

St Mary's RC Primary

Newsletter 7

January 2019



Welcome back and on behalf of the staff a very Happy New Year. I hope you all enjoyed Christmas and had the chance to relax and have a break. On behalf of the staff I would like to thank you for the many cards and gifts you gave us at Christmas. This is of course not necessary but is very much appreciated. Thank you also for your support of the Nativity and Carol Concert – we sent the food donations off to the foodbank. We also raised another few hundred pounds on the Nativity Raffle taking the Christmas Fair total profit over the £1600 mark. Thanks again to all those involved in organising the Fair.

We are delighted to expand our Nursery hours to full time spaces for all of our learners. **Nursery hours are now 8.30am – 3pm Mon – Thursday and 8.30am – 12.30pm on a Friday.** There are a few tired faces by 3pm but what a gossip they all enjoy at lunchtime!! We welcome Fiona Hyde to the team to support in the afternoons.

We have a Parent Council meeting at 7.15pm tonight (Wednesday) and it would be good to see a full Council meeting for the start of our final year in our current building – exciting times as the builders have actually moved on to the site at Hopefield.

More good news – we are delighted to welcome back Kenny Duraj as our Caretaker. He will return to the St Mary's Family on Monday 28th January.

Liz Laird - Headteacher

HEAD LICE

As you know this is a recurring problem in schools, especially after a holiday period. Please check your child's hair on a regular basis. Prevention is better than cure, so please tie back long hair for school. If your child does have head lice the whole family need to complete a course of treatment – this includes follow up treatment a week later to ensure that all eggs have been killed and any new lice are killed too. We have a number of recurring cases in school – your support and cooperation is essential to prevent head lice spreading throughout the class.



CYBER SAFETY – we know that a number of our children received new electronic devices for Christmas. Please do not send these in to the school as the children cannot access the school wi fi on them. A reminder too, that all mobile phones need to be handed in to the teacher in the morning and are kept at the school office until the end of the day. We have experienced a spike in the number of complaints from children experiencing bullying/inappropriate messaging on a range of social media platforms – please supervise your child's access to sites. We have also had a number of children reporting that they have been watching over 18 films or are playing over 18 games on gaming devices – these are not appropriate and can contain scenes of very explicit violence and sexual violence which the children are finding difficult to process. Please check this out too.

Congratulations to our P7 pupils who represented the school last week at the indoor athletics competition winning 3rd place. Again they were a credit to you and the school. Well done.

We have an increasing number of children without their PE kit in school – please ensure your child has this and gets changed for PE especially in the upper school where good personal hygiene is especially important!!

REMINDER We have a number of children with food allergies in school including nuts. Please do not send in packed lunches or snacks containing nut products – common culprits are Nutella chocolate spread and Kinder Bueno Bars!! A small, healthy snack for playtime please.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 23rd January	Parent Council Meeting 7.15pm
Thursday 31st January	Meeting for parents P5/6/7 – Sex and Relationships Education – Keeping Myself Safe 7.00pm PLEASE NOTE THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT ST ANDREW’S RCPS FOR BOTH GROUPS OF PARENTS
Monday 11th – Fri 15th	SCHOOL CLOSED TO ALL PUPILS – FEB HOLIDAY
25TH Feb – 8th March	FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT
Friday 1st March	French Language Transition Event at St David’s RC High School – P7
Tuesday 5th March	SHROVE TUESDAY
Wednesday 6th March	ASH WEDNESDAY MASS 10.30AM OUR LADY’S CHURCH
FRIDAY 8TH MARCH	PARENT COUNCIL RACE NIGHT
Tuesday 12th March	Parent Council Meeting 7.15pm
Friday 15th March	Comic Relief
19th Mar – 18th June	Swimming - P4 (Tuesdays)
Thursday 21st March	Meeting for parents re: P7 School Camp 7pm MEETING FOR ALL SCHOOLS HELD AT ST ANDREW’S
Tuesday 26th March	Hockey festival P7
Thursday 28th March	Literacy Transition Event at St David’s RC High School - P7
Monday 1st April	Book Fair Arrives
Tuesday 2nd April	Club Golf event P5
Tuesday 2nd April	Parents’ Evening 5.30-8.30pm
Wednesday 3rd April	Parents’ Evening 3.45-5.45pm
Friday 5th April	Easter Assembly 9am – All Welcome End of Term
EASTER HOLIDAY - SCHOOL CLOSED MONDAY 8TH APRIL – MONDAY 22ND APRIL ALL PUPILS RESUME ON TUESDAY 23RD APRIL	

