



St. Teresa's Catholic Primary School Newsletter Friday 7th September 2018

Little Flowers Growing and Giving Glory to God

Welcome back!

Welcome back to children, parents and staff at the start of a new academic year. I hope that you had an enjoyable and restful break and are ready for the year ahead. A particular welcome to the children of our new Reception class who have been in school for mornings or afternoons this week and welcome to Miss Gold and Miss Walk who have joined the school as the teachers of Year 5 and Year 6 respectively.

Term Dates 2018-2019

Today, you should have received a paper copy of the term dates for this academic year. The term dates for St. Teresa's School are not the same as Birmingham Local Authority's maintained schools' dates. The changes occur prior to Easter, as the school will be open for Holy Week, with a shorter Easter holiday than Birmingham maintained schools and there will be a longer half term at Whitsun.

An electronic copy of the term dates for the school are on the school website (www.stteresa.bham.sch.uk). Click on the Parents/Carers Information page and the term dates are linked to the title 'School Term Dates 2018-2019'.

Grammar School Entrance Exams

Please keep those pupils in Year 6 who are taking entrance exams for Birmingham Grammar Schools in your prayers. These exams are taking place tomorrow.

Extra-Curricular activities

From next week the peripatetic Music lessons resume; with violin lessons on Monday, cellos on Wednesday, drumming on Thursday and flute and fife lessons on Friday.

Also next week, the after school activities commence; Cookery for Year 3 children on Monday, Football for Year 1 and Year 2 on Monday, a selected football group on Tuesday, Sewing for Year 6 on Tuesday, Zumba and Fitness for the Juniors on Wednesday, Percussion for Year 2 and Year 3 on Thursday and Football for the Juniors on Thursday. Involvement in these activities is only for those who have returned the consent forms. If you have not received a specific letter with the information about a club or clubs please contact the school, but please noted that several of the groups are already full.

Roald Dahl Day

Next Thursday, 13th September, is Roald Dahl Day. This date marks what would have been Roald Dahl's 102nd birthday. As part of this day all of the children in Years 1 to 6 may dress as a character from a Roald Dahl book. There is no charge for this event and we ask that parents and carers do not go to any expense to provide an outfit or costume. Children may have the opportunity to watch an extract from or even a complete film based on Roald Dahl's books. As several of the films are PG rather than U certification you may not wish your child to watch them. Should there be any or all of the PG classified films that you would rather your child did not watch please let the school know in writing.

Review of the Year 2017 - 2018

Thank you to those parents/carers who returned completed copies of 2017-2018 Review of the Year, noting successes and thoughts upon improvements. If you haven't yet returned a Review of the Year it would be welcome next week. If you have misplaced your copy it can be forwarded to you from the school office, or feel free to forward your own notes to the office. Please return any responses by Friday 14th September.

Reading Challenges

The Autumn Term Reading Challenge is being launched for children in the Junior classes. The Junior class teachers

will be providing the Reading Challenge booklets for the children. The challenge is to be completed before the end of this term in December.

Top Table

Children are chosen from a year group each week to eat at the Top Table for a range of positive behaviours or work. The children selected to eat at the Top Table this week are from Year 6. Well done to Prabjot, Rayna, Hannah, Teneve, Jakub and Gerrard who joined Miss Gibbon for lunch today.

Parents' and Carers' Briefings

Over the next few weeks, parents and carers of children in each year group will be invited to a short briefing for their child's year group in their new classroom. Please keep an eye out for the letter with further information in your child's bag. Three of these briefings will take place next week.

Parish Mission

With this newsletter is a copy of a letter and further information from Fr. David giving details about the forthcoming parish mission, led by the Sion Catholic Community. The Parish Mission takes place from Saturday 15th to Sunday 23rd September, providing opportunities for the community to gather, reflect and refocus. Fr. David's letter gives information about the Family Service on Sunday 16th September at 4.30 p.m., with those children participating being at the church thirty minutes beforehand.

Infant Free School Meals

Children in Infant classes are provided with a meal at dinner times under the Infant Free School Meal Scheme. Children in Junior classes are to pay £2.30 for a school meal unless entitled to free school meals.

The parents or carers of any children who would be entitled to free school meals regardless of the provision for the Infant children are encouraged to register this entitlement through the school office as the school will receive £1,320 per child through Pupil Premium funding.

Uniform

It is lovely to see how smart the children look at the start of the new school year. Please do ensure that the different elements of your child's uniform, including coats and P.E. kits, have their name on it.

School Fund

The school is requesting a contribution of £20 from each family for School Fund, also known as the Building Fund. School Fund can be paid in full to the office. Cheques are to be made payable to 'St. Teresa's Catholic Primary School'. If you pay by cash please put it in an envelope labelled as 'School Fund' and the family name. I am aware that some families have already contributed to School Fund and some have given more than the £20 that is requested. Thank you to those families that have already contributed. Many thanks in anticipation of your support.

Dates for the Diary

Monday 11th September at 3.30 p.m. - Year 4 Parent's and Carers' Briefing in Year 4 classroom.

Tuesday 11th September at 2.00 p.m. - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Wednesday 12th September at 3.30 p.m. - Year 1 Parents and Carers Briefing in Year 1 classroom.

Thursday 13th September at 3.30 p.m. - Year 3 Parents and Carers Briefing in Year 3 classroom.

Thursday 13th September - Roald Dahl Day. Children may dress as a character from a Roald Dahl book.

Friday 14th September - Year 4 and Year 6 Swimming lessons commence and continue each Friday during the Autumn term.

Friday 28th September at 9.00 a.m. - MacMillan Coffee Morning

D. Corkery

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