



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

22nd September 2017

020 8850 7835

www.stmarys-catholic-primary.org

headteacher@stmary-rc.greenwich.sch.uk
governors@stmarys-catholic-primary.org

kdockings@stmary-rc.greenwich.sch.uk
jjefferys@stmary-rc.greenwich.sch.uk

CURRICULUM NEWS



Mathletics

After a few teething problems we can confirm that Mathletics is now up and running. Children should have their passwords so encourage them to login and explore the site. Homework will be set for the individual year groups. New children will be receiving their password shortly.



Hearing Children Read

Unfortunately, we are still finding more children each year are not reading regularly at home and cannot read for sustained periods of 20 minutes. This concerns all teaching staff as being able to read well is vital. Children need these skills across the curriculum. A good reader is often a good writer, geography and history work is made easier and the list could go on. The teachers urgently need your help. Please ensure you hear your child read and encourage daily reading at home. I cannot emphasise the importance of having excellent reading skills so please support the teachers.

Workshops
Gym Hall 9am-9.45am

The phonics workshop takes place next Thursday, 28th September. Please come along if you can as it has proved to be very beneficial in previous years. Tea and coffee will be served prior to the talk. The Maths workshop will take place on the following Thursday.

- **Phonics - Thursday 28th September**
- **Maths - Thursday 5th October**
-

These sessions are aimed at YR and Nursery parents.



Book Week

Monday 16th - Thursday 20th October

More details will follow regarding this eventful week but please note that on Thursday 20th October the children will be able to come to school dressed as a book character. You may want to start thinking about this with your child to sort out an outfit. You will be able to see all the children in their outfits at a parade on the morning of Thursday 20th October.

Y6 Secondary Transfer Meeting
Monday 25th September - 6pm

If you have a child in Y6 come along to this meeting to hear details about the application process for Secondary School. It is very informative. A representative from St Thomas More will attend. Afterwards, there will be more information about our Y6 Residential Journey to Wrotham.

GENERAL NEWS



Bookshop

Bookshop is up and running. We are very lucky to have volunteer parents who come every Tuesday to run bookshop. Infant children are escorted to the Dining Hall so they can select a book and save up for it. Every child should have a savings card to see how they are saving. There is a great selection of books available which is constantly updated.

Junior children can go to bookshop during their lunch break every Tuesday.

School Fund

Many thanks for the school fund contributions which have been donated. Each year we ask parents for this **voluntary contribution (£10 per family)** to subsidise extra events. This fund helps to subsidise visiting theatre companies, merit awards etc.



Mrs Randell's Trips

Please refer to the attached letter regarding two day trips organised by our French teacher, Mrs Randell. Spaces are available on a first come, first serve basis. Enquire at the Main Office if you have any questions.



Music Concerts

Ms Wyld, our Music Co-Ordinator, would like to highlight some concerts that are being held in The Ascension Church, Plumstead from September 24th. Entrance is free. Full details of the list of events are in the attached letter.



Class K Mass

Please join Miss Winter and her class to celebrate their special Mass on Tuesday 28th September. This will take place in the Convent at 10am. If you would like to join them please use McAuley Close to enter the Convent.

New Website

The updated website is a "work in progress" so please take a look. We are trying to make it more user friendly so you will see developments each week.



New Sports Equipment

You may hear your children talking about the new basketball hoops and table tennis tables! They are now installed in the playgrounds for the children to use. I hope they enjoy using them.



Walking Bus

Miss Hogan and Mrs Whitewood are starting their first “Walking Bus to School” on Wednesday 27th September. If you wish your child to join the bus, please fill in a form and drop it in the silver box, both located outside the Main Office. A “Bike to School Day” and “Scoot to School Day” will be also arranged so look out for these dates.



Birthday Cakes

Some parents are sending in large birthday cakes or sweets for their children’s birthdays. The teachers want to make their day special and are happy to hand out plain fairy cakes. The children enjoy these and find them easy to eat. Any large cakes or sweets that are sent in will be returned to parents. Your support is appreciated.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

After School Clubs

All after school clubs are up and running now. There are spaces in some of the clubs so if you would like your child to take part please ask at the Main Office. Letters can be emailed if you would prefer.

The Photography teacher, Mrs Caneda is thinking of changing the day that she runs her club at St Mary’s. I will keep you updated. Children from Y3-Y6 are invited to join. If your child is showing an interest in this activity please enquire.

Children must be collected from the Middle Gate at 4.30pm. Club Leaders will escort them to this gate.

PA Dates for your Diary

Saturday 4th November - Fireworks Night

Please put this date in your diary. This annual PA event is very popular. More details will follow nearer the time.

ATTENDANCE and PUNCTUALITY

Well done to classes 2F and 3G for achieving 100% attendance last week. Let's hope more classes can start achieving 100%.

Less than 50% of classes achieved 100% for punctuality. This needs to improve. The importance of getting to school on time is often mentioned in the newsletter so please try harder. Children need to start their school day on time. It puts them in the right frame of mind to get on with their work and it develops good habits for when they are older. As soon as the teachers hear the bell at 8.55am, prayers are said followed by registration. If your child is running on site at 8.55am, he/she will not arrive in class on time so please set off earlier. All children arrive in Class J on time and their room is one of the furthest away on the top corridor.

Monday 11th September – Friday 15th September

Attendance

RA	RB	1C	1D	2E	2F	3G	3H	4I	4J	5K	5L	6M	6N
98%	99%	97%	99%	99%	100%	100%	99%	96%	98%	95%	98%	99%	99%

Punctuality

RA	RB	1C	1D	2E	2F	3G	3H	4I	4J	5K	5L	6M	6N
100%	99%	99%	100%	100%	99%	99%	99%	99%	100%	99%	99%	100%	99%

Vacancy

CLERICAL ASSISTANT/RECEPTIONIST, GRADE 5 SCALE 22 (£22,506 PRO RATA)
TERM TIME ONLY (38 WEEKS), REQUIRED OCTOBER 2017

The Governors wish to appoint someone to assist in the Main Office. This is a Part Time Position (8am-12 noon) each school day. If you are interested please ask at the Main Office for an application pack. This is a temporary position but may be extended to permanent. Closing date for applicants is Friday 29th September.

With every good wish

M A Jackson
Headteacher