

ST. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Eagle Way, Shoeburyness, Essex SS3 9RN.

Telephone: 01702 293522 email: office@st-georges.southend.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs A Smith

*Let it be known to all who enter here, that Christ is the reason for this school,
the unseen but ever present teacher in its classes,
the model for its children, the inspiration for its staff.*

*We aim to be a Christian community and witnesses to Christ,
where all can experience and grow in Christian love
through God's word and the gifts of His sacraments,
and through prayer and personal example.*



newsletter no. 152 ~ 9th October 2015

Dear Parents,

I think we can safely say that Summer has now departed for another year and Autumn is well and truly upon us. It was wonderful to see the children looking so smart in their winter uniform. We consider uniform to be important as it makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance and promotes a sense of pride in the school and a feeling of belonging. We also consider haircuts and styles to be part of the uniform. In our school policy it states that;

The school does not permit children to have extreme haircuts or colouring that could serve as a distraction to other children. Short hair should be uniform in length, across the head, with no parts left significantly longer than others. Hair bands, clips etc should be discreet designs in red, white, navy or black. Girls and boys with longer hair (shoulder length) must tie back/put up their hair, so that it does not cause an unnecessary distraction. Children should not wear any fixatives, hair gel/spray etc in their hair.

I thank you in advance for your support. Due to the changeable weather, please make sure your child brings their coat, preferably waterproof and with a hood, every day to school.

Dates for your diary

October

Sun 11 th	Family Mass at St George's 10.45am
Mon 12 th	BOOK FAIR WEEK Community Suite after school Year 6 Parent interviews with Father Brett ~ appointment only
Tue 13 th	Year 1 Class Celebration 2.30pm at the school
Wed 14 th	Volunteer Sessions ~ 9am & 7pm
Thu 15 th	Year 4 Class Assembly 9am
Fri 16 th	Distribution of ballot papers for Parent Governor

Naming of the pigs!



This week, the school council decided on a short list of names for our guinea pigs and the whole school voted on their favourite. The results were announced in hymn practice, so welcome to Oreo and Cookie. We hope that you enjoy your time with the children and staff at St George's! You can see pictures of them on the front page of our website.

Friends of St George's

A HUGE thank you to all the parents and carers who attended the AGM on Tuesday. It was a good turnout and we voted in our new committee members for the forthcoming year.

Chairperson ~ Lucy Fensom & Vice-Chair ~ Annette Stapley

Treasurer ~ Mrs Wallen

Secretary ~ Rose Mutsunge

Year R Rep ~ Nina Nathan Year 1 Rep ~ Kelly Becker

Year 2 Rep ~ Jon & Theresa Dear Year 3 Rep ~ Stacey Jones

Year 4 Rep ~ Hannah Fitzpatrick & Catherine Fitzgerald Year 5 Rep ~ Emma Milford-Cottam

Year 6 Rep ~ Vicky Irons

Thank you for showing your support and I look forward to working with you all this coming year.

Parent Governor Vacancy

Today is the close of nominations for Parent Governor. Next week you will receive a ballot paper and a brief CV of all the candidates. The governors ask that you return your vote, via the office,

Timetable for Election

16 th October	Ballot papers out to parents (including brief CV of candidates)
23 rd October	Close of voting
<u>Half-term</u>	
2 nd November	Votes counted
6 th November	Election result announced (newsletter)
9 th December	Full Governing Body Meeting (3.30pm)

Family Mass

This Sunday is Family Mass at St George's, 10.30am. Everyone is welcome to attend. We look forward to seeing you there.

Class celebration

On Tuesday afternoon, Year 3 celebrated Mass with their families and friends, the theme was 'Homes and Families'. The children reflected on loving one another in our own families and how special it is to be part of God's family. Thank you children, Mrs Arnold and Father Brett for the wonderful celebration.

100% Attendance Award

Congratulations to Year 5 who have 100% attendance this week.

Music Success

Congratulations to Bonnie (St Peter) for passing her Grade 2 flute exam.

Head Teacher Awards

Well done to all the children recognised for their achievements this week.

Edie ~ (St Francis) ~ for fantastic phonic work and always putting 100% effort into everything she does

Kyrea ~ (St Therese) ~ for being an enthusiastic learner and always trying her best

Jacob ~ (St Elizabeth) ~ for showing great determination and perseverance with his subtraction work this week ~ well done!

Michael ~ (St Bernadette) ~ for being focussed and independent at all times

Rose ~ (St Joseph) ~ for outstanding work and effort in her school work and additional homework ~ she always goes that extra mile

Anna ~ (St Anthony) ~ for being a fantastic role model as a learner, team player and kind friend

Jude ~ (St Peter) ~ for outstanding effort in English. You have worked with focus and enthusiasm ~ keep it up!

Birthdays

Congratulations to everyone who celebrated a birthday this week.

Jasmine & Julia (St Francis)

Ewan (St Bernadette)

Isabel (St Joseph)

Amelia & Katie (St Peter)

Mrs Halvey



Sports Award

The winners of this week's sports awards are:

Most Improved ~ Declan (St Elizabeth) Performer of the week ~ Isla (St Francis)

Volunteers Session

On Wednesday 14th October, there will be sessions for adults who would like to help volunteer at the school. The times are 9am and 7pm and will take place in the Community Suite. Please inform the office if you are attending.

Year R Admissions ~ September 2016

We will be holding information sessions for parents who are thinking of applying for a place for their child in September 2016. Each session will take place from 9.30~10.30am and will include a talk from the Headteacher, a tour of the school and the opportunity to ask questions.

The dates are as follows:

Wednesday 4th November

Tuesday 10th November

Thursday 19th November

Please phone the school office (01702 293522) to book your place. Applications can be submitted to the Local Authority from 14th September 2015 to 15th January 2016. The form can be downloaded from the council website at: <http://www.southend.gov.uk/admissions/>

Please note that a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) must be completed, which is available from the school. If you do not attend Mass every week, then simply return the

completed form(s) to the school. However, if you do attend Mass every week, then you will need to arrange an appointment through the school to see Fr Brett before submitting the form(s).

The Supplementary Information Form and certificate of Practice are to be returned to the school. Both of these must be submitted by **22nd January 2016**.

Primary School Appointments

The dates for any parents needing an interview for a Primary school place (Reception 2016), are 9th, 16th and 23rd November

The Catholic Church in England and Wales has recently changed the format in regards to the Parish Priest's input in the area of School Application forms.

The priest no longer completes a section of the Application set which stated, among other things, the frequency of Catholic practice as completed by the parent(s); this particular form has been abolished.

The new procedure as directed by the diocese is that parents must now obtain a Certificate of Catholic Practice from their Parish Priest. However, these Certificates will only be issued to families known to the Parish Priest and who are **practising Catholics** (and have been for a prolonged period of time, not just two/three weeks before). The Catholic Church defines "practising Catholics" as those who attend Mass every week; once every three weeks, every month, six months and every year is not considered "practising".

In the light of this criteria, please consider carefully before booking an appointment to see your Parish Priest.

If you are not eligible for a Certificate of Catholic Practice, simply present your child's Certificate of Baptism to the school (along with the form of course).

RAINBOWS

If your child is struggling through a painful experience, and you would like any further information on how we could support them, through group mediation, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Smith or your child's class teacher.



Prayers



Please remember all in our community who need your prayers at this time.
Have a lovely weekend with your family.
God Bless,

Mrs Smith

