



ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS TRUST

C.E.O.: Miss L. O'Callaghan

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ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC JUNIOR SCHOOL

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Newsletter 7

Friday 20th October 2023

Dear Parents,

Our first half term has already passed, and everyone is pleased how much the children have achieved in their first seven weeks in their new classes.

Tempest Photographs

You should all have now received proofs of your children's photographs. Please remember that all orders are made directly through the company. When the photographs are delivered they will be distributed from the School Office.

Meet The Teacher Evening

Thank-you to all the parents who attended on Wednesday evening. It was a pleasure to be able to talk to so many of you and to share information about the school and our plans for the year.

On the evening, there was a parent questionnaire to complete. Copies are still available in the carousel outside the School Office if you would still like to complete the survey.

School Council

We have now starting collecting items for the food bank, which can be brought to the school hall. Our school council members have compiled a list of the items that are needed, which appears [at the end of this newsletter](#).

Catholic Schools' Cross-Country Competition – Thursday 2nd November

In our PE lessons at the moment the teachers are selecting our team to represent the school at the Cross-Country competition, which takes place soon after we return from the half term holiday. If your child is selected, he or she will receive a letter with all the instructions. The competition takes place at the John Fisher playing fields in Purley, and the children travel to the event by coach.

Assemblies and Liturgies

Thank-you to the children from Class 4D who shared a beautiful assembly yesterday morning.

There will be no class assembly or liturgy on 2nd November because of the Catholic Schools' Cross-Country competition, and the children from both Year 3 classes will share a liturgy for parents on Thursday 9th November at 10.25am.

The forthcoming dates after the half term holiday are as follows:

9th November – All Year 3

16th November – Class 6P

23rd November – Class 6G

Teacher Training Day (INSET) – Monday 30th October

Please remember that the school will be closed to children on this date as the staff will be taking part in safeguarding training.

Royal British Legion – Poppy Appeal 2023

We have now received our poppies and will begin selling them in November.

Year 2 Parents' and Carers' Transition Meeting – 2nd November at 3.45pm

We are inviting the parents and carers of children currently in Year 2 to a meeting in the Junior School in which I will outline the process of application and application documents can be collected. This has been advertised in the Infant School, but please remind any families that you know who are seeking to apply for a place next year.

Job advertisement – Assistant Head of School

The governors of the Trust are seeking to appoint an Assistant Head of School for the Junior School. This is a re-advertisement for this role. The closing date for applications is Friday 3rd November at 4pm. All the documents can be found on the schools' website.

Achievement Certificates

The achievement certificates this week are awarded to Alexandra in 3A, Racheal in 3E, Darija in 4D, Vitoria in 4T, Isabella in 5B, Chidiuto in 5C, Jack in 6G and Ethan in 6P. The Head of School's award goes to Mollie in 5C and the swimmer of the week award goes to Nikola in 3E. The Computing Award this week goes to Giulia in 3E.

Don't forget that we now start our half-term holiday. The school will re-open to children on **Tuesday 31st October at 9am**. I wish you a restful holiday with your wonderful children.

Yours faithfully,

Andrew McDonald
Head of School

Health Advice for parents

Coronavirus

The World Health Organisation now considers the covid pandemic to not be a global health emergency. For advice and support if you suspect someone has covid, please visit:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/covid-19/covid-19-symptoms-and-what-to-do/>

When using a test, check that it is a recent one that is set up to detect new strains of the virus.

Group A Strep (streptococci)

Scarlet fever is usually a mild illness, but it is highly infectious. Look out for symptoms in your child, which include a sore throat, headache, and fever, along with a fine, pinkish or red body rash with a sandpapery feel. On darker skin the rash can be more difficult to detect visually but will have a sandpapery feel. Children with these symptoms should not attend school.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-safely-with-respiratory-infections-including-covid-19>

FOOD BANK ITEMS

If you can donate any of the following items, please bring them *in bags* to the collection point at the School Office:

FOOD & DRINKS

Tea, coffee, hot chocolate, squash, fruit juice (UHT), milk (UHT)

Sugar, Instant porridge oats, Tinned Vegetables, Tinned Tomatoes, packet pulses, Baked Beans, Tinned Spaghetti, Tinned Soup, Instant soup, Pasta sauce, Tinned Meat, Tinned Fish, Dried Pasta, Rice, Microwave rice pouches, Instant pasta meals, Instant noodles, Puddings like jelly, whips, sponge pudding (Must be longer life),

tinned / instant custard, Tinned rice pudding, Tinned fruit

Biscuits, Packs chocolate/small bags sweets, Savoury biscuits, Multipacks crisps

HOUSEHOLD

Laundry pods, Washing up liquid, Toilet rolls, Soap, Toothpaste, Shampoo, Baby toiletries, Nappies size 5,6,7,8

