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NEWSLETTER

Friday 15th April 2016

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School Nurse

I hope that those parents who visited the school nurse after Mass today found it useful. If you wanted to see the school nurse but were unable to come along today we will be holding another session on Friday 29th April

Good afternoon everyone. I hope that you haven't found the first week back at school too hectic and busy. We have had a lovely week; it has been great to see your children (even though some of them seem to have grown a lot in two weeks!) they have returned extremely well and we have got straight back into work.

Year 1 and Year 4 went swimming on Tuesday—this was Year 1's first ever swimming lesson at school and all the staff were very pleased with them. Year 3 had a visit to a Hindu Temple yesterday and they found the visit interesting and informative. We do arrange for all KS2 classes to visit a different place of worship—temple, synagogue or mosque as we feel that this helps the children appreciate and respect all the faiths that are found in our city.

This morning children from Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 helped to present our first Easter Mass of the term—the singing and reading were excellent!

We have a wonderful term coming up starting with Year 6 going on residential to Conover Hall on Monday for three days, I will be leaving Mr Kelly in charge—so please be kind to him!

Garden Design Competition

Congratulations to all the children who entered our Garden Design competition—we were all incredibly impressed with the creativity, ideas and effort that went into making the model gardens. We have put photo's of our designers with their gardens on the website—please take a look.

All the staff looked at the gardens and picked 2 they thought were particularly creative, original or had a lot of effort put into them. I then counted up all the votes and we had four lucky winners.

Congratulations and well done to:

Emma in Reception, Scarlet in Year 5, Gabrielle in Reception and Liam in Year 3 who all won a prize for their garden models. Once again you can see their winning designs on the website. All the winners received packets of seeds and garden tools and Liam won an overall prize donated by Abel and Cole which included boxes of fruit and vegetables! What a healthy family they will be.

We will continue to keep you updated on our 'big' project; at the moment we are gathering quotes for getting the structural work completed.

We do have another event that the Garden Team are organising next Friday—this event is 'Rosemary for remembrance'. All are welcome, the children will be making and creating things using the Rosemary that is growing in the courtyard at the moment. It will be £1 per child or £2 for a family (i.e. 3 or more children). All proceeds will go towards the Garden Project.

The event begins after school in the Hall, next Friday the 22nd April. I hope to see you there.

The Big Pedal

Mr O'Rourke has asked me to announce the start of the 'Big Pedal' fortnight. We have taken part in this city event for the past couple of years. Every child is encouraged to cycle or scooter to school as much as possible over the next two weeks. Mr O'Rourke and his team of year 6 helpers will log each journey made by bike and scooter. If we can get above 15% of our children cycling and scooting to school then we are entered into 'The Big Pedal' prize draw that has some fantastic prizes - not least a visit to the school by a BMX stunt rider! Any questions, then please see Mr O'Rourke

Year 1 Phonics Meeting

Many thanks to those parents who attended the Year 1 Phonics meeting on Tuesday this week. If you were unable to attend but wish to understand more about the phonics programme your child will be going through then please see Miss Flynn or Mrs Hodson

ATTENDANCE

Overall School Attendance

95.91%

Weekly School Attendance

21.03.16—24.03.16

93.15%

Winning Class

21.03.16—24.03.16

Year 5 96.6%

Well done Year 5!

Attendance Awards

I had the pleasure of giving out a number of attendance awards this week. Congratulations to the children who gained 100% attendance for the Spring term and a massive well done to the children who have achieved 100% attendance since September! Amazing.

We are Easter
people and alleluia
is our song!



"He is not here,
he has risen!"

Dinner Money Changes

There has been a slight increase from Citiserve in the prices of school dinners. The new prices affect Nursery and Key Stage 2 only and will come into effect on the first week back after Easter. The new prices are as follows:

Key Stage 2 : £2.15 per day or £10.75 per week.

Nursery: £1.85 per day or £9.25 per week.

Attendance

For the first time in a long time our school attendance has **dipped below 96%**. The Government's expectation is that school attendance should be 96% or more. We have worked hard together to improve attendance and I would hate to have to become more severe with attendance. I know all children get ill but even with that in mind most children should be able to achieve attendance of 96%. I will be sending out letters about attendance in the next couple of weeks—if you get a letter this is a clear indication that your child's attendance needs to improve.

Lenten Fundraising

As you know we raised a magnificent total of £2800 for our Lenten fundraising—thank you so much for your generosity. We will be supporting a number of charities, locally, nationally and internationally.

Marie Curie Cancer Charity (National) Father Hudson's Charity (Birmingham)

The International Red Cross (International) Cafod (International)

We will also be making small donations to local causes i.e. supporting the Lourdes Pilgrimage where the parish pay for sick people to travel to Lourdes in May.

Key Dates

Teacher Training Days

Friday 27th May 2016

Key Dates Next Half Term

Reception Trip—Tuesday 19th April

First Holy Communion Meeting—Wednesday 20th April

Year 6 Residential Trip—Monday 18th April—Wednesday 20th April

Year 4 Mass—Friday 22nd April

Garden Project—Rosemary for remembrance—Friday 22nd April

SEND meeting—Tuesday 26th April 2:00pm (**corrected date -apologies**)

Year 3 Assembly—Thursday 28th April

Year 5 Mass—Friday 29th April

Monday 2nd May—BANK HOLIDAY

Thursday 5th May—POLLING DAY School Closed

Year 6 SATS week—Monday 9th May—Thursday 12th May

Just a final reminder to the parents of children in Year 3 who will be receiving the Sacrament of First Holy Communion on May 21st. We will be holding a meeting on Wednesday 20th April at 6:30pm in the School Hall. The meeting is for parents and children—please forgive me I will just have returned from Condover Hall—I may be making no sense at all. I do hope that you can join us.

Next Saturday 23rd April is St George's day and our kitchen needs no excuse to create a different menu! They will be serving a St George's Day menu next Friday 22nd April—I have attached the menu to the newsletter.

Have a lovely weekend/

Yours Sincerely, Mrs Hobbs and all the staff