



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

20th April 2018

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

Welcome back everyone. I hope you enjoyed a peaceful Easter.

It was wonderful to see children wearing our bright summer uniform this week, especially as the weather was so glorious!

CURRICULUM NEWS



RE NEWS

The latest edition of the RE Newsletter is available to view on the website. Please take a look. It outlines the topics that are being studied by your children this half term and hopefully parents will be able to talk to their children about this. There are a few good suggestions.



The latest edition of the Wednesday Word was sent home this week. This is for parents to share the Gospel/Readings each week. They are child friendly and should be helpful. A small picture and word search can be completed by the children so this should keep them interested. Many Catholic schools around the country set aside some of their annual budget to pay for this so I hope it is a useful resource.



Y3 Swimming

Please note that the Y3 children will not be attending their swimming sessions on Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th May as Miss Winter needs these time slots to prepare the School Swimming Team for the Summer Gala. Y3 children's lessons will be as normal on Thursday 10th and Friday 11th May.



Music Lessons

Please note that all the instrumental lessons will resume from Monday 23rd April. Look out for invoices from the music tutors in your child's book bag. Payment should be made directly to the tutor (£65 per term). There are spaces available for all instruments if your child would like to join (Y4-Y6). Please enquire at the Main Office.

GENERAL NEWS



Summer Uniform

Please call into the office if you are finding it difficult to purchase any item of clothing. As the weather is so glorious, please check your children have PE shorts. It is too warm to wear tracksuits now. Summer hats can be purchased via the School Office and the staff will be delighted to help you so just call along.



School Dinner

Dinner money for this half term is £56. If your child changes, please inform the Main Office. The new Summer menu has started so encourage your child to try the variety of food on offer. This menu was given to all children to take home with them.

If you think that you may be entitled to free school meals speak to the ladies in the Main Office. Help is available for people facing financial difficulties. Please ask for information. All enquiries will be treated with confidence.



After School Clubs

After school clubs for this term will begin again next week. Letters are available to collect from the Main Office with the dates and prices for the term.



St George's Day

On Monday, we celebrate St George's Day. St George is the patron Saint of England. If children belong to cubs, rainbows, brownies, scouts & guides etc., they are encouraged to attend school on that day dressed in their special uniform.

Changes

Since our return after the Easter break, you will have noticed some changes! We have installed new electronic gates into our car park, a new Digital Signing In System and a new email system. A lot happening!

The new email system is part of a package which will also enable parents to make payments online. Every parent will receive a letter over the next few weeks with set up instructions so every child will have an account. Look out for this information and we will give help where it is needed.

We have started using the email system and there are a few teething problems so please be patient. It will get sorted and the Office Staff are working hard to make everything run as smoothly as possible.

I am sure you agree that all such changes are beneficial for children and staff as everyone's safety is paramount and the cashless system is what most parents expect now.



Sports Day - Change of Date

Unfortunately, we are unable to keep the original date (6th July). Eltham Park South asked if we can take the following week (Friday 13th July). I have agreed to this and if it rains on that day, Monday 16th has been set aside. I trust that this change of date will not inconvenience people. I try to send out dates well in advance so parents can book time off work.

SPORTS DAY 2018-FRIDAY 13th JULY-INFANTS-am and JUNIORS-pm

PA Events



The PA are hosting their annual Quiz Night on Saturday 28th April so put the date in your diary. Tickets are now on sale so look out for the PA members selling tickets in the Parents' waiting area or come to the Main Office. You could also email the PA on stmaryspaeltham@gmail.com or phone Emma Rowley on 07731 815333 for tickets. Each team can have up to eight people but if you haven't got eight you may join up with another team on the night.

Tickets are £5 each so hurry if you want to take part. There will be a licenced bar on the night to get your juices flowing and everyone can bring their own nibbles.

Although the deadline for contributions to the School Magazine is actually today, the PA have said that they will accept children's work by email until Sunday 22nd April. If your child has not already done so and would like to submit a piece please email the PA so they can include it.

Message from Mr Paul Drake Chair of the Governors

Firstly, can I welcome you back from what I hope was a restful Easter break. We look forward to a great summer term of activities.

The school community will be keen to hear about the succession planning we have in place and therefore I am delighted to announce that Ms Phipps and Mr Sims have been appointed as co-Heads of School as from September. This is an exciting chapter in the school's history and whilst we appreciate that this is a new working structure to get acquainted with, I am sure that you will agree with me that the school, the ethos, the staff and most importantly your children, are in safe hands with Mr Sims and Ms Phipps at the helm. We are also fortunate to have a unique opportunity for both of them to work closely with Miss Jackson over this term so that they can hit the ground running in September.

The continued success of St Mary's comes about through your support and I know that you will join with me in providing as much of that support as possible to Ms Phipps and Mr Sims as they prepare for this new challenge. You may have further questions about how the new structure will work in practice, please feel free to drop me an email and I will endeavour to answer your query. In the meantime it's business as usual for the remainder of this academic year.

Best wishes

With kind regards

M A Jackson
Headteacher