



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY NEWSLETTER

A Community Where we Live, Learn and Laugh Together in God's Love

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END OF YEAR MASS – Tuesday 18th July (2.15pm) Everyone is invited to come along and celebrate the final whole school Mass of the academic year with us. Fr Martin will be saying Mass for us and the Y6 children will be responsible for the reading, bidding prayers, offertory etc.

GOODBYE Mrs Gordon, who has been teaching at St Mary's since 2006 will be leaving us at the end of next week to move to a full-time post at Old Earth Primary.

Mrs Bell, who has been working with us since Spring half-term in both 3/4R and 5AB, is also leaving us next week to take up a new permanent post at Bolton Brow Primary. We wish them both every success, good luck and happiness in their new schools and thank them for their dedication, professionalism and care.

YEAR 6 LEAVERS' DISCO - Tuesday 18th July (6pm – 8pm) The PTA Committee have organised this treat for the children in Y6. Entry is £3 and there will be a Tuck Shop and a Photo Booth in addition to the Disco.



OPEN EVENING - Wednesday 19th July 2017 (3.30pm – 4.30pm) The school will be open during this time slot and the teachers will be in their classrooms. If you would like to have a chat with either your child's current teacher or their teacher next year, this is your opportunity. There will be no appointments and we ask you to be mindful of this if you are speaking to a teacher and keep the conversation brief. Please do not feel obliged to attend just to say 'thank you' or 'hello'. This opportunity is meant for parents of particularly nervous, vulnerable or anxious children to discuss transition issues.

AWARDS ASSEMBLY (FS to Y5) - Thursday 20th July (2pm) This assembly is an opportunity for us to give out special certificates to recognise specific examples of children's high performance or excellence. If your child is going to be awarded a certificate we will endeavour to contact you, so that you can attend if you want to.

AWARDS ASSEMBLY (Y6) - Friday 21st July (1.45pm) This assembly is our chance to recognise excellence and high performance in our Y6 pupils as they leave us for their High Schools, every child will receive a certificate and we really hope you are all able to join us for this special Assembly. ONLY parents and relatives of Y6 children are invited to this assembly so that we can guarantee them a comfortable seat!



After the above assembly we invite all Y6 parents to stay around for drink and a biscuit before they take their children away from St Mary's for ever!!



FRENCH DAY We have had a brilliant day today, enjoying everything French! All children have done something on this theme to celebrate Bastille Day, which is a National Holiday in France, marking the day in 1789 when the infamous Parisian political prison (The Bastille) was stormed and all the prisoners were freed. The children enjoyed dressing in Red, White and Blue as well!

SPORTS DAY APOLOGIES Unfortunately, we were unable to hold our Sports Day events this year due to poor weather on Monday this week. Our diary is so busy at the moment that we don't have the opportunity to attempt a second run. Whenever we do it one year group or class or group of children would miss out because of other commitments. Also All Saints College were unable to offer help from their students.

SCHOOL MONEY We are really trying hard (with a lot of success actually) to move to a cash-free office. Many parents are using and liking the 'School Money' online option for paying for trips, dinner money etc. Please consider doing this next year if you have not yet joined the revolution!



YEAR 6 PERFORMANCE 'PORRIDGE' The children finally performed the finished product to parents and relatives yesterday evening. They had shown it to the rest of the school earlier in the day. Great job everyone!

UKULELE PERFORMANCE (4TG) The children have been learning to play the Ukulele this term and would like to show off some of the things they have learnt to their parents and other children in school on **Tuesday 18th July at 10.30am.**

PTA SUMMER FAYRE We would like to thank the PTA Committee for all their work this year, raising funds to provide lots of 'extras' for our children. In particular, the recent success of the Summer Fayre last Saturday has added **£1,985.25** to PTA Coffers.

NB: School Office will be open through the holidays on the following days – 24th & 25th July and 4th & 5th September (10am - 2pm)

2017 SATs SUCCESS We are always very proud of our pupils and their achievements in statutory assessments, but we have been especially pleased with the Y6 results this year. Our children performed above the Calderdale and National averages across Writing, Reading, Spelling&Grammar and Maths. The average recorded progress our children made from KS1 to the end of KS2 was also higher than the Calderdale and National average.



5-A-SIDE VICTORY Congratulations to 'The Strollers' who won the final of our annual football tournament which was played at the Summer Fayre last weekend. It was great to have a former pupil (Kevin Megson) with us to present the trophy (which is 55 years old) to the winners. He was quite pleased himself to find the name of the two teams he won the trophy with, on the trophy for 1980 and 1982. Kevin is a former professional player with Bradford City AFC.

ABSENCE REQUESTS Please be aware that all planned absences **MUST** be authorised beforehand by Mr Brennan. This year we have had some families booking holidays before applying for permission. There is no excuse for this, as we publish all our holiday dates nearly a full year in advance on our School Website, our School App and on a Holiday List we send to all parents in September each year.

The LA Attendance Officer has advised us that Mr Brennan is not able to authorise holidays taken in school term-time **except in very exceptional** circumstances. A normal holiday is not enough of an exception. We have been advised that Fixed Penalty Fines should be applied to unauthorised holiday absences in future and though the Governors and Mr Brennan do not want to go down this route we will have no choice from now on.

LET'S ALL GO TO THE BEACH!! The children in Y1 and Y2 had a lovely sunny day for their trip to Scarborough on Wednesday this week. As you can see they enjoyed every minute!



SUMMER HOLIDAYS

We break for our Summer break on Friday next week. All the children (except our Reception new entrants – who have their own individual starting dates) will return to school on Wednesday 6th September.



We would like to thank you for all your support this year and for all the very generous gifts and cards we have already started to receive from parents and the children.

