer attending

Names of children attending

Please note : children MUST be accompanied by at least one adult family member.

Extra-Curricular Activities

To begin Week Beginning 23rd April

	8.00-8.50am	Lunchtime	3.15-4.15pm
Monday	Top Score UK KS1 & KS2		Zumbatomics Michelle Portman FS, KS1 & KS2 Football Mr Turner KS1 Athletics Top Score UK KS1 & 2
Tuesday	Top Score UK KS1 & KS2		Dodgeball Top Score UK KS1 & 2
Wednesday	Top Score UK KS1 & KS2		Irish Dancing Una Rollinson KS1 & KS2 (Now full)
Thursday	Top Score UK KS1 & KS2	Gardening Club Mrs Brereton KS2	Ballet Mrs Portman FS, KS1 & KS2
Friday	Top Score UK KS1 & KS2	Football Mr Turner Y5 & Y6	Football Mr Turner KS2 Disco Dancing Mrs Portman FS, 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.