



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

September 2018

Principal: Ms O. O'Beirne

### Welcome Back!

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new school year! I hope you all had a wonderful Summer: though with this cold weather drawing in it sometimes can feel like a distant memory!

I wanted to write a few words to introduce myself as the new Vice Principal of St Mary's Catholic Primary School. I know I have seen and met many of you now on the school gate or playground at the beginning and end of the day and I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your friendly faces and helping me to feel welcome. I look forward to getting to know more of you at events such as Macmillan Coffee afternoon, the Christmas fair and our masses throughout the year.

Prior to starting at St Mary's, I spent 8 years at a larger Catholic primary school in North Birmingham as a teacher and a school leader and I am also a foundation governor and committee chair at a separate Birmingham Catholic primary school. I look forward now, to helping in developing the future of St Mary's.

Over the last few weeks, I have really enjoyed getting to know your children. They are very patient in helping me to remember all their names and I am trying to make myself as visual as possible so that I am available to talk to and share any thoughts they may have.

My passion is in ensuring that all children receive a high quality education that is equal parts enjoyable, challenging and nurturing. I have been fortunate enough to work with outstanding colleagues and highly motivated children on an individual class basis, and I look forward to using this experience and knowledge to drive through positive whole school developments for the benefit of all the children here at St Mary's.

Mrs Borriello

### School Life App & Parents Evening

#### Year 5 Parents Evening—Wednesday 17th October

Please be advised that you will **ONLY** be able to book a slot for parents via the School Life App. Bookings will open on Saturday 29th September and close on Friday 12th October.

#### Parents Evening—Tuesday 23rd & Thursday 25th October

Please be advised that you will **ONLY** be able to book a slot for parents via the School Life App. Bookings will open on Saturday 6th October and close on Friday 19th October.

*If you are having difficulty with accessing the app please call into the school office and see Mrs Waterfield between 8.30am and 9.00am on a Monday, Tuesday or Thursday.*

#### Lunchtime Supervisor

The school is seeking to appoint a Midday Supervisor. The successful applicant should be able to work well in a closely knit team as well as having the capacity to develop good relationships with the children.

8.75 hours per week term time only.

Application forms available at [www.catholiceducation.org.uk](http://www.catholiceducation.org.uk)

#### Prayer

Lord Jesus, we ask for Your help as we begin this new school year. Allow us to experience Your presence in the many blessings You put before us. Jesus, inspire us to do our best this year!

Amen

#### SENDCo

Please be advised Ms Mosley works on Monday's, Tuesday's and Thursday's.

If you need to see Ms Mosley she is available for pre-booked appointments on Tuesdays only.

Should you require an appointment please call the school office on 01384 818435.



### 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.

### Admissions

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

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**.

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



one click ... makes it quick  
[www.dudley.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/admissions)

### *Gospel Virtue : Compassionate & loving*

*Pupils at St Mary's are focusing this term on*

*'feeling or showing sympathy and concern for other'*

*"Love one another, as I have love you"*

### Welcome

An extra special welcome to all of our new children and their families who have joined us this year. We hope that you will quickly make new friends and really feel part of our community.

### PE Kits

Please ensure your child's PE Kit is in school every week and should consist of black pumps, black shorts / skorts or leggings and a white t-shirt.



### Forms & Important information to be returned.

Your child has been sent home with important information that should be checked, completed and returned to school by 5th October 2018.

#### These items are:

Data Check – this is information we hold on our computer data base for your child. It is essential that this information is kept up to date so that we are able to contact you in an emergency. Please read the information, amend if necessary, and return to school. We have also sent consent forms for off site visits, photo-graphs, food tasting etc. **Please return these to school as soon as possible, but before 5th October 2018, to ensure that your child does not miss out on any activities.**



### 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.

Can parents also please be mindful not to block driveways as we have received a number of complaints from residents, who have also reported the parking situation to the police.

Thank you for your co-operation.

## 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.

<b>97% and above</b>	<b>Less than 6 days absence a year – Less than 30 hours of learning lost</b> Excellent attendance. Your child is giving his/herself the best chance of achieving their full potential at school.
<b>95%</b>	<b>10 days absence a year – 50 hours of learning lost</b> 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.
<b>93%</b>	<b>13 days absence a year – 70 hours of learning Lost</b> Missing this much time is putting your child in an unfair position when it comes to achieving their potential.
<b>90% and below</b>	<b>19 days absence – 95 hours of learning lost</b> 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
Class Mass—Year 5	Friday 28th September	09.00am—09.30am
Macmillan Coffee Afternoon	Friday 28th September	2.00pm—3.00pm
Whole School Mass—Harvest Festival	Friday 5th October	09.00am-09.30am
Inset Day	Friday 12th October	All Day
Reception Children Eye Tests	Wednesday 17th October	9.00am
Year 5 Parents Evening	Wednesday 17th October	3.15pm—7.45pm
Class Mass—Year 3	Friday 19th October	09.00am-09.30am
School Disco Pre-School to Year 2	Friday 19th October	5.00pm—6.00pm
School Disco Year 3 to Year 6	Friday 19th October	6.15pm—7.30pm
Parents Evening	Tuesday 23rd October	5.00pm—7.30pm
Parents Evening	Thursday 25th October	3.15pm—5.45pm
Whole School Mass—Faith Leaders	Friday 26th October	09.00am—09.30am
Non-Uniform Day—Bring a full bottle!	Friday 26th October	All Day
Break up for Half Term	Friday 26th October	3.00pm
Children return to school	Monday 5th November	8.40am
"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
KS1 Christmas Play	Monday 17th December	Time to be confirmed
Christmas Lunch	Wednesday 19th December	12.00pm—1.15pm
Christmas Jumper Day	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