



Jesus at the Heart
of all that we do

Sacred Heart Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs J.M.Cullen

Langford Drive, Luton, Beds. LU2 9AJ.

Tel: 01582 730781

Fax: 01582 457382

E-Mail admin@sacredheart.primaryluton.co.uk

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

Welcome to this the first newsletter of yet another new school year. It was lovely to see the children eager to start the new term, looking so smart in their uniforms. I trust you all enjoyed a good summer holiday. As we return from the summer break the children are experiencing lots of new things, different classes, teachers and curriculum.

WELCOME - A warm welcome to everyone who is beginning a new association with the school, we hope that it will be a happy and successful time for you and your children. We also welcome three new teachers Miss M Treanor, Miss N McCabe and Mr S Traynor we hope they will be very happy at Sacred Heart Primary School. An equally warm welcome to all whose links with the school go back a little further! I wish everyone an enjoyable and rewarding time with us.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - This term the children will be studying Domestic Church (Family), Baptism and Confirmation (Belonging) and Advent and Christmas (Loving). The children will also spend a week studying Judaism. The Religious Education Parents' Letter gives further information about the topics in each year group along with a number of suggestions for home activities to support the work we are doing in school.

SUMMER FETE - Thank you for the items donated for our School Fete on Saturday 14th July and for supporting us by attending the School Fete. The total raised on the day was **£6095.72** and we have also received **£750** match funding giving an overall total of **£6845.72** a fantastic achievement. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff and parents who worked so hard to organise the Fete and run stalls on the day.

BEGINNING AND END OF SCHOOL DAY - For the health and safety of all please do not bring dogs onto the school premises or allow your children to ride bikes or scooters in the school grounds. We also ask children not to play football in the school grounds before school. Please try to arrive on time for school as it helps the children if they have a calm and settled start to the day. The KS1 classroom doors are open until 9.15am but children will be marked late if they arrive after the class register at 8.55am. KS2 children who arrive after 8.55 am must enter through the KS2 front entrance. The school gates are locked at 9.15am and access after this time is via the gate on Langford Drive parents and children arriving after 9.15am must report to the KS2 Office. At the end of the school day please collect KS2 children from the KS2 playground. Parents are asked not to stand by the Year 3/ 4 doors or the Year 5/6 doors.

COLLECTING CHILDREN FROM AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS - Our school grounds are used by Playtarium before and after school and to ensure the safety of the children who attend their clubs it is important that no other children or adults go onto the school playground, field or apparatus. Parents collecting children from after school clubs are asked not come into the school grounds until 10 minutes before the club ends access to the school is via Langford Drive only. Parents should go directly to the KS1 or KS2 door and wait there. If parents have other children with them they should ensure the children stay with them and do not go to the school apparatus, tyres, playground or field. Thank you for your cooperation.

UNIFORM - We have been selling uniform in school for over twenty years and after careful consideration have decided to hand over to our supplier. It will be the same uniform provided by the same supplier; J.S Sports (Luton Ltd) 22, Neville Road, Luton, LU3 2JQ. As from Monday 10 September you will have to purchase school uniform from JS Sports directly further information is available on their website <http://www.myuniformshop.co.uk/> Please find attached our School Uniform Policy as ratified by governors in April 2017.

PARENT GOVERNORS - We have a vacancy for a parent governor and will shortly be sending out information regarding the role and how to apply for the position.

FIRST CONFESSION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2019 - The Parish Preparation Programme, for parents of children in Year 3 or above who want their child to receive First Confession and First Holy Communion in Sacred Heart Parish next year, will start at the end of this month. **Parents need to collect a letter and enrolment form from Father Chris Whitehouse, forms should be returned to Father Chris by 23rd September. Father Chris will not accept any enrolments after this date.** Further details about the Parish Preparation Programme are explained in the letter.

MEDICINES - Please note that children should not have medicines in their school bag. When necessary we are prepared to support parents in the administration of medicines subject to certain conditions. **Parents must hand in all medicines to the KS1 or KS2 office**, you will be given a form to complete by the office staff. This form must be completed prior to us administering any medicine.

SCHOOL LUNCHES - We encourage all parents of children in Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2 children to take advantage of the free school meal. Thank you for your support by providing the children on packed lunches with a healthy lunch. We are trying to follow the government guidelines on food in schools; these also apply to school dinners. We have a treat day on the Friday of the last week of each half term, when the children will be allowed to bring in chocolate and crisps.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS - Due to changes in government funding for schools and the introduction of the Pupil Premium it is important that all our eligible pupils are registered for free school meals. **If your child is registered for Free School Meals they receive extra funding for support in school. Please register if you are eligible even if your child is in FS or KS1 and already receives a free school meal.** In order to be eligible for Free School Meals the parent/legal guardian must receive at least one of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Jobseekers Allowance – Income based
- Universal Credit, and have a household net earned annual income that does not exceed £7,400 from 1st April 2018
- Employment and Support Allowance - Income Related
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit, provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have a household gross earned annual income that does not exceed £16,190
- Guaranteed Element of state pension credit

If you have recently become unemployed but are still receiving Working Tax Credits, you may be entitled to free school meals. To apply for free school meals and for further information go to https://www.luton.gov.uk/Education_and_learning/Pages/Free-school-meals.aspx or contact the Revenues and Benefits Department in the Town Hall 01582 510346, email Revenues.Admin@luton.gov.uk. Our Family Workers are happy to assist you with your application, please contact Mrs. Diggin or Mrs Overton.

PARKING - If you use Langford Drive please park with consideration, ensuring the road and residents' drives are not blocked. Parking is also available in the Church car park and we encourage you to park there. I thank you in anticipation for your help with this matter.

PE LESSONS - Please ensure children have their correct kit in school with them on their P.E. day. Children need suitable footwear, not their school shoes. Children are not allowed to wear earrings for PE or swimming, please remove earrings before the children come to school if they are unable to remove the earrings themselves. As the weather becomes colder the children can also wear track suits or track suit bottoms. Thank you.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER - The school photographer will be in school this term on Tuesday 9th October to take individual portraits of the children and sibling groups of children in school.

WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING - On September 28th the Family Room will be open from 9.00 -10.30 am and in the afternoon from 2.30-3.30pm serving refreshments to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support. There will also be a cake sale for the children in the afternoon. We hope that you will support this worthy cause by donating cakes or raffle prizes and joining us in the Family Room.

SAM LEARNING - The school has recently renewed its subscription to SAM Learning. One of the key features of this service is that it can be accessed from virtually any computer with Internet access. If you have a computer with Internet access at home, I hope you and your child will enjoy using this service. Of course, it is also possible that learners may use SAM Learning from computers in other places such as libraries and community centres; in Year 6 and Year 2 they will also have the opportunity to use SAM Learning in school. I realise you may have concerns about youngsters using the Internet, and may wish to establish your own family rules about where and when this is to be done. To access the service at www.samlearning.com, learners need three details:

Centre ID:	LU2SH2
User ID:	Date of birth followed by two initials; first name then last name. Example: 010896DJ is the User ID for David Jones born 1 st Aug 1996.
Password:	same as User ID

TUESDAY WALKING GROUP - The Tuesday Walking Group meet every Tuesday and are eager to welcome new members. If you would like to join the walking group please meet Mrs Overton at the Langford Drive gate on any Tuesday morning at 9am. For further information please contact Mrs Overton via the KS1 office.

PLAY AND STAY- Parents and carers are invited to our Play and Stay every Wednesday morning in the Family Room from 9am, term time only. Preschool children, from 0 to 4 years old, and their parents/carers have the opportunity to enjoy arts, crafts, music, singing and play. We also provide a healthy snack. We look forward to seeing you.

HARVEST FESTIVAL - This year for our Harvest Festival Mass on 5th October we are going to donate food to the Luton Food Bank, further information regarding this will follow nearer the date.

66 BOOK CLUB - This is a monthly book club offering 70% off the cover price of books- great for children's books and books for all the family. It is open one weekend a month and there is a £2 annual membership fee. The next open weekend is 7th and 8th October at 66 Book Club, 66 Wood Lane End, Hemel Hempstead HP2 4RF tel: 01442 239402

PRAYER BAG PROJECT- Starting this week children will have the opportunity to bring home the Prayer Bag for their class, one child a week. The Prayer Bags are used in all the Northampton Diocese Schools. The bags will go home on a Friday and should be returned on a Monday. The instructions are inside the bag. Please look after these resources carefully and we hope you are able to use the resources to come together as a family to pray. We will continue to send a copy of the Wednesday Word home every week with the eldest child in each family.

IMPACT IN LEARNING - The IMPACT in Learning Programme is a parental-involvement strategy that aims to raise attainment through involving parents/carers working alongside their children. It is inspired by the work of Professor Charles Desforges and the latest Government research which suggests that parental involvement can increase learning by up to 30%. It teaches parents/supporting adults about new methods and techniques used in schools today and provides parents/carers with a tool kit of resources to take home and use to support children in their homework. This half term we are running Impact in Learning Workshops for parents and children in **Year 5 on 1st October** and **Year 2 on 2nd October** at 2.30pm and 6pm both days. We are also running a Phonics (Read Write Inc) Information Session for Foundation Stage Parents on 19th September at 2.30pm and 6pm. Details have already been sent via pmxparentmail please book your place if you have not already done so.

TERM DATES 2018/2019 - In order to help you to plan and book your holidays for this year here are the term dates for September 2018 - July 2019. **Please note leave of absence for holidays during school terms can only be granted in exceptional circumstances.**

Advent Term 2018	Lent Term 2019	Pentecost Term 2019
4 Sept- 21 Dec	8 Jan- 5 April	24 April -19 July Year 6 KS2 SATs week commencing 14th May
Half- term holiday	Half- term holiday	Half- term holiday
22 Oct- 26 Oct	18- 22 Feb	27 May – 31 May Bank Holiday Monday 6 May
Teacher Training Day	Teacher Training Day	Teacher Training Day
3 September	7 January	23 April 22 July 23 July

DATES FOR THIS HALF TERM

20th September- Year 1 Transition Drop In Session for Parents - 3.45pm
 19th September - Foundation Stage RWI workshop for Parents – 2.30pm and 6pm
 21st September - 6TA Class Assembly @9.10am -parents invited
 24th September- Year 6 Information Evening for Parents -6.30pm
 25th September- Workshop for Shakespeare Cast –The Grove Theatre
 28th September - Macmillan Coffee Morning/Afternoon – 9 -10.30 am and 2.30 - 3.30pm - all invited
 28th September - Macmillan Cake Sale for children
 1st October - Year 5 Impact in Numeracy Workshops for parents and pupils - 2.30pm and 6pm
 2nd October - Year 2 Impact in Reading and Writing Workshop for parents and pupils 2.30pm and 6pm
 2nd October - 3CF Guided Meditation - parents invited - 9am
 2nd October - Year 1 Cooking with Amanda from Asda
 5th October - First Friday Mass -Year 5 and Year 1 reading - Harvest Festival
 9^h October - Individual School Photographs
 12th October- 2DS Class Assembly @ 9.10am parents invited
 12th October- School Mass in Dunstable- selected pupils
 15th October- Science Theme Week
 16th October - Parent Consultations 4 -6pm
 18th October - Parent Consultations 6- 8pm

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J.M.Cullen
Headteacher