

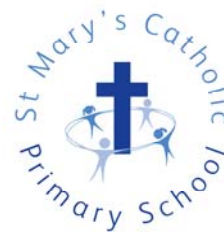
ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

St Mary's is 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 Officer: Ms A Maher
Child Protection policy available at www.st-mary-bh.dudley.sch.uk*

Spring 1 2011



Dear Parents and Children

Happy New Year and welcome back to another new term at St Mary's. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for your most generous Christmas wishes and gifts. I hope that you have had a peaceful Christmas and haven't been too disrupted by the snow. You will be pleased to know that Ms O' Beirne has managed to return from the international visit to Gambia with lots of good ideas. As the new year unfolds, (and the snow begins to melt!), we look forward to the future and start to make plans for the days ahead. As you will see by our diary dates, there are many things planned for St Mary's community over the next term.

I hope that you will enjoy what we have got planned for the next term and I wish you all the best for 2011

Happy New Year!

Ms A Maher
Headteacher

PTA News

Prayer cards on sale £1 each. Available from school office. These will be displayed on the fence outside school.

7th April—Easter Egg Hunt. Details to follow.

Next PTA meeting Wednesday 16th February at 1.00pm in school. All parents welcome.

Parking

Already, even though we have not been back for a week, the residents of Woodbury Close have been upset by parents parking across their drives or double parking so they cannot drive up or down the road. On Wednesday, a resident of Woodbury Close was late for work because he was unable to leave his drive. This is inconsiderate and gives all the parents of St Mary's a bad reputation. **Please show consideration to our neighbours**, some of whom are elderly or ill and need access to attend hospital appointments. **Please use KFC car park in the mornings and Next Home car park morning/afternoons as police will be patrolling the area around school. Thank you to the majority of parents who park at KFC and Next.**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



The following children have birthdays during January and February. 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:

| | |
|--------------|---------------|
| Cavan Y6 | Aldren Y1 |
| Anthony Rec | Kate Y2 |
| Vikesh Y5 | Samuel Y2 |
| Zoë Y1 | Piper Y3 |
| Alejandro Y2 | Arran Y1 |
| Colbie Y2 | Bernadette Y2 |
| Savanna Y3 | Callum Y6 |
| Isabel Rec | Isabel Y2 |
| Isabell Rec | Yash Rec |
| Joseph Y1 | Jacob Rec |
| Jordan Y4 | James Rec |
| Joe Y1 | Vladimir Y5 |
| Sadaf Y6 | Luciano Y5 |
| Timothy Y1 | Rosie Y2 |
| Darci Y2 | Murphy Rec |
| Kye Y5 | Amie Y2 |
| Bethany Y6 | |

Attendance Return

1st November 2010—17th December 2010

Rec—91.89%
Yr 1—92.26%
Yr 2—93.78%
Yr 3—93.84%
Yr 4—93.86%
Yr 5—94.57%
Yr 6—93.18%

Well done Year 5. You are this half term's winners.

Our overall absences were:

6.26% authorised

0.40% unauthorised

Our overall attendance was 93.33%

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 remember that holidays in school time are also unauthorised.**

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.

Whole School Mass List

There will be no Masses this half term as Fr Darley is away. School Masses will resume after February half term.

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

Diary Dates



| | |
|----------------|---|
| Fri 14th Jan | Chris Kelly MP visit to school |
| Weds 19th Jan | Y4 INSPIRE morning |
| Weds 26th Jan | Pre-School INSPIRE morning |
| Thurs 27th Jan | Beauty and the Beast, Stourbridge Town Hall 7.15pm |
| Tues 1st Feb | Eye tests Reception Class |
| Weds 2nd Feb | Saltmine Theatre Company in school for Y4-Y6 |
| Fri 4th Feb | Parent Support Advisor 'Refreshment Morning' 9.15am |
| 7th-10th Feb | Multi-faith Week |
| Weds 9th Feb | Y3 INSPIRE morning |
| Tues 15th Feb | Hagley Extravaganza, B'ham Town Hall 7.00pm (Y6) |
| Weds 16th Feb | PTA meeting 1.00pm in school |
| Fri 18th Feb | BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM |
| Tues 1st Mar | St David's Day—make a daffodil competition |
| Weds 9th Mar | Ash Wednesday |
| 9th-11th Mar | Alton Castle Residential |
| Thurs 17th Mar | St Patrick's Day—wear green clothes to school |
| | Pat Brennan & Aiden O'Brien (Irish musicians) |
| Weds 23rd Mar | KS2 Production Dress Rehearsal 1.30pm |
| | KS2 Production 6.30pm |
| Weds 30th Mar | Parent's Evening 3.10-5.30pm |
| Fri 1st Apr | Parent Support Advisor 'Refreshment Morning' 9.15am |
| | Irish Night in school |
| Weds 6th Apr | Parent's Evening 5.00-7.30pm |
| Fri 8th Apr | BREAK UP FOR EASTER |
| 9th—13th May | SATS Year 6—timetables to follow |

INSET Days 2010-2011

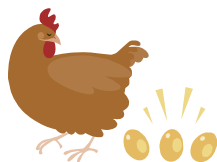
| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Friday 29th April | Royal Wedding—school closed |
| Monday 2nd May | Bank Holiday—school closed |
| Thursday 5th May | Local Elections—school closed to pupils |
| Friday 6th May | INSET Day—school closed to pupils |

Class Assemblies

| | | |
|--------------|------------------------------------|--------|
| Fri 21st Jan | Year 6 Assembly | 9.10am |
| Fri 11th Feb | Multi Faith Assembly - All classes | 9.10am |
| Fri 4th Mar | Year 1 Assembly | 9.10am |
| Fri 18th Mar | Foundation Stage Assembly | 9.10am |
| Fri 25th Mar | Year 2 Assembly | 9.10am |
| Fri 8th Apr | Year 6 Easter Assembly | 9.10am |

Free Range Eggs For Sale

Eggs laid by our very own chickens are now available for purchase 20p each on a first come first served basis. Eggs are available from the school office.



New Morning Club



We now have a new morning club on Tuesday and Thursday mornings 8.00am—8.40am. This is being provided by Top Score UK and a whole range of sporting activities take place.

Be Child Cancer Aware

Be Child Cancer Aware has issued our school with Awareness Cards highlighting the main signs and symptoms of Cancer in Children and Teenagers. Whilst the card is not designed to frighten anyone, it is important that parents are made aware of the signs. More than 4000 children and teenagers are diagnosed with Cancer in the UK each year and Cancer in this age group is particularly difficult to diagnose. By being aware you could potentially save your child's life or the life of a child you know. For more information, please visit BCCA website www.bechildcanceraware.org

Research shows that morning clubs are frequently linked to increased enjoyment of learning, positive attitudes to school and healthier lifestyles.

Why not give it a try? £2.00 per session

Nativity

Thank you to the children who created the nativity scene outside. Please look out for their Easter tableau.

| 2010/11 | Autumn Term 2010 | Spring Term 2011 | Summer Term 2011 |
|-------------------|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| Term start | Monday 6th September | Wednesday January 5th | Tuesday 26th April |
| Half term | Mon 25 th – Fri 31 st Oct | Mon 21 st - Fri 25 th Feb | Mon 30 th May-Fri 3rd June |
| Term end | Friday 17 th December | Friday 8th April | Wednesday 27 th July |

Requests for leave during term time

Please remember pupils are **not** entitled to holidays during term time. If leave is required in extenuating circumstances, a written request must be submitted to the Governing Body c/o the school office. Requests will be given due consideration on an individual basis and a reply sent. **Please take note of term dates given in this newsletter so that family holidays can be arranged during school holidays.**

PARENT SUPPORT ADVISOR

If parents/carers have any concerns or just wish to seek free, impartial advice about their family from a professional who is not connected to school, our Parent Support Advisor (PSA) **Tina Walker** is available on 01384 818780, 07827973275, psa@rufford.dudley.sch.uk or www.stourbridgelearningpartnership.org.uk. The website also has details of courses and meetings for parents/carers. Leaflets are also available in school.

Emailing Service To Parents

Following on from the success of the texting service we offer, we are now able to email parents. This gives us the ability to email newsletters, trip letters and anything else that is normally sent home on paper. If you would like to use this service, please send your email address into the school office if you haven't already done so.



Extra-Curricular Activities

To begin Week Beginning 17th January

| | 8.00-8.50am | Lunchtime | 3.15-4.15pm |
|-----------|---------------------------|---|---|
| Monday | | | Football Mr Turner KS1 |
| Tuesday | Top Score UK KS1 & KS2 | Gardening Club Mrs Brereton KS2 | Painting Club Mrs Recardo KS1 & KS2 (already full) ICT Club Mrs Addis Y2-Y6 (beginning 25th Jan) |
| Wednesday | | | Irish Dancing Una Rollinson KS1 & KS2 |
| Thursday | Top Score UK KS1 & KS2 | Gardening Club Mrs Brereton KS2 Spanish Club Mrs Deere KS1 | Craft Club Mrs Homer & Mrs Young KS1 & KS2 |
| Friday | | Football Mr Turner Y5 & Y6 | Football Mr Turner KS2 |

Recycling News



A big thank you to everyone for all the recycling that is taking place. So far this has raised extra money for our school. All money raised by recycling is used to improve the outside environment of our school.

Please remember we recycle plastic, textiles, ie. clothing, shoes, bags and belts as well as tin foil, aluminium and metal tins.

Family Irish Night **Friday 1st April**



Don't be an April Fool!
Come to St. Mary's at 7.30pm until 10.00pm and dance your socks off!

All friends and families of St. Mary's welcome.

Bring your own food and drink.

Tickets £5 per adult

£2.50 per child

On sale soon from the school office

Brierley Hillness

A community arts and heritage project where the people of Brierley Hill can reflect on the past and help shape the future.



What is Brierley Hillness to you?

Brierley Hillness Starts 11 January, Ends 30 April Get involved!

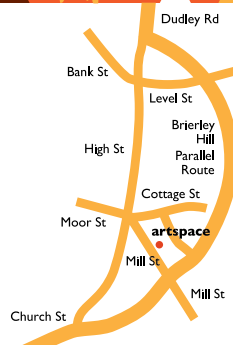


Contribute to our Brierley Hill Mural

Tell us your stories, facts and opinions about what **architecture, buildings, spaces and places** make Brierley Hill special and unique? Help us define the 'spirit' of Brierley Hill so future developers in the area understand what local people think. We can scan photographs and record your memories.

Come along to the Artspace shop

(8 Maple Row, Mill Street). Open Tues, Thurs & Fri (10am – 4pm) & Sat (alternative AM/PM, please check with Artspace).



Tuesdays are Brierley Hillness “Get Creative” days!

An artist will help you express what Brierley Hillness means to you.

Drop in to Artspace between 10am - 4pm every Tuesday from 11 January.

For more information contact artspacedudley@live.co.uk or 07866 404885

One Boy. One Town. One Big Idea!

18 February, 1.30pm at Civic Hall

Local school children and Buzz Youth Theatre present a **dance and drama production** which will lead you on a journey into the hearts and minds of the people of Brierley Hill through one family's epic road of discovery.

Tickets on sale from January 2011 from Box Office www.dudley.gov.uk/entertainment
Tel: 01384 812812. Cost Subsidised: £2.00 Adult, £1.00 Concession, Under 5's Free.

Community Group Offer

If you would like to book a **Brierley Hillness activity session** at Artspace for your community group or have a creative workshop leader bring *Brierley Hillness* to your community meeting, contact Margaret on 01384 486715 for more details.

Round Oak Reminiscence Days

We are recording people's memories about working at Round Oak.

Have you got stories you want to pass on to future generations?

Recordings taking place at Artspace on 1 Feb,

1 March & 5 April. Please pre-book.

Contact Steve on 01902 894958

or steve.field@dudley.gov.uk

Have your say on Brierley Hill's Blog

www.brierleyhill.org

