



## 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](http://www.st-mary-bh.dudley.sch.uk)



June 2018

### HOMILY OF HIS HOLINESS, POPE FRANCIS

Father, bread, forgiveness. Three words that the Gospel offers us today. Three words that take us to the very heart of our faith. "Father". The prayer begins with this. We can continue with other words, but we cannot forget this first one, for the word "Father" is the key to opening God's heart. Simply by saying *Father*, we are already praying in the language of Christianity. As Christians, we do not pray to some generic deity, but to God who is, before all else, *our Father*. Jesus told us to say "Our Father, who are in heaven", not "God of heaven, who are Father". Before all else, even before his being infinite and eternal, God is Father. All fatherhood and motherhood are derived from him (cf. Eph 3:15). In him is the origin of all goodness and life itself. The words "Our Father" reveal our identity, our life's meaning: we are God's *beloved sons and daughters*. Those words solve the problem of our isolation, our sense of being orphans. They show us what we have to do: love God, *our Father*, and others, *our brothers and sisters*. The "Our Father" is the prayer of *us*, of the Church. It says nothing about *me* and *mine*; everything is caught up in the *you* of God ("your name", "your kingdom", "your will"). It speaks in the first person plural. "Our Father": these two simple words offer us a roadmap for the spiritual life. Every time we make the sign of the cross at the start of the day or before any other important activity, every time we say "Our Father", we reclaim our roots. We need those roots in our often rootless societies. The "Our Father" strengthens our roots. Where the Father is present, no one is excluded; fear and uncertainty cannot gain the upper hand. Suddenly we remember all the good things, because in the Father's heart we are not strangers but his beloved sons and daughters. He does not group us together in little clubs, but gives us new life and makes us one large family. Let us never tire of saying "Our Father". It will remind us that just as there are no sons or daughters without a Father, so none of us is ever alone in this world. It will also remind us that there is no Father without sons or daughters, so none of us is an only child. Each of us must care for our brothers and sisters in the one human family. When we say "Our Father", we are saying that every human being is part of us, and that, in the face of all the wrongs that offend our Father, we, as his sons and daughters, are called to react as brothers and sisters. We are called to be good guardians of our family, to overcome all indifference towards our brothers or sisters, towards *any* of our brothers or sisters. This includes the unborn, the older person who can no longer speak, the person we find hard to forgive, the poor and the outcast. This is what the Father asks us, indeed commands us, to do: to love one another from the heart, as sons and daughters in the midst of their brothers and sisters.

### Holiday Club

This year we will be hosting 3 weeks of Multi Sports & Arts Coaching during the summer break.

- Week 1 Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> July
- Week 2 Monday 30<sup>th</sup> July to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> August
- Week 3 Monday 6<sup>th</sup> August to Friday 10<sup>th</sup> August

Sessions start at 08:45am and finish at 3.00pm.

£10.00 per day or £40.00 for the full week.

Please ensure you return the form asap as places are limited. The form is also available via our website in the "Latest News Section".



Elite Community Sports



Key Stage 1	09.15 to 10.30am
Break time	10.30 to 10.50am
Key Stage 2	10.50 to 12.00pm

Please ensure your child wears their house colours.

Adult spectators are invited to stay on the field during the break if they are staying to watch other children in KS2.

The tuck shop will be open all morning, serving tea, coffee and other refreshments.

### Summer Fair Thursday 5th July

Thank you to everyone who has sent in donations for our summer fair, it is much appreciated.

If anyone would be willing to help out on the day with helping to set up, please let us know!



## Congratulations



to Pierre Savary in Year 4 who has completed his first ever Triathlon. Pierre raised over £60.00 in sponsorship for the RSPCA.

## TUCK SHOP

The tuck shop has now nearly raised £4000 towards the learning hub!  
Thank you so much for your constant support!



## Athletics Championship

St Mary's entered a mixed year 4 & 5 team into the Athletics Championship at the Dell Stadium. The children who took part did amazingly well in all the events they entered and other schools commented on their impeccable behaviour.



We are very proud of their achievements, **WELL DONE** to Naishe, Jade, Kyle, Martha, Isaac, Amelia, Ellie-May, Ben, Mikail and Ocean

## After School Clubs

There are places available for after school clubs Mon—Fri 3pm until 4.15pm: £2.00 per session. The children get to do a variety of activities including Dodgeball, Invasion Games, Dance, Multi Sports and Cricket.

## Trips, Trips, Trips!

This half term has seen lots of exciting trips taking place for all the children, with more planned over the next couple of weeks!

Pre-School & Reception went to Dudley Zoo, where they got to see lots of different and exotic animals as well as looking round the castle.



Years 1 & 2 went off to the Black Country Museum. Year 2 spent some time building a model car and looking at all the different types of transport from the olden days! Year 1 went into the Victorian classroom and played with lots of toys from the past.



Years 5 & 6 went on their residential to Edgmond Hall in Shropshire. They took part in lots of exciting activities including Archery, fencing, Climbing walls and zip wires!

Before the end of term, Years 3 & 4 are going to Birmingham



Art Gallery, Year 5 are going to the Wild Zoological Park and Year 6 are going to West Midlands Safari Park!

## St Mary's Pre-School for Little People

**We still have a few places remaining for September 2018**

Please call Mrs Homer on 01384 818434 for further details or visit our website for an application form.



## IMPORTANT DATES & UPCOMING EVENTS

Event	Date	Time
Class Mass Y3 & Dress Down Day	Friday 29th June	9.00am
Year 5 Trip to Wild Zoological Park	Wednesday 4th July	
EYFS Induction Evening	Wednesday 4th July	6.00pm—7.00pm
Sports Day	Thursday 5th July	To be confirmed
Summer Fayre	Thursday 5th July	3.00 pm
Whole School Mass	Friday 6th July	9.00am
Year 6 Trip to Safari Park	Friday 6th July	
Years 3 & 4 Trip to Birmingham Art Gallery	Tuesday 10th July	
Class Mass Year 2	Friday 13th July	9.00am
Year 6 Leavers Assembly	Wednesday 18th July	9.00am
End of Year Whole School Mass	Friday 20th July	9.00am
End of Term	Friday 20th July	
School reopens to Children	Tuesday 4th September	

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



On 25th May 18, the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) comes into force. This is designed to better protect your data & to clarify and strengthen your rights. In order for us to comply with these new regulations we have issued you with revised Privacy Notices and we also wish to ensure that we have up to date permission to use some of the personal data we may collect and hold e.g. photographs.

**Please can you complete the consent form which have been sent out and return to school ASAP.**



Please ensure you have downloaded the app 'School Life Official' to your phone as this is the only way you will be able to receive messages. If you need help with login details please contact Mrs Beese or Mrs Waterfield via the school office.



### Leave of Absence requests

Some parents have asked for leave to take their child out of school. Can we please remind you that school does not authorise leave for any child unless the circumstances are exceptional. Any child with unauthorised leave of absence can be referred to Dudley and a fine may be issued.

As you know, good attendance is very important to us here at St Mary's and we are working hard to make sure that all children attend school as often as possible. I understand that children cannot help being ill, but we would urge parents to do their best to ensure that medical and dental appointments are made for outside of school hours.

We are no longer able to authorise holidays taken during term time. Please see our Attendance Policy on our website for details of fixed penalty notices which are now being issued by Dudley for holiday absences.

Mr Paul Weston, our Attendance Support Officer, will continue to monitor attendance and will issue letters to parents to alert them when their child's attendance falls below 95%, 93% and 90%.

