

ST. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Eagle Way, Shoeburyness, Essex SS3 9RN.

Telephone: 01702 293522 email: office@st-georges.southends.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. 150 ~ 25th September 2015

Dear Parents,

Dates for your diary

September

Mon 28 th	Year 6 Parent interviews with Father Brett ~ appointment only
Tue 29 th	Year 4 Class Mass 2.30pm at the school
Wed 30 th	STRANGER DANGER ~ Session for parents 3.30pm & 7pm

Winter Uniform

We will be changing from summer to winter uniform on Monday 5th October. I have included the uniform list below. Please note **RECEPTION** children continue to wear their current uniform.

Boys (Year 1 to 6)	Girls (Year 1 to 6)
Grey trousers/shorts (as appropriate)	Plain grey pinafore/skirt or grey tailored trousers
White shirt ~ excluding Reception who will continue to wear their polo shirt	White shirt ~ excluding Reception who will continue to wear their polo shirt
<u>Grey</u> socks	<u>White</u> socks or navy tights ~ not NAVY socks
Black shoes	Black shoes (no heels or open toe shoes)
Navy school pullover	Navy school pullover or cardigan
School tie (elasticated in Yr 1 & 2)	School tie (elasticated in Year 1 & 2)
School reversible fleece jacket or a plain* waterproof outdoor coat (with hood)	School reversible fleece jacket or a plain* waterproof outdoor coat (with hood)

Plain* means no bold logos, slogans, brand names, inappropriate symbols etc.

E-Safety ~ Stranger Danger ~ Safeguarding in the 21st Century

Wednesday 30th September 3.30pm & 7pm

We are still waiting for slips to be returned for next week's sessions. Please return any slips to the office as soon as possible (there is a slip at the end of the newsletter). Due to the meeting at 3.30pm, there will be **no after school netball**, as I will be attending the session.

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)

Macmillan Coffee Morning



Thank you to all the parents and children who supported the sale by donating and buying cakes today. We raised £145.40 for the charity. A huge thank you also goes to our wonderful school council and Mrs Wallen for organising the event.

Head Teacher Awards

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

Chloe (St Francis) ~ for being a shining example to others

Loui (St Therese) ~ for having a positive attitude to learning

Alex (St Elizabeth) ~ for his brilliant addition work in maths this week

Ella (St Bernadette) ~ for 100% effort in all areas of the curriculum

Markus (St Joseph) ~ for hard work in all areas, especially times tables

Finlay (St Anthony) ~ for trying his best in all aspects of school life. Keep up the good work!

Millie O'H. (St Peter) ~ for having a fantastic attitude towards learning and being a superb example of how to treat others

Birthdays

Congratulations to everyone who celebrated a birthday this week.

Samuel (St Francis)

Sophia & Charlotte (St Therese)

Orla (St Bernadette)

Lily, Alex, Oliver, Henry & Maisie (St Joseph)

Ace (St Peter)



Sports Award

The winners of this week's sports awards are:

Most Improved ~ Dylan (St Francis) Performer of the week ~ Oliver B. (St Bernadette)

100% Attendance Award

Congratulations to Year 2, who last week, had 100% attendance. This week, Year 4 have achieved perfection ~ every child, every day. Well done. The challenge is, can you keep it going?

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 classteacher.



Annual General Meeting

I have printed the FOSG nomination form on the back of this week's newsletter to encourage anyone who would like to take on one of the posts for the next year. So far we have only received 2 nominations. It would be a travesty if the PTA had to fold due to lack of support, so I am asking all parents to consider if they could be part of the committee. You need two people (one to nominate and one to second) who are parents or carers with children attending the school. You then sign the form accepting the proposal. The form must be completed and handed to the office or a standing committee member before the AGM.

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, 2.45pm and 7pm and will take place in the Community Suite. 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.

A brand new addition to our school.....

Next week, we will be gaining two extra bodies as St George's. No, we haven't managed to squeeze two more children in, our school pets will be arriving. They are two female guinea pigs and will be school based, rather than class based, therefore all children will have an opportunity to stroke and hold the pigs. They will all be given an information session on how to best care for the animals. We have carried out the appropriate risk assessments and have followed the guidelines from the RSCPA on keeping a pet in school. If your child has any known allergies to pet fur/hair, please inform the school. I have asked the children to put forward suggestions of names for the pigs by Friday 2nd October. The school council will then compile a shortlist and the children will vote on their two favourites. I'll keep you all posted!



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.

Parish News

You may be aware that on Mondays and Fridays at St George's, there is Mass at 9.15am, and on Thursdays, a Eucharistic service. The parish decided that this was a suitable time a while ago, as it would enable any parents who were dropping their children at school, enough time to make it to church for a weekday Mass. It would be lovely if any of you could make it to church on one of the mornings, even if it is just once a month.

St George's Playgroup takes place every Tuesday (term time only) from 9.15am until 11.am at St George's Church Hall. Everyone is welcome and only costs £1.50 per family.

First Holy Communion

If your child is a baptised Catholic and was 7 or over on 31st August, we hope to see them on the First Holy Communion and Reconciliation course which will be commencing on Monday 2nd November 2015.

Holy Communion 2016



These important sacraments enable us to receive Christ at Mass, celebrating his love. Forms are available in the porches of both churches. You will need to bring the completed form to the Registration Meeting taking place at 7pm on Monday 5th October, 7pm, at St. George's Church.

Local News

The Federation of Greenways Schools is inviting the Shoebury community to join them in all of the fun and excitement of the circus as they play host to 'Happy's Circus.' We have performances on Friday 2nd October at 6.00 pm, gates open at 4.30 pm and Saturday 3rd October at 2.00 pm, gates open at 12.30 pm.

If you would like tickets, please notify Claire Elston, the PTA Vice-Chair either by e-mail: claire.elston1@btinternet.com or call: 07816 160782. She will be happy to arrange delivery of your tickets and payment collection.

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

Stranger Danger ~ Safeguarding in the 21st Century

SESSION FOR PARENTS WEDNESDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER 2015

PRINT NAME

I will be attending/ sending a representative to the session at

3.30pm 7pm

Please hand into the office



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Nomination paper for the Election of FOSG Committee Members 2015

I* _____ Propose** _____ as

(Block capitals please)

(Block capitals please)

Chair Vice Chair For the election Treasurer Secretary Class Rep Yr

(Delete as appropriate)

at St Georges Catholic Primary

Signed _____ Date _____

I* Second the proposal of _____ as

Chair Vice Chair Treasurer Secretary Class Rep Yr

(Delete as appropriate)

at St Georges Catholic Primary

(Block capitals please)

Signed _____ Date _____

I _____ am willing to serve as

Chair Vice Chair Treasurer Secretary Class Rep Yr

(Delete as appropriate)

at St Georges Catholic Primary

Signed _____ Date _____