



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mill Street, Brierley Hill
Telephone: 01384 818435

NEWSLETTER



Autumn 2 2008

Dear Parents and Children,

*Welcome back to another new half-term at St Mary's. I hope that you all had a very restful half-term break and that you are refreshed and ready for all the numerous events that will be happening at St Mary's between now and **Friday 18th December** when we finish for Christmas.*

Already shops are selling Christmas presents and, with Merry Hill so close to our school, it is impossible to forget that Christmas will soon be here. As Advent approaches, it is important for us to remember to try to prepare our hearts also for the best Christmas gift of all: Baby Jesus who brought joy to the world. The image of a tiny baby in a simple stable helps us to remember that gifts don't have to be the biggest to be the best and that often the best gift of all is time to listen and to be there for each other just as Jesus is always there for us.

Best wishes to you all for the new half-term at school.

Ms. A. Maher

School Buildings Fund

Thank you to all those of you who have been sending donations in the little envelopes which are attached to the newsletter. We have been looking carefully at the school building to see how we can further improve facilities for our school community. We desperately need additional rooms for small group teaching and somewhere for parents/carers to meet for informal coffee mornings, Friends meetings, private meetings with teachers etc. so hopefully, with your help, this will be our next project. As you can imagine, building work is expensive but every donation helps and no donation is too small.

Morrisons 'Let's Grow Vouchers

Thank you to everyone who is sending in these vouchers. We are still a long way from our target but every voucher we receive is a big help so keep them coming!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

The following children have birthdays during November and December. 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:

Joshua Yr 3	Lauren Yr 5
Saam Yr 1	Joseph Yr 2
Michael Yr 4	Frances Yr 4
Katie Yr 4	Shaylee Yr 1
Caitlin Yr 6	Scarlett Yr 5
Alex Yr 5	Nathaniel REC
Kory Yr 1	Natasha Yr 1
Danny REC	Kiara Yr 2
Connor Yr 4	Iwan Yr 2
Terence Yr 2	Ellie Yr 3
Jack Yr 5	James Yr 5
Kirsten REC	Jena REC
Molly Yr 3	Reece Yr 3
Shelbie Yr 2	James REC
Jade REC	Jason Yr 2
Joshua Yr 3	Lewis Yr 3

Friends of St. Mary's

Our Christmas Fair this year is on Saturday 28th November. We are desperate for donations for our tom bola and cakes stalls. If you can help please send your donations into school as soon as possible (except cakes which we would be grateful if you could send in on Friday 27th November). Also if you are able to help on any of the stalls please contact the school office.



Mary Stevens Hospice

Once again we are supporting Mary Stevens Hospice with their Christmas appeal. We have small bears for sale at £1 each. These are available from the school office. All proceeds will go to Mary Stevens Hospice.





Whole School Mass List

Weds 11th Nov	Prepared by Yr 3	Fr Darley 9.15am
Weds 18th Nov	Prepared by Ms Maher	Fr Darley 9.15am
Weds 25th Nov	Prepared by Yr 5	Fr Darley 9.15am
Weds 16th Dec	Christmas Mass Prepared by 4	Fr Darley 9.15am

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

Assemblies

Fri 13th Nov	Prepared by Year 5	9.15am
Fri 27th Nov	Prepared by Year 3	9.15am
Fri 18th Dec	KS2 Christmas Carols Assembly	9.15am

School Closures

Mon 4th Jan	INSET Day
Mon 3rd May	May Day Bank Holiday
Thurs 6th May	Local Elections
Fri 28th May or	Catholic INSET Day (Date still to be confirmed)



Diary Dates

Weds 4th Nov	INSPIRE Year 6
Tues 10th Nov	Confirmation Meeting for Year 6 parents 6.00pm in school
Fri 13th Nov	Toy and Cake Sale 1.30pm
Mon 16th—Fri 20th Nov	Anti-bullying week and Inter faith week
Fri 20th Nov	Mufti for Christmas Fair
	Year 5 visit to Birmingham Museum
Thurs 26th Nov	Safety Forum Meeting 5.00pm in school
Sat 28th Nov	Christmas Fair 1.00pm
Mon 30th Nov	Y5 & Y6 visit to St Chad's Cathedral
Thurs 3rd Dec	Merry Hill Choir Competition 9.45am at Merry Hill
	Confirmation 7.00pm at St Mary's Church
Weds 9th Dec	KS1 Christmas Production 1.40pm
Thurs 10th Dec	KS1 Christmas Production 6.30pm
Fri 11th Dec	Christmas Confessions in school
Mon 14th Dec	Pre-School/Foundation Stage Christmas Production 10.30am
Weds 16th Dec	Pre-School/Foundation Stage Christmas Production 1.45pm
Thurs 17th Dec	Christmas Disco and parties 1.00—3.00pm
Fri 18th Dec	BREAK UP FOR CHRISTMAS



After School Clubs Week Commencing 9th November 2009

Mon	Circuit Training Football	3.15—4.15pm 3.15—4.15pm	KS2 KS1
Tue	Tennis Creative Club Maths Club	3.15 - 4.15pm 3.15- 4.15pm 3.15—4.15pm	KS2 Y2 & Y3 Y6
Wed	Irish Dancing	3.15—4.15pm	KS1 & KS2
Thurs	Choir	Lunchtimes	KS2
Fri	Football	3.15-4.15pm	KS2

Due to costs incurred for materials used etc. we would be grateful for a voluntary contribution of £1 for all after school clubs run by members of St. Mary's staff. All clubs run by professionals incur their own cost which is paid directly to the organisation concerned.

Raise Funds for St Mary's Catholic Primary School - Brierley Hill When You Shop and Search Online

easyfundraising is a shopping directory listing some of your favourite online stores including Argos, Next, Amazon, Debenhams, John Lewis, Toys R Us, HMV and over 600 other top name stores. Whenever you shop with any one of them using the links provided on the easyfundraising site, you'll generate a free donation for us of up to 15% of the purchase price every time! It really is that simple!

It doesn't cost a penny more to shop and raise funds in this way. In fact you can even SAVE MONEY as many retailers give exclusive discounts, special offers and even 'e-vouchers' when you shop through the easyfundraising site.

All you need to do is register for free at <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/stmaryscatholicps> and use easyfundraising every time you shop online.

Attendance Return
3rd September 2009—23rd October 2009

Rec—95.38%
Yr 1—95.28%
Yr 2—93.04%
Yr 3—96.47%
Yr 4—92.80%
Yr 5—95.45%
Yr 6—94.74%

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

Our overall absences were:

4.98% authorised
0.29% unauthorised
Our overall attendance was 94.74%

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 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.

HOLY SOULS

During November, we remember our loved ones who have died. If you would like your deceased relatives and friends to be remembered at our school Masses during November, please write their name on a piece of paper and put it in the box marked "People We have Loved" which is on our prayer table in the front entrance hall.

LOST UNIFORM

At the end of last half-term we had an enormous pile of uniform (all un-named) which had been lost during the previous six weeks. Please label all items of clothing so that lost garments can be returned to their owners. Please also check that your child has not picked up a friend's sweatshirt/polo shirt etc by mistake. Our lost property box is by the office window so please come and look if you are missing any items. Thank you.

To the Parents/Carers,

Consultation on the Proposed New Admissions Scheme

Due to new Government legislation Dudley Authority must now consult with parents regarding co-ordination of all in-year admissions to primary and secondary schools inside and outside the Dudley Borough. The consultation document is available and can be found by parents using the following instructions:

Go to the Dudley website – Council and Democracy – Council Decision Making – Dudley MBC Consultations.

<http://online.dudley.gov.uk/dudco/engagement/>

The desired outcomes of the new Proposed Dudley Admission Scheme is to:

Maximise the opportunity for parents' preferences to be met.

For Dudley children to be able to attend their preferred school wherever requested.

Simplify the in-year admissions process for parents.

Reduce the likelihood of any child being left without a school place.

Fully co-ordinate the process to such an extent that all parents within Dudley receive only one offer of a school place, irrespective of the schools or LA for which they are applying.

PLEASE NOTE

This document does not relate to admissions for new Reception and Secondary Year 7 admissions in September 2010.

If you have any views/comments on this document please return any responses to CONSULTATION RESPONSES, Executive Support Team, at the above address by

18 December 2009.

If you require any further information or a hard copy of the document please do not hesitate in contacting the team at Westox House on 01384 814225.

Yours sincerely,



Director of Children's Services

School Council

Some of us came to the Safety forum meeting on Thursday 22nd October in school. We would like to ask you to remember to park at KFC or Next Home carpark because parking on Mill Street is making the people who live there sad and sometimes they are not able to get off their drives to go to hospital. Please help us to make these people happy.

Alice and Lauren

Eco Warriors

We are working very hard to become an environmentally friendly school. We now have paper recycling bins in every classroom and a big recycling bin outside. Every term we arrange a textile recycling collection and we are hoping to start recycling plastic bottles in the future. We are still collecting plants and shrubs for planting in our school grounds so any help would be appreciated.



Fleeces, Hats etc...

As the weather is now getting cooler we have school fleeces for sale—reversible £12 or regular £10 (limited stock and sizes) and woolly hats and scarves for £3

