



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, Mrs Addis and Mrs Broomfield.
Child Protection policy available at www.st-mary-bh.dudley.sch.uk

March 2017

Lent



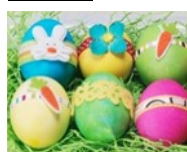
On Friday 10th March, One Life Music came into school to lead a Lenten retreat day for all of the children. The title of the day was "Remember Me" and it gave children an opportunity for prayer, giving and acting on our beliefs. They marked this 40-day period through music, sharing and offerings. I hope that the children gained a lot from this special day.

Lent 2017: Time for the Good Shepherd Appeal

We hope that the children are managing to fill their money boxes for the Good Shepherd Appeal. The boxes have started to come in now. Boxes can be returned to school at any time, but we would ideally like to have them all back before the Easter break.



Easter



Egg Appeal: If you would like to donate any Easter Eggs to the SVP project, these can be placed in the collection box in the entrance hall and would be gratefully received.

Egg Decorating competition: Please see the attached flyer for our Easter egg decorating competition. It costs 50p to enter, but there is a chance to win an Easter egg. Please make sure that all eggs are hard boiled first. Entries close on Thursday 6th April.

Easter Bonnet Parade: On Friday morning, 7th April, our Easter assembly will include a parade of Easter bonnets. There are no prizes for this, it is just for fun, but it would be lovely to see lots of children taking part.

Vivo Concert

Congratulations to our school choir and Mrs Addis for an excellent performance at the 7th annual Vivo concert which was hosted by Jesson's CE Primary School on Thursday 16th March. Other schools taking part included Wollescote Primary, Oldswinford CE Primary, Howley Grange Primary and Thorns Primary. 17 primary schools took part over the two day festival at Dudley Town Hall. For more details and photographs please look at the special events section of our website.



Music Lessons Open Evening Thursday 30th March between 18:30 and 20:00, Netherton Arts Centre



Following the success of last year's event Dudley Performing Arts are holding a drop in open evening for children to come along and try out a range of musical instruments. The evening provides a chance for students learning in whole class instrumental projects to find out about making the next steps of music making.

At this event students can try a range of instruments (trumpets, trombones, violins, cello, flutes, clarinets, guitar, drums, keyboards, etc) and parents can ask questions about how lessons work in schools with Dudley Performing Arts.

What a Knight

On Thursday 6th April Years 3 and 4 will be staging this year's production which is entitled "What a Knight!". You are invited to come and see a castle full of colourful characters including precocious princesses, a talking dragon and not forgetting Merlin and his magic mirror. Trouble is never far away and soon Camelot Castle collapses into chaos.



The dress rehearsal is at 1:30pm and the evening performance begins at 6:30pm. Tickets are £1 for adults and 50p for children and OAPs.

Parking



Please remember to show consideration to our neighbours when parking near school. We have received a letter from a disabled resident of Woodbury Close who was recently unable to get out of his property because of the way parents had parked near his home.

School Nurse Drop-ins

Our school nurse holds monthly drop-in sessions on **Wednesdays** between **9am and 10am**. If you have any health concerns for your child, eg asthma, diet, sleep, recurring illness, then you can come along at any time to speak with her and she will advise you of any support available. The next session is on **26th April**.



Neighbourhood Alert



PC Jim Keeley, our local community police officer has asked us to share information about how you can check what is happening where you live and work. WM Now is a new messaging tool which is used by community organisations such as Action Fraud and National Neighbourhood Watch. You, as a community member, can sign up detailing exactly what you want to hear about. To find out more and sign up go to www.wmnow.co.uk

Congratulations

Well done to Hamish who has been awarded with a certificate for "Black belt spirit in the martial arts" by Academy Martial Arts. This means that he shows the characteristics of a black belt at his martial arts classes. He has been attending classes for about 3 years and currently has a green gold belt, and will be getting his blue belt soon. We love to hear about our children's achievements outside of school.



New School Website

I hope you have all had a chance to visit our new website. This is the first place to visit to find out what is happening in our school community. Most of the content is visible to the World Wide Web but we do have the option to restrict certain pages of the website to members of the school community only. You should all now have a login to the website to enable you to receive messages and emails and any additional pages to the website as they appear. If you are still having problems logging in please contact the school office who will be happy to assist you. If you haven't already done so, please download the 'School Life Official' app from either the app store or google play onto your mobile phone or tablet. This will enable you to receive messages and emails off us. It's also a handy place to view the school calendar and newsletters, plus anything else that's available on the website. I would love to know what you think so if you have a few moments to spare please visit the guestbook on the 'contact us' page and leave your comments. If there is anything you would like to see on our website and app please do let us know.

School Life

Happy Easter

I hope that you all have a wonderful Easter break and that we start to enjoy some warmer, dryer spring weather. The last day of term will be Friday 7th April and school will be open again for children on Monday 24th April.



Ms O'Beirne
Principal

Academy Prayer

Lord, fill our hearts and minds as we move forwards together. Enable us to work with one another to ensure that our community continues to develop and grow, for the benefit of all Amen

Academy Motto

In Jesus we live learn and serve.

Event	Date	Time
Masses		
Year 6 Mass— Easter	Tuesday 4th April	9:15am
Year 2 Mass—Our Lady	Tuesday 2nd May	9:15am
Reception Mass	Tuesday 23rd May	9:15am
Prayer Leaders Mass	Tuesday 6th June	9:15am
Year 3 Mass—Sacred Heart	Tuesday 20th June	9:15am
Staff Mass	Tuesday 4th July	9:15am
Year 4 Mass—Leavers	Tuesday 18th July	9:15am
Class Assemblies		
Year 4	Friday 5th May	9:15am
Year 5	Friday 16th June	9:15am
Reception and Pre-School	Friday 7th July	9:15am
Year 6 (Graduation assembly)	Friday 21st July	9:15am
Future important dates		
Meeting for parents re: 1st Holy Communion (Year 3)	Tuesday 28th March	6:00pm
Friends of St Mary's meeting in school	Tuesday 4th April	6:30pm
KS2 Production "What A Knight!"	Thursday 6th April	Afternoon & evening
Key Stage 1 SATs (Year 2)	May	
Key Stage 2 SATs (Year 6)	8th—11th May	
Piety for First Holy Communion in Y3 Classroom	Thursday 11th May	3:15pm
First Holy Communion, St. Mary's Church (Year 3)	Saturday 20 th May 2017	11am
First Holy Communion Thanksgiving Mass, St. Mary's Church	Sunday 21 st May 2017	11am
Phonics Screening Check week (Year 1 and Year 2)	12th—16th June	
First Reconciliation (Year 2), St Mary's Church	Friday 7th July 2017	11am
First Reconciliation Thanksgiving Mass, St. Mary's Church	Sunday 9th July 2017	11am

This list of dates may be subject to changes or additions. If this is the case we will let you know as soon as possible.

2016-2017 Term Dates

Friday 7th April 2017	School closes for Easter break
Monday 24th April 2017	Start of term—School opens
Monday 1st May 2017	May Day Bank Holiday
Thursday 4th May 2017	Enforced closure for local elections
Friday 26th May 2017	Break up for Half Term
Monday 5th June 2017	School re-opens
Friday 21st July 2017	End of term—School closes for summer
Wednesday 6th September 2017	Start of term—School opens

Teacher Training Days for 2016-2017

Thursday 4th May (enforced closure- voting station) 2017
Monday 23rd July 2017
Tuesday 24th July 2017
Monday 4th September 2017
Tuesday 5th September 2017

