

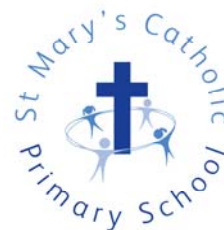
ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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*

Spring 2 2011



Dear Parents and Children

Welcome back to another half term at St Mary's. I hope that you have all had an enjoyable week. On returning to school, we have had some fantastic news at St Mary's. We have been given a grant to carry out building work to extend part of the school.

As a faith school we have to provide 10% of the building fund ourselves. The money from your little envelopes enables us to do this. Every £1 that you send in gives us a buying power of £10. If you have one child at St. Mary's we ask for a donation of £5; if you have a family we ask for a donation of £7.50. All donations are spent on improving the school for your children, eg. we really want to be able to provide more rooms for small group work so please, please, please keep sending in your little envelopes so that we can make this new build as fantastic as possible. I will keep you up to date as plans unfold. Thank you to all those who continue to donate and who support us in making St. Mary's the best that we can for your children.

As we move through Lent, and the children are preparing for Easter, we have a whole school Lenten Promise this year which is to say 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.

With best wishes,

Ms A Maher
Headteacher

Parking

The School Council recently did a survey of parents parking on Mill Street. Some parents said that they did not know that they could park at Next and KFC car parks. We also saw some parents parking on the zigzags as it is breaking the law and it means that we are not safe as we try to cross the road. Please can you use Next and KFC car parks so that Mill Street and Woodbury Close do not get so full that it is dangerous.

Thank you.

Jay, Kiera, Naimh and Sean.

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:

Daisy	Yr 4	Natalie	Yr 3
Joshua	Yr 1	James	Yr 1
Briony	REC	Ben	Yr 2
Hannah	Yr 4	Keely	Yr 3
Harley	Yr 5	Ellen	Yr 3
Rhiannon	Yr 5	Marija	Yr 4
Chloe	Yr 2	Bianca	Yr 2
Zara	Yr 3	Hollie	REC
Rowan	REC	William	Yr 5
Cara	Yr 5	Kristian	Yr 2
Harry	Yr 2	Thomas	Yr 2
Jordan	Yr 6	Jack	Yr 2
Georgia	Yr 1		

Attendance Return

5th January 2011—18th February 2011

Rec—96.24%
Yr 1—92.82%
Yr 2—94.93%
Yr 3—94.36%
Yr 4—97.41%
Yr 5—91.90%
Yr 6—94.08%

Well done Year 4. You are this half term's winners.

Our overall absences were:
4.73% authorised
0.78% unauthorised
Our overall attendance was 94.49%

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.

Whole School Mass List

Mon 7th March	Year 4 Preparation for Lent/ Ash Wednesday	Fr Darley 2.00pm
Weds 9th March	Distribution of Ashes	Fr Darley 2.30pm
Mon 14th March	Prepared by KS1—St Patrick's Day	Fr Darley 2.00pm
Mon 21st March	Prepared by Y6—St Joseph	Fr Darley 2.00pm
Mon 28th March	Prepared by Year 3	Fr Darley 2.00pm

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

Diary Dates



9th-11th March	Residential trip to Alton Castle
Thurs 10th March	Yr 3 visit to Red House Glass Cone
Fri 11th March	Yr 4 Library Quiz at Thorns Community College
Tues 15th March	Bikeability cycle skills for Y5 First Holy Communion Meeting for parents of Y3 children. 7.30pm Parish Centre
Weds 16th March	Bikeability cycle skills for Y3
Thurs 17th March	Irish Band in school for St. Patrick's Day Bikeability cycle skills for Y3 Irish dancers to Brierley Hill
Fri 18th March	Family Fast Day
Weds 23rd March	KS2 Dress Rehearsal 1.30pm KS2 Production 6.30pm
Thurs 24th March	Y6 visit to Hindu Temple First Confession Meeting for Y2 parents. 7.30pm Parish Centre
Fri 25th March	School Council to Mount Pleasant 1.45pm
Weds 30th March	Parent's Evening 3.10—5.30pm
Fri 1st April	'Refreshment Morning' with the parent support advisor. Irish Night in school 7.30pm
Tues 5th April	First Holy Communion Catechists Meeting 7.30pm Parish Centre
Weds 6th April	Parent's Evening 5.00—7.30pm
Thurs 7th April	Easter Egg Hunt 9.00am Easter Confessions 10.45-11.45am
Fri 8th April	Break up for Easter
	<u>INSET Days 2010-2011</u>
Friday 29th April	Royal Wedding—school closed
Monday 2nd May	Bank Holiday—school closed
Thursday 5th May	Local Elections—school closed to pupils
Friday 6th May	INSET Day—school closed to pupils
Friday 27th May	Catholic INSET Day—school closed to pupils
Weds 27th July	INSET —this is an additional day arranged by the Government so school will finish for children on Tuesday 26th July.

Class Assemblies

Fri 4th Mar	Year 1 Assembly	9.10am
Fri 18th Mar	Foundation Stage Assembly	9.10am
Fri 25th Mar	Year 2 Assembly	9.10am
Fri 8th Apr	Year 6 Easter Assembly	9.10am

PTA News

The PTA will be holding an Easter Egg Hunt this half term. Any donations of Easter eggs would be greatly appreciated.

Tea and Coffee is served before parental assemblies on Fridays.

Uniform Sale

Polo shirts, caps, hats, scarves and pump bags now available £1 each.



Year 6 SATs Week

Monday 9th—Friday 13th May.

Sports Day

Sports Day this year will be held on Thursday 26th May for KS1 in the morning and KS2 in the afternoon.

Irish Dancers

Good luck to our Irish Dancers who are taking part in the Easter Celebration of Dance at Brierley Hill Civic Hall on St. Patrick's Day. Come and see them dance at St. Mary's at our Irish Night on April 1st.



Book Quiz

Good luck to the book quiz children from Y6 and Y4 who are representing St Mary's in the school's book quiz.

Hagley Music Extravaganza

Well done to Year 6, Mrs Brereton and Mrs Hodson for a great night at Birmingham Town Hall on February 15th. You were a credit to the school.

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.

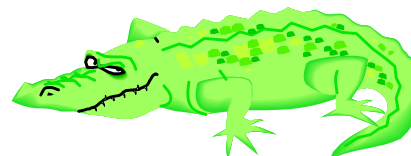
International Visit to Gambia

We are delighted that Ms O' Beirne returned safely from her international visit. She found the visit to be extremely educational and experienced many activities including stroking a crocodile!



Since returning Ms O' Beirne has shared her experiences with the children and is developing links with the school that she visited in Banjul.

We hope that your children will soon have a pen pal to write to in The Gambia which will be a wonderful experience and a fantastic opportunity to learn about life in a very different part of the world than Brierley Hill.



Emailing Service To Parents

Following on from the success of the texting service we offer, we are now able to email parents. This gives us the ability to email newsletters, trip letters and anything else that is normally sent home on paper. If you would like to use this service, please send your email address into the school office if you haven't already done so.



Extra-Curricular Activities

To begin Week Beginning 7th March

	8.00-8.50am	Lunchtime	3.15-4.15pm
Monday			Football Mr Turner KS1
Tuesday	Top Score UK KS1 & KS2	Gardening Club Mrs Brereton KS2	Netball Miss White KS2
Wednesday			Irish Dancing Una Rollinson KS1 & KS2 (Now full) Basketball Sportslink Y4—Y6
Thursday	Top Score UK KS1 & KS2	Gardening Club Mrs Brereton KS2 Spanish Club Mrs Deere KS1	
Friday		Football Mr Turner Y5 & Y6	Football Mr Turner KS2

Recycling News



A big thank you to everyone for all the recycling that is taking place. So far this has raised extra money for our school. All money raised by recycling is used to improve the outside environment of our school.

Please remember we recycle plastic, textiles, ie. clothing, shoes, bags and belts as well as tin foil, aluminium and metal tins.

Family Irish Night Friday 1st April



Don't be an April Fool!
Come to St. Mary's at 7.30pm until 10.00pm and dance your socks off!
All friends and families of St. Mary's welcome.

Bring your own food and drink.

Tickets £5 per adult

£2.50 per child

Tickets now available from the school office. Going fast so don't delay!