



**THE ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM**  
**ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**HILLCREST ROAD, DUDLEY, WEST MIDLANDS, DY2 7PW**  
**Head Teacher: Mr. M. Hinton, B. Ed Hons, NPQH**  
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Dear Parents

Here is some information and some diary dates to keep you fully up to date with what is happening in school:

**OFSTED Survey Inspection: Positive School Culture and Anti Bullying Ethos**

On Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September we were visited by Susan Morris-King, Her Majesty's Inspector and National Adviser for Behaviour and Attendance. The inspection was part of OFSTED's information gathering role as they survey anti bullying provision throughout the country. We were one of a random sample of schools selected for this type of subject specific inspection across the country.

The outcome of the inspection was extremely positive. Ms Morris-King praised our positive school culture, strong leadership, anti bullying ethos, good behaviour, relationships between adults and children and learning. Some areas for further development were identified such as updating the behaviour policy and tracking behaviour even more thoroughly. We will shortly receive a letter summarising the inspection findings and we will provide you with a copy as soon as this is received.

As you can imagine, everyone in school is delighted with the outcome but we are not complacent: we are working hard to get even better – look out for our programme of events for anti bullying week in November.

**Fair Trade School Status – Congratulations**

We are delighted to have been successfully assessed as a 'fair trade school' by the Fair Trade Foundation. This recognises our initiatives such as the fair trade tuck shop, big brew and go bananas. Well done to the children and to Mrs Chapman, our fair trade champion.

**Macmillan Coffee Morning**

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September at 8.45am – Please join us. We will be very grateful for any donations of cakes in support of this event.**

**Harvest Mass**

This takes place on **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October at 9.30am** in school. This year we are collecting food for The Good Shepherd Homeless Shelter in Wolverhampton. Please send donations of fruit, vegetables, biscuits, cakes or tinned goods by Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at the latest so we can make a Harvest Display for Mass. Please come and join us for Mass on the Tuesday and stay for tea or coffee afterwards. Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October is CAFOD Family Fast Day where we ask the children to give up their breaktime snack and donate their pennies instead to CAFOD. CAFOD supports those in developing countries.



## **Attendance Consultant**

Our school is working with Mrs J Spittle, Attendance Consultant, to improve attendance, reduce absence and improve children's timekeeping and punctuality. Part of Mrs Spittle's role includes telephone calls to parents and home visits to provide support. Where attendance or punctuality issues cannot be resolved, she will assist us in making referrals to the Local Authority Education Investigation Service.

## **Safeguarding**

This school is a safeguarding school and we have implemented a number of measures to make it even safer, including: Staff ID badges, Visitor ID Badges, Security Gates and enhanced signing in procedures. In addition we have improved lunchtime supervision by ensuring we have teaching assistants on duty as well as our lunchtime supervisors. Of course, in addition, we have staff on duty at entry and exit points and everyone working in school is fully enhanced CRB checked. Once again, we are not complacent and are doing everything we can to make the school as safe as possible. Thank you for your support.

## **Uniform – Jewellery**

**Jewellery is strictly not allowed in school and this is made clear in the yearly Home School Agreement. As a courtesy to some families who had their child's ear/s pierced during the holidays we have allowed plasters to be worn over the earrings in the very short term. This has unfortunately led to many children coming to school in earrings asking for plasters. From today, please DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL WITH EARRINGS – as we will have to call you to come and take them out. THANK YOU FOR UNDERSTANDING OUR UNIFORM RULES.**

**If you intend to have your child's ear/s pierced, please do this at the start of the long summer break as we cannot allow jewellery to be worn in school even under plasters.**

## **Ladies English Course**

Last term we offered this course and received a few replies. We still hope to run this course but we need more people to come forward in order for it to be viable. The course is free, in school and provided in partnership with St Thomas' Network. Please fill in the attached slip if you would like to take part.



## **Church Building Fund – Forthcoming Social Events for all the family**

**9 December:** 6.30pm in the club at Sacred Heart, Tipton, Bee Gee's Experience.

**28 January:** Family Quiz Night in the club at Tipton.

## **Christmas Fair Volunteers Meeting**

There is an informal meeting after school on **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October** for anyone who is able to offer help of any kind with the Christmas Fair. Please consider coming along! Further information from Mrs Davies or Mrs Bant.

## **Christmas 2011 – Dates for your Diary**

(This year there are daytime plays in school together with an evening concert in Church for all children from Years 1 to 6 whose parents are able to bring them back and watch the concert / service in Church.)

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November:** Christmas Fair in the School Hall, 3.30pm.

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December:** Children's Christmas Lunch: please book in advance. Form to follow.

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December:** Nursery and Reception Christmas Play 2pm

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December:** Nursery and Reception Christmas Play 9.30am.

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December:** School Parish Mass in Church, 11.00am (Advent)

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December:** Key Stage 2 Christmas Play, 2.00pm in the hall

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December:** Key Stage 1 Christmas Play, 2.00pm in the hall

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas Parties in School.

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December:** Key Stage 2, Junior (Y3,4,5,6) Disco: £1 per child, 3.15 – 4.30pm.

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December:** St Joseph's Carol Service / Nativity IN CHURCH, 6.30pm

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December:** School closes for Christmas Holidays 3.15pm.

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2012:** School Opens for the New Year

## **School Parish Masses**

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October** at 11.00am

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November** at 11.00am

**Sunday 11th December** at 11.00am

## **Keep in Touch**

We are here to serve your children and that includes ensuring you as parents are happy and your concerns, however small, are dealt with. **Do not hesitate to get in contact with us.** You can see the teacher, senior staff, Assistant Heads or myself. Normally, either myself, Mrs Harrold or Mrs Chapman (Assistant Heads) can see you straight away and if we can't we will phone you back as quickly as we can. Our senior teachers are Miss Oakley and Mr Seex. Most things can be sorted out quickly if you tell us as soon as you notice any problem. Thank you.



## **Crossing with your School Crossing Patrol**

Your School Crossing Patrol (lollipop lady / man) are there to help keep you safer when you are crossing the road.



**Remember that you need to hold your child's hand at all times!**

Always use your school crossing patrol to help you cross the road and **NEVER** attempt to cross until they tell you that it is safe to do so. Children learn by example and this will help to keep you and your child safer.

### **How to cross with your school crossing patrol**

- 1) Walk on the pavement to the SCP.
- 2) Wait away from the kerb on the pavement.
- 3) Stay on the pavement while the SCP waits until it is safe and walks into the road.
- 4) Do not cross until the SCP tells you that it is safe to do so.
- 5) Walk across the road in front of the SCP so that they can see you at all times.
- 6) If you or your child are on a bike or scooter remember to dismount and push it across the road. Some SCPs work on zebra / pelican / puffin crossings – at these locations the above rules still apply.

**At a pelican or a puffin crossing please do not push the button the SCP will do this for you.**

### **Be Bright, Be Seen**

Another way to help keep you and your child safer is to wear something reflective and fluorescent just like your SCP. For more information contact; The School Crossing Patrol Service or Road Safety & Travel Awareness Team on 01384 815433.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Hinton  
Headteacher

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### **Ladies English Course**

I would like to take part in the Ladies English Course.

Signed ..... Name in Capitals .....

Child's Name ..... Year ..... Relationship to Child .....

