



St. Mary's News

24th February 2017



Welcome Back

Welcome back to the new half term. It will be a very busy term with lots of extra-curricular clubs running, as well as boosting sessions. The newsletter will keep you up to date with all that is happening.



Mrs Waring

We say a temporary goodbye to Mrs Waring today. She is leaving St. Mary's for the rest of the academic year to take up a seconded post as assistant headteacher in a primary school in Knowsley.

Mrs Waring is very excited about the challenges ahead and is looking forward to her new role. I am certain that you will join us in wishing Mrs Waring every success. We will miss her and want to say a big thank you to her for all of her hard work over the years and for the care and dedication that she has shown to our children and their families. I am certain that Mrs Waring will keep in touch and that she will let us know how she is getting on. We will see her again in September.



Ash Wednesday

Next Wed (1st March) is Ash Wednesday. The children in Key Stage 2 will attend an Ash Wednesday Service in the Junior Hall where they will receive their ashes from Fr Bernard.



Class Attendance

Reception	- 97.1%
Year 1	- 87.5%
Year 2	- 97.2%
Year 3	- 99.2%
Year 4	- 84.7%
Year 5	- 85.1%
Year 6	- 87.1%

Well done to the children in Year 3 who are the class of the week with a class attendance this week of 99.2%.



PGL Payments

Can we please remind parents to make sure that their PGL payments are up to date. £220 should have been paid by now. If you have any queries please contact the school office.



First Holy Communion

The next meeting for Y4 children and parents is on Wed 22nd March in the infant hall. The session will begin at its usual time - 6pm. It is essential that your child attends and that they are accompanied by a parent.

At the last session the organisation and timings of the day were shared with parents. If you were unable to attend the meeting on Wednesday and would like to discuss any issues around timings, dresses, seating arrangements etc. please speak to Mrs Hymers.

Remaining Sessions:

- Wed 22nd March 2017
- Wed 24th May 2017



The Levy

We are still awaiting contributions to the Levy from over 28 of our families. The Levy plays a really important part in the funding of a Catholic School's buildings and repair work. In order for our school to receive funding from the Archdiocese, school must contribute an annual amount - based on £10 per family. If our families don't pay their £10 contribution, school has to cover the shortfall. We already have an extremely challenging budget and if we had to cover the current shortfall it would mean that money would have to be taken from amounts set aside to buy class resources. Letters will be sent out next week to those families who still haven't paid.

Thank You!

Holiday Clubs

Our Holiday Club proved to be very popular during the February half term and the children appeared to be having a great time when Mrs Hymers came into school on Friday. We will be running a further holiday club during the Easter Holidays. Details will be confirmed nearer to the time.

Lunchtime Awards

Good Work

	<u>Dinner Hall</u>	<u>Playground</u>
Rec	Sophie	Heidi
Y1	Ava	Joshua
Y2	Oliver	Libbie
Y3	Cameron	Abby
Y4	Harry	Ruby
Y5	Alice	Erin
Y6	Holly	Matthew



A huge well done to the following children who have all been recognised for their good work this week:

Reception - Harry
Year 1 - Oliver
Year 2 - Dylan
Year 3 - Harry
Year 4 - Charlotte
Year 5 - Katie
Year 6 - Matthew
Well done everyone!



House Points

	<u>Infants</u>	<u>Juniors</u>
Matthew	Olivia	Dylan
Mark	Joseph	Jamie
Luke	Matthew	Ruby
John	Christopher	James

The overall winners were Christopher (Rec) and James (Y4).
Well done everyone!



Lego Club

The first session of the Lego Club was a resounding success this week with over 70 children attending. As a result of the large numbers, Mrs Hymers had to split the Key Stage 2 children up into two groups - Y3/Y4 and Y5/Y6. As the Y3/4 children stayed to play this week, Monday session from 12.45pm will be for Y5/Y6 children. We will then continue to alternate the weeks. If the children would like to bring their own Lego in to play with they are more than welcome to. Mrs Hymers will keep it safe in her room for them until lunchtime and will return it to the children at home time. The children had a great time and were very keen to show all of the things that they had made. Transport and flying machines were a very popular theme.



Football

Football training with Mr McMinn has now started.. The cost for this half term is £24 which must be paid as soon as possible. As the KS2 children will be outside on Mondays after school please make sure that they have the appropriate kit. The KS1 children will continue indoors. Please make cheques payable to Mr I McMinn.



Guitars & Recorders

Recorder and guitar lessons with Mrs Connolly have now started. The cost for this term is £12 as parents are owed two weeks from when Mrs Connolly was off. Please make cheques payable to Mrs C Connolly.



Payments due this term

For your information the following payments are now due:

School meals - £67.50 (£11.25 a week)

Fish & Chip Friday - £13.50

Reception Snacks - £9.00

KS2 Toast - £6.00

Milk - £2.00

Please note that all cheques should be made payable to St Helens Council and should be paid in advance and not in arrears. We are unable to give KS2 children toast unless they have already paid for it.



Extra Curricular Activities

	Before school	Lunchtime	After school
Monday	Y6 boosting 8.15am -	Zumba LEGO Club	Football (KS2) Y6 boosting
Tuesday	Fun fitness		Y6 boosting
Wednesday	Tennis (KS2) Y6 boosting 8.15am -	Archery (KS2)	Archery (Rec & KS1)
Thursday	Fun fitness	Guitars KS2 Recorders Y2 Football (KS1)	Choir Y6 boosting Y2 Cooking Club
Friday	Netball (KS2)	Rugby Skills (Rec & KS1)	Volleyball (KS2)

Holiday Dates 2017/18

School Opens On

Tue 5th Sept 2017
Tue 31st Oct 2017
Mon 8th Jan 2018
Mon 19th Feb 2018
Mon 16 Apr 2018
Tue 5th Jun 2018

School Closes On

Fri 20th Oct 2017
Fri 22nd Dec 2017
Fri 9th Feb 2018
Thu 29th Mar 2018
Fri 25th May 2018
Fri 20 Jul 2018

School will also be closed on

Monday 7th May 2018



Dates for Your Diary

01/3/17 Ash Wednesday
22/3/17 Sacramental meeting - 6.00pm
28/3/17 Sports day (option 1)
30/3/17 Sports day (option 2)
31/3/17 School closes for Spring holiday
18/4/17 School reopens
10/5/17 New Intake meeting
24/5/17 Sacramental meeting - 6.00pm
26/5/17 School closes for half-term
06/6/17 School reopens
17/6/17 1st Holy Communion
28/6/17 Y6 PGL Holiday



Swimming

Today all the children in Years 4 and 5 have been to Parr baths for swimming lessons. As this is part of their curriculum no child will be excused unless they have a medical note from their doctor. Please find below the dates on which they will be going:

Friday - 3rd/10th/17th/24th/31st March

Friday - 21/28th April

Friday - 5th/12th/19th/26th May

Correct swimwear must be worn at all times and children with shoulder length hair (boy or girl) have to wear a swimming cap. Girls must wear a one-piece swimsuit. Boys must wear swimming trunks or shorts of no longer than mid-thigh length with no pockets (no Bermuda's or long shorts are acceptable). No wet suits are allowed for either boys or girls. Swimming goggles are not to be worn during swimming lessons unless a medical condition requires them to be worn.



