



ST. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

At St George's, God calls us by name to love,
learn and achieve together, safe in the palm of His hands.

'I have called you by your name; you are mine' Isaiah 43

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newsletter no. 207~10th February 2017

Dear Parents,

At the end of a short..but long half term..!

Even though this half term has only been five and a half weeks long, dropping off on dark mornings, cold weather and overcast school pick up times have made it feel a bit longer for quite a few of us! On the subject of school pick up times, it is every parent's responsibility to ensure that you, or a carer, are at school by 3.15pm to collect your child every day. There may be times when parents are a couple of minutes late so the staff will remain in the playground for the few minutes until you get through the gate to collect your child. It is once the playground is clear of all parents that the children are taken inside. We are very fortunate at St George's to have excellent office staff. Their 'desk' hours are from **8.30am - 3.30pm**, which means that by 3.30pm, all children need to be collected from the office to allow them to finish off all the jobs they need to do around the school and in the office. In exceptional circumstances, we are prepared to supervise the children for a couple of minutes after, but this should not be a habitual thing, nor an extension of school pick up time. I thank you in advance for your support.

Ash Wednesday



On Wednesday 1st March, years 1 to 6 will be attending Mass at **ST GEORGE'S CHURCH**. Year R will be having an age appropriate and meaningful service during that day. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, the season leading up to the joyous celebration of Easter. The Mass begins at **9.30 am** so the children will be registered at school as usual, and then walk to the church just after 9.00am. All parents and families are very welcome to stay for the Mass. The children will be reminded that Ash Wednesday is a holy day for reflection and stillness in church and so I ask for your support in modelling the same behaviour for the children. We will be walking the children back to school afterwards. If any parents are able to accompany the children on either the walk to church, or the return journey, please let the office know.



Pancake Day



On Shrove Tuesday, the children will be enjoying their annual 'mix, flip and eat' pancake day organised by our wonderful volunteer parents who give their time to support our children.

Superstars!

Congratulations to Isabel (St Anthony) and Jack (St Peter) who both performed outstandingly at last weekend's County Championships. Both came 5th in their races. An excellent achievement.

Attendance update

As February half term marks the midpoint of this academic year, we are sending you an attendance update for your child/children. Any absence affects the pattern of a child's schooling, with regular absence seriously affecting learning and attainment. At St George's, it is our aim for every child to be in every day so as to make optimum progress. We will be monitoring any children who are currently below 93% and continue to have irregular attendance. If you have any queries about your child's absence report, or need support in improving their attendance, please do not hesitate to contact me via the office.

The percentage totals at the halfway point for each class Year 1-6 (Year R do not have an official percentage)	
Year 1	96.9
Year 2	96.0
Year 3	97.8
Year 4	95.4
Year 5	98.0
Year 6	96.2

Head Teacher's Award

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

Samuel S. (St Francis) ~ for being a great example of an excellent learner

Cillian (St Therese) ~ for working hard and really focusing to produce high quality work in all lessons

Stanley (St Elizabeth) ~ for his enthusiasm and willingness to help others

Regan (St Bernadette) ~ for showing great focus and independence during our English work this week

Charlotte (St Joseph) ~ for settling into our school community. She is an enthusiastic, focused learner and a great friend to all. An asset to Year 4

Todd (St Anthony) ~ for reflecting on areas of maths to improve on independently challenging his own learning

Poppy (St Peter) ~ for working with enthusiasm and motivation in all subjects

Sports Awards

Congratulations to this week's winners.

Most Improved ~ Joseph (St Therese) Sports Performer ~ Corey (St Francis)

Reading Awards

Well done to the following children who gained their bronze award this week

Corey, Conor, Eva & Jacob S. (St Francis)

Noah (St Elizabeth)

Xavier & Faith (St Bernadette)

Jack & Adam (St Joseph)

Isabella & Victoria (St Peter)

... the children who have reached 100 reads and earned their silver reading certificates

Jacob R., Florence I. & Samuel S. (St Francis)

Chloe & Natasha (St Therese)

Grace (St Joseph)

Ben R. & Isabel (St Anthony)

....and our gold winners

Thomas (St Francis)

Joseph, Logan, Hannah, Samuel R-F, Ocean & William (St Therese)

Amelie & James (St Bernadette)

Olivia, Maisie & Henry (St Anthony)

Birthdays

Congratulations to those who celebrated their birthdays this week.

Haydn (St Anthony), Alexander (St Francis) and Mrs Fitchew

Happy Birthday also goes to those celebrating during half term

Joseph (St Francis), Harley (St Joseph) and Elliott (St Peter)

And Mr Fisher



100 Club

It's not too late to join the Friends of St George's 100 club. Don't forget anyone, friends or family, over the age of 16 can have the chance to win in our quarterly draws. To be allocated a number in the draw, you will need to pay a one-off £10 subscription (only £2.50 per draw) which will cover you for the whole of 2017. This amount needs to be paid in full by the 28th of February. Your number(s) will then be entered in to the draw which will be done in school. The prize breakdown will be as follows if we sell 100 numbers: 1st Number drawn £50, 2nd Number drawn £30, 3rd Number drawn £20. The draws will take place on the first Friday in March, June, September and December during the celebration assembly. All you need to do is complete your details at the office.

Matilda 15th June

The PTA have arranged a trip to see the musical Matilda in London. Tickets are £45 which includes transport by coach. Tickets will be sold on a first come first serve basis from Monday 20th February. Please complete an order form along with your £30 deposit to secure your place. Unfortunately the PTA are unable to reserve places. Please return your order forms to the school office.

Message from the PTA

We are looking for a core group of people that would be happy to help with ideas for the summer fayre. Either attending a few meetings to discuss or emailing your input. Don't forget as a parent you are all part of the PTA and your ideas and input in various areas are very much welcomed by the committee.

Artist of the month

Well done to **Julia** (St Elizabeth) for January's 'Artist of the Month'.
February's 'Artist of the Month' is **Florence** (St Joseph).

Musical Monday ~ 13th February

A fun day of music making for children and young people aged 7+. All standards and abilities are welcome, from beginners to advanced players. Players can bring any instruments - strings, woodwind, percussion, brass, recorders, keyboards, guitars etc and enjoy making music together. There is an informal concert at the end of the day for family and friends to attend. The day takes place at St Mary's C of E Primary School, Southend, and costs just £9 per child. Book online at musicalmonday.eventbrite.co.uk

Prayers

Please remember all in our community who need your prayers at this time, especially Oliver in Year 4, who is still poorly but making good progress on the road to recovery. We continue to pray for Mr Stoner and the family. We also pray for Father Graham whose Mum, Gloria Smith, died this week. We ask that you keep all the family in your prayers during this difficult time.

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her.

May she rest in peace.

And may the souls of the faithfully departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Amen.

Have a wonderful half term break, I look forward to seeing you all back on

Monday 20th February

Mrs Delgado

