



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. 151 ~ 2nd October 2015

Dear Parents,

Dates for your diary

October

Mon 5 th	CHANGE TO WINTER UNIFORM Year 6 Parent interviews with Father Brett ~ appointment only First Holy Communion meeting for parents <u>7pm at St George's Church</u>
Tue 6 th	Year 3 Class Celebration 2.30pm at the school PTA AGM 3.30pm in the Community Suite
Wed 7 th	Waitrose trip Year 3 & Year 1
Thu 8 th	Waitrose trip Year 4 & Year 2
Fri 9 th	Close of nominations for Parent Governor Waitrose trip Year 5

Winter Uniform

Don't forget we will be changing from summer to winter uniform on Monday 5th October. Children from years 1 to 6 will be in their shirts and ties, whilst Reception will be in school polo shirts.

Stranger Danger

Thank you to all the parents and representatives that came to the sessions on Wednesday. We really hope that this has resulted in you being more informed about how to keep your child safe online. I was really pleased with the turnout, with 138 children represented, a 66% turnout. I would welcome any feedback you have about the sessions. This can be done via letter or email.

The Pigs have arrived!



On Monday we welcomed our newest additions, the school guinea pigs to school. The only slight change was that they are both boys, not girls as previously thought! They seem very happy in their new home and I know the children cannot wait to get to be up close with them. Their names will be decided on next week.

Parent Governor Vacancy

A vacancy has arisen for a parent governor on our governing body. The governing body is asking you to nominate someone with parental responsibility for a child at the school. If we receive more than one nomination, then a ballot will be held.

If you would like to find out more about how you can contribute to governance at our school, please email the school with your contact details and we will supply further information.

Timetable for Election

25 th September	Invite nominations (newsletter)
9 th October	Close of nominations
16 th October	Ballot papers out to parents (including brief CV of candidates)
23 rd October	Close of voting

Half-term

2 nd November	Vote count
6 th November	Election result announced (newsletter)
9 th December	Full Governing Body Meeting (3.30pm)

Class Mass

On Tuesday afternoon St Bernadette's class celebrated Mass with their families and friends, the theme was 'People'. Thank you Year 4, Mrs Wallen and Father Brett for leading us in worship.

Head Teacher Awards

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

Thomas (St Francis) ~ for being a team player

Gabriel (St Therese) ~ for trying his best and being independent

Joseph (St Elizabeth) ~ for being a shining example in all that he does

Grace (St Bernadette) ~ for constantly demonstrating an outstanding attitude towards behaviour and learning

Louie (St Joseph) ~ for a positive attitude to learning in all areas of the curriculum

Truly~Rose ~ (St Anthony) ~ for showing a positive attitude to learning, particularly in Maths this week

Katie (St Peter) ~ for producing outstanding work in English and Maths and for being an example to others

Birthdays

Congratulations to everyone who celebrated a birthday this week.

Chloe (St Francis)

Nadia (St Elizabeth)

Ben H. (St Joseph)

Amelia & Katie (St Peter)



Sports Award

The winners of this week's sports awards are:

Most Improved ~ **Poppy** (St Anthony) Performer of the week ~ **Keavy** (St Therese)

100% Attendance Award

Congratulations to Year 4 who have 100% attendance this week.

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.



Annual General Meeting

Please try and make space in your diary to attend next week's Friends of St George's AGM. We need at least 30 parents to vote in the new committee. We will be supervising any children in the ICT suite during the meeting. If you would like to put yourself forward for a position, please ask the office for a form and hand it into the school or to a member of the committee.

Volunteers Session

On Wednesday 14th October, there will be a session 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 note the afternoon session has been cancelled. You will need to attend the session to be on the volunteer register. If you attended last year, there is no need to attend and you will remain on the register. If you are attending during the day time, I ask that you come in through the front office. If you are attending the evening session, please use the staff car park and enter the school via the Community Suite entrance to the side of the building.

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 are a practising Catholic, ask your priest for a completed Certificate of Practice to support your application.

The Supplementary Information Form is to be returned to the school and the priest will return the certificate of practice. Both of these must be submitted by 22nd January 2016.

Catholic Secondary and Primary School Appointments

Father Brett asked me to publish this notice that explains the new procedure which all the priests in the Deanery will follow.

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).

The dates for those applying to Catholic secondary schools are 28th September, 5th & 12th October between 1:00pm and 3:00pm. The dates for any parents needing an interview for a Primary school place (Reception 2016), are 9th, 16th and 23rd November.

Altar Servers

Training for new altar servers will commence this Sunday after the 10.30 Mass at St George's Church. It is open to anyone who has made their First Holy Communion.

Congratulations

This weekend Georgia (St Bernadette) will be baptised into the Catholic Church. We hope you all have a wonderful day celebrating this very special sacrament.

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

