

# ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mill Street, Brierley Hill  
Telephone: 01384 818435  
**NEWSLETTER**



Autumn 1 2009

Dear Parents and Children

Welcome back to St Mary's. I hope that you all had a really great Summer break and that you are now looking forward to another wonderful year together. As the new school year begins we welcome many new children and families into our school community. We also welcome Miss Phillips and Miss Wright. I hope that all those who have joined our school this year will find joy and success at St Mary's and I wish them every happiness for the future.

I am delighted to tell you that our Food Technology Room is now ready for our children, and the Friends of St Mary's, to use. It is a fantastic new facility for our school community and I am sure that you, like me, will be looking forward to sampling all the goodies that will be created there! Our school hall has also been decorated and looks spectacular. I am extremely grateful to everyone for the generous voluntary contributions which have made these improvements possible. In October, when Father Darley has returned from his holiday, he will celebrate Mass in the hall and this will be followed by tea and coffee and an opportunity to view the Food Technology Room. I will let you know of the date as soon as it has been set.

I look forward to seeing you all regularly throughout the forthcoming school year at our Masses, assemblies, plays, INSPIRE mornings etc as we continue to work together in partnership for the children in our care.

Yours sincerely

Ms A Maher

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

The following children have birthdays during September and October. 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:

Jay Yr 4	Alyssa Yr 1
Kelsie Yr 4	Oliver Yr 1
Abbie Yr 5	Kiera Yr 4
Adam Yr 4	William Yr 6
Mikey Yr 2	Rebekah Yr 4
Joe Yr 2	Stephen Yr 2
Niamh Yr 5	Sophie Yr 2
Samantha Yr 1	Linda Rec
Patrick Yr 3	Emily Yr 4
Sean Yr 2	Kezia Yr 6
Phebe Yr 4	Justine Yr 2
Joshua Yr 1	Dylan Yr 4
Laurie Yr 3	Joseph Yr 2
Jibin Yr 4	Stuart Yr 1
Han Yu Yr 3	Joseph Rec
Natalie Yr 5	

## **GENERAL REMINDERS**

### **School begins at...**

The bell rings for the start of the school day at 8.50am and children should be in the playground before this. Latecomers disrupt the class and cause delays for the staff, but it is the children who miss the start of their lessons and have to try to catch up so please get your children to school on time.

### **P.E. Kit**

Children should have a P.E. Kit available, in school, every day during term time. It is only used for a short time each week and will need washing only once or twice during the term. P.E. kit consists of white t-shirt, black shorts, pumps for indoor P.E. and trainers for P.E. on the field.

### **Absences**

Please contact school by 10am if your child is absent for any reason. It is important you contact us so that both school and yourselves know the whereabouts of your child. If we haven't heard from you by 10am we will contact you so please can you ensure that emergency contact numbers are up to date. I'm sure you will appreciate how important this is.

## **Uniform**

We are very pleased to see the children looking so smart on their return to St. Mary's after the Summer 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
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Please label all uniform with your child's name.



### **Diary Dates**

28th Sept-2nd Oct	Rosary Week Year 3
Fri 25th Sept	Macmillan Coffee Morning
Weds 30th Sept	INSPIRE Foundation Stage
5th—9th Oct	Rosary Week Year 4
Tues 6th Oct	Reconciliation Meeting for Y2 parents, Parish Centre 7.00pm
12th—16th Oct	Rosary Week Year 5
Mon 12th Oct	Planet Jazz KS1 & KS2
Tues 13th Oct	Y4 to Blakesley Hall
	Three Bears and Goldilocks KS1
	First Holy Communion meeting for Y3 parents, Parish Centre 7.00pm
Weds 14th Oct	Parents Evening 3.10-5.00pm
Fri 16th Oct	Harvest Assembly
19th—23rd Oct	Rosary Week Year 6
Weds 21st Oct	Parents Evening 5.00-7.00pm
Thurs 22nd Oct	Brierley Hill Safety Forum Meeting 5.00pm in school
	BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM

### **INSET Days 2009-2010**

<b>Thursday 3rd Sept</b>	INSET Day—school closed to pupils
<b>Friday 4th Sept</b>	INSET Day—school closed to pupils
<b>Friday 23rd Oct</b>	INSET Day—school closed to pupils
<b>Monday 4th Jan</b>	INSET Day—school closed to pupils
<b>Thursday 6th May</b>	Local Elections—school closed to pupils
<b>June</b> (date to be confirmed)	Catholic INSET day - school closed to pupils

### **Class Assemblies**

Fri 25th September	Year 4 Assembly	9.10am
Fri 16th October	Yr 6/Harvest Assembly	9.10am

### **AFTERSCHOOL CLUB**

There is an after school facility provided for St Mary's pupils at Brierley Hill Primary School. We operate a 'walking bus' and pupils are escorted by St. Mary's staff to the after school club at 3.00pm. If you would like to use this facility please call 01384 816980.

### **Hospital/Dental Appointments**

Please remember to bring hospital and dental appointment cards into school so a copy can be kept with your child's records. Please endeavour to make dental appointments out of school hours whenever possible.

### **Parking**

Thank you for continuing to park with consideration for our neighbours. Remember parking spaces are available on the KFC carpark—**Mornings only** and on the carpark behind Next Home—mornings and afternoons. Parking on the school drive is only available for parents **who are the driver** and hold a parking permit which can be obtained from the school office on presentation of a disabled badge/doctor's note.

### **HOLIDAY DATES**

<b>2009/10</b>	<b>Autumn Term 2009</b>	<b>Spring Term 2010</b>	<b>Summer Term 2010</b>
<b>Term start</b>	Thursday 3rd September	Monday January 4th	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> April
<b>Half term</b>	Mon 26 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov	Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> - Fri 21st Feb	Mon 31st May-Fri 6th June
<b>Term end</b>	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Thursday 1st April	Friday 23rd July

<b>2010/11</b>	<b>Autumn Term 2010</b>	<b>Spring Term 2011</b>	<b>Summer Term 2011</b>
<b>Term start</b>	Monday 6th September	Tuesday January 4th	Tuesday 26th April
<b>Half term</b>	Mon 25 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 31 <sup>st</sup> Oct	Mon 21st- Fri 25 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Mon 30 <sup>th</sup> May-Fri 3rd June
<b>Term end</b>	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Friday 8th April	Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> July

### **Requests for leave during term time**

Please remember that children are only allowed leave during term time in exceptional circumstances. (Please see enclosed leaflet). All requests must be made in writing to the school office before any leave is booked. Each request will be considered individually.

Please note the academic dates for 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 so that family holidays are not booked during term times. Ofsted expects an attendance rate of 95% and above for all schools. Our overall attendance for 08-09 was 93.82%.

Please help us to improve our school attendance by ensuring that your child attends school regularly.

### **After School Clubs**

To begin week beginning 14th September

Tues	Environment Club	3.15—4.15pm
	Mrs Brereton KS2	
	Creative Club	3.15—4.15pm
	Miss Nicholson KS1	
Weds	Irish Dancing	3.15—4.15pm
	Mrs Rollason KS1 & KS2	
Thurs	Sign Language	3.15– 4.15pm
	Miss Phillips KS1, KS2 and parents if they wish	
Fri	Football	3.15—4.15pm
	Mr Turner 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 costs which is paid directly to the organisation concerned.

### **Lunchtime Drinks**

The following drinks can be purchased from the kitchen during lunchtime:

Milkshakes	15p
Squash	15p
Juice Carton	18p
Milk Carton	12p



### **A big thankyou to Dylan ( Year 4)...**

who climbed Mount Snowdon during the summer and raised £176 in sponsor money which he has most generously donated to the hall and kitchen decoration fund. Thank you very much to Dylan and to all of his sponsors.



### **School/Parishes Pilgrimage To Harvington Hall**

Thank you to all those who made Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September so enjoyable. We had a great tour of the Hall followed by outdoor Mass – and we stayed dry!!