



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

February 2018



Lent. This year Lent begins on 14th February. In his recent message for Lent, Pope Francis said, "Almsgiving sets us free from greed and helps us to regard our neighbour as a brother or sister. What I possess is never mine alone. How I would like almsgiving to become a genuine style of life for each of us! How I would like us, as Christians, to follow the example of the Apostles and see in the sharing of our possessions a tangible witness of the communion that is ours in the Church! This is all the more fitting during the Lenten season, when many groups take up collections to assist Churches and peoples in need. Yet I would also hope that, even in our daily encounters with those who beg for our assistance, we would see such requests as coming from God himself. When we give alms, we share in God's providential care for each of his children. If through me God helps someone today, will he not tomorrow provide for my own needs? For no one is more generous than God."



Father Hudson's Society Good Shepherd Appeal

During Lent St Mary's will be taking part in Father Hudson's Society's Good Shepherd Appeal. This can be your child's way of helping those in need in the Archdiocese of Birmingham. A self assembly collecting box is being sent out with this Newsletter. Please encourage your child to put any money that would have been spent on sweets and other treats into the collecting box. You can find more information about the work of this charity at www.fatherhudsons.org.uk

Mary Stevens Hospice. You will remember that we held a non-uniform day in support of this wonderful local charity. Thanks to your generosity, we raised a fantastic **£195**. The Hospice sent us a certificate which is on display in the School Reception.

The **Friends of St Mary's** have been very busy this term.

The movie night for Key Stage 1 pupils on 13th February was a great success. All 50 tickets were sold! If your child enjoyed it, please let us know as we'd really like to hold similar events.



Reminder. KS2 Youth Club will be launched on Tuesday 6th March. Cost £2.00 on the door to include all activities and crafts. Snacks are at any extra cost. Activities include: karaoke, board games, crafts and music. If anyone has any good board or table top games in good condition that they would like to donate to the Youth Club, we would be very happy to accept them. Please look out for the questionnaire which will be going out after the event. We will be asking children for their ideas on future activities at Youth Club.

Date for your calendar: **Friday 18th May** - Sponsored Bounce. More information to follow nearer the time.

Mrs Buckley and the Friends of St Mary's kindly organise the morning break toast and tuck shop service to raise funds for the Learning Hub. They have so far raised the fantastic sum of £1337 and hope to reach their target of £2000 by Easter. Your continued support of this service is very much appreciated. **Thank you!**



World Book Day. Thursday 1st March. Please see attached letter for details of this annual event. We are inviting children to come to school dressed as their favourite book character in return for a £1 donation which goes to Book Aid International. I am looking forward to trying to guess which books each character comes from.



Sporting News. The St Mary's team were the winners of the Y1/Y2 Multi-Sports competition which involved all primary schools in Dudley. The team will now represent Dudley at the Black Country Games in March. Congratulations!



February Half Term Multi Sports Holiday Club. Mr Bird is offering 4 days of multi sports coaching at St Mary's from Tuesday—Friday, 20th—23rd February. Sessions will run from 8.45 am until 3.00 pm. Cost is £10.00 per day or £35.00 for the 4 days. If you would like your child to attend, you can pick up a letter from Mrs Hambridge in the office.

Pyramid Concert Y5. Mr Mallinson from Hagley Catholic High School has been working with Year 5 in preparation for the Hagley Pyramid Concert at Birmingham Town Hall on Thursday 15th February. The theme for this year is 'Schools of Rock'. I look forward to seeing you all there. I know it will be a wonderful evening.



Election of Parent Academy Representative. We require a Parent Academy Representative to serve on the Academy Committee. Letters went out with children on Tuesday this week but if you'd like more information, please contact Ms O'Beirne.



Please remember to download the School Life App because this will be the only way we will be texting parents in the future.

First Aid. Please be aware that we cannot give medicine in school unless it has been prescribed by a Doctor and the prescription label is clearly on the box or bottle. Medicine that needs to be taken 3 times a day or less must be given at home. School is only able to administer medicine if it needs to be taken 4 times a day or more.



If your child has an allergy, please inform Mrs Turner as soon as possible. Thank you.

February Half Term activities, events and holiday schemes are being promoted by Dudley Family Information Service - If you would like any further information please contact the Family Information Service on 01384 814398 or email them at fis.cs@dudley.gov.uk. A paper copy is available for you to look through in the School Reception lobby

I wish you a safe and enjoyable half term break.

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.

Other Dates for your Calendar

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. All dates are also available on our website.

Event	Date	Time
Last day of school for staff and children	Friday 16th February	3:00pm
School re-opens for staff and children	Monday 26th February	8:50am
Maths workshop for Year 4 parents	*Tuesday 6th March	2:25pm
Maths workshop for Year 2 parents	Tuesday 13th March	2:25pm
Maths workshop for Year 5 parents	*Wednesday 14th March	2.25pm
Maths workshop for Year 1 parents	*Wednesday 21st March	2:25pm
Parents' Evening	Tuesday 20th March	5.00pm
Parents' Evening	Thursday 22nd March	3.30pm
Last day of school for staff and children	Thursday 29th March	3:00pm
School re-opens for staff and children	Monday 16th April	8:50am
SATs for KS1 and KS2 children	During May 2018	
Enforced school closure (local elections)	Thursday 3rd May	
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 7th May	
Walk to School Week	From Monday 14th May	
Last day of school for children	Thursday 24th May	3.00 pm
School re-opens for staff and children	Monday 4th June	8.50am

* Please note change of date

To find future term dates for planning holidays, please see the Parents' Information section on our school website.

