



Work, play, pray - together

St. Mary's RC Primary School

January 2019 Newsletter



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Mrs. Graham - Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back. I trust you all had a happy and peaceful break; here we are already in the middle of January. I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of all the staff to thank you for all the wonderful cards and gifts we received at the end of last term. We were all very touched.

A new term and a new year, a time that holds so much promise. As St. Mary's continues to grow and thrive we will be reflecting on our successes so that we may build on them further. Our application to move forward as an Academy is progressing well; this application will be at a board meeting of Head Teacher's on behalf of the Dfe this week. We have already begun talks with architects and plans have been drawn up to improve the school building, Governors will consult on these plans this Thursday. I will keep you up to date with any further news.

Work continued during the Christmas Break on our window replacement, I am pleased to say we are nearly finished and we are certainly feeling the benefits of the new double glazed windows keeping the heat in our classrooms. Minor works and decoration will continue and as the weather does improve we will begin the gardening works.



Staff News.

So much is happening that I felt it was important to share this with you. Bobby is not very well and needs to have some time off school, Steve is covering his duties but we are being kept well informed by Bobby over the week. Rest is the order of the day for Bobby and his wife is trying to ensure that he carries out Doctors orders.

Special news to celebrate, congratulations is due to Mrs Colley and her husband as they are expecting their first baby in June this year and Mr Mackley and his wife who are expecting their second baby in March. Five staff members are also getting married this year, Miss Waite at Easter, Miss Charles in May, Mr Morris and Miss Troke in May and Miss Wood in the Summer, the staff room as you can imagine is a buzz with wedding and baby plans much to Mr Mackley's interest!!!

We welcomed Miss Lowes who began working with us this term and is currently in Year 1 on a morning as class support and supporting interventions on an afternoon across school. Miss LeeAnn Brown who many of you know as Grace and Harry's mam has also joined us after working at the Children's Centre for many years, LeeAnn is currently running our two year old room across in nursery.

Magic Breakfast Club

School is now offering bagels and cereal (Friday only) to all pupils in school and nursery each morning from 8.45am. We have twenty breakfast helpers from Year 5 who have volunteered to come into school early each morning to prepare the bagels with Miss McLeod to go out to each class. Feedback from pupils has been good and they have been enjoying the early morning breakfast 'fuel for learning'. This breakfast is funded by the Government through the sugar tax money. This hopefully will encourage all of our children to arrive for school on time.



ParentPay

Thank you to all our parent/carers who have logged into ParentPay, school has 89% activated accounts! As you are aware all trips, events, etc. are now loaded on to ParentPay and this is where you can give your permission for them to attend trips. At some times throughout the year; there are quite a few items to be authorised or paid for, the school office will text parent/carers when a new addition has been made for your child. Please ensure if you are paying for items that you allocate the payment to the correct item.

Charlie Cookson Foundation



It is with great sadness that we heard the news over the weekend that baby Carter Cookson passed away, our children thoughtfully responded to our awareness day on Friday and we talked in assembly about organ donation and the work the Foundation do. Unfortunately a heart was not found for Carter, our thoughts and prayers are with his family at this sad time. The children donated £217.33

UPCOMING EVENTS

World Book Day

We will be holding World Book Day on Thursday, 7th March; pupils can come to school dressed as their favourite book character and can bring their book into school to show their class.

Red Nose Day



School will be holding a non-uniform day on Friday, 15th March for Red Nose Day. A donation of £1.00 can be brought into school which will be forwarded to the charity. Red Noses will go on sale from the school office nearer the date. Staff will be taking part in Round 2 of 'I'm a Teacher Get Me Out of Here'; photographs of the event will be available on the website and school Facebook.

Science Week

Week commencing Monday, 25th March is Science Week in school, watch out for further updates!

Vacancies:

If any parent would like to join our *Governors* we have a vacancy for a parent *Governor*, please ask at the school office for more information. Parent governors play a vital role on governing bodies, holding the unique position of having a parental viewpoint of the school.

If any parent / carer would like to be held on a supply list as a Supervisory Assistant please also contact the office for an application form.

Cold Weather Conditions

It is always a shock when the weather takes a freezing turn for the worst and last week; we have even had snow! Our pupils are always happy to play out on the yard regardless of the weather conditions and staff encourage pupils to keep warm at these times by reminding them to bring hats, glove and scarves etc. and to fasten up their coats.

We endeavour to keep the yard a safe place for all users by scattering rock salt; however at times, we may need to cordon off parts of the yard and close the play equipment for Health and Safety purposes, we ask parent/carers to make their child aware of any cordoned area.

