

Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Primary School



Newsletter — September 2012 (2)

We welcome everyone into our community to live, love and learn together in the light and example of Jesus Christ.

Mrs Hooper has asked me to record her sincere thanks to everyone for the kind letters, cards, gifts and messages upon her early retirement in July. I am very pleased to say it is not the last we will see of her! She has agreed to carry out some cover teaching for us which is very helpful as she knows all the children and school routines so well. Since her retirement she has also agreed to lead the children's liturgy at the Sunday morning mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church, 10.30 a.m. This will take place in church immediately after the gospel. I was delighted to see many of our children at this mass on Sunday from all classes. It would be great to see even more of the children next Sunday, particularly those preparing for sacraments this year and our new children from Reception class. I realize some families worship in neighbouring parishes or at different masses but it is so good to see the community gathered together. I know Mrs Hooper will be pleased to see more of our children next Sunday - do give it a try.

Car Parking: a reminder to our new families. The car park in Winchfield Drive must not be used by parents at any time including when collecting from the after school club. Please make sure that this safety message is passed on to anyone who collects your child.

PTA: you will see from the attached dates that the first date is the welcome disco on Friday 28th September. The PTA are looking for new members and always like to invite our new Reception Class

parents to their A.G.M. which will take place on Thursday 27th September in the school hall starting at 6.45 p.m. The welcome disco is open to all families but please remember that children must be accompanied by an adult.

A polite reminder: as a public building, the law regarding no smoking covers all parts of the school premises including the playground.

Scholars Bus Pass: we have had a really good response to the scheme. If you would like an application form, these are available from the school office or further details can be obtained from BCC Transport Dept 303 4425 or educationtransport@birmingham.gov.uk There is no financial assessment for a scholars pass.

Free School Meals Entitlement: we still think that there are families who may be eligible to receive free school meals. If you are in receipt of any of the following, please collect a form from the school office:

- Income Support
- Income-based Job Seekers' Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the Guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an

annual gross income of more than £16,190, as assessed by HMRC.

School Fund Parents are asked to contribute £3 a term per family for school fund. If you haven't sent in your donation yet, please try to do so by the end of September. Thank you for your support.

Aston Villa Ticket Scheme



We still have plenty

of free tickets to distribute and after a great win on Saturday, it might be worth a visit! Tickets can be used for siblings (up to the age of 17) as long as they are with a child from this school. Available from the school office.

Sacramental Preparation: A separate letter will be attached to the newsletter for parents of children in Year 3. As the school is now almost fully catholic with additional children who have not secured a place in the school it has become increasingly difficult to squeeze

everyone into our little church for First Holy Communion. We recognise that this is a very special day for families because it marks an important step in a child's faith journey and you may want to invite more of your family to the service. As extended families often live some distance away, the opportunity to share this experience has been difficult when the Sunday afternoon mass has not concluded until nearly 5 p.m. Therefore we are proposing to have two masses over two weekends in May this year with the children coming together as a whole class for their 'Going Forth' mass in June. It is very important that all children are represented at the meeting on Thursday 15th November when we can discuss the arrangements in more detail. In the meantime, do share your thoughts on this proposal with myself, Father Seamus or staff directly involved in preparation - Miss O'Connell, Mrs van Vliet and Mr Clinton.

Coats: Although mornings may seem warm, and a number of children come to school in cars, children should always bring a coat to wear at playtimes as the weather can change quickly.

Diary Dates - September 2012: Further dates will be added when we have them

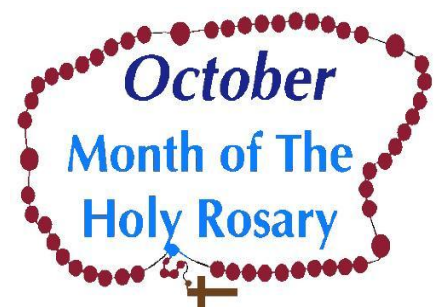
September

Weds 19	Year 6 return from Alton Castle (approx. 4 p.m.)
Thurs 20	Start of AVFC after school club
Mon 24	Italian Club after school starts - Year 5 and Year 6 3.30 - 5.00 p.m.
Thurs 27	Blessing Service for Reception Class, families very welcome 9.05 a.m.
Thurs 27	PTA meeting in hall - AGM at 6.45 pm

Fri 28 PTA Welcome Disco

October (Month of the Rosary)

Tues 2	Year 1 Inspire Workshop for parents
Wednes 3	Governing Body Meeting 6 p.m.
Tues 9	Reception Class Inspire Workshop for parents
Weds 10	Parents Evening (1) 3.45 - 6.45 p.m.
Thurs 11	Class Assembly - Year 3 - 9.05 a.m. all welcome



Thurs 11 Start of 'Year of Faith'

Mon 15 Parents Evening (2) 3.45 - 6.45 p.m. (No Italian Club)

Tuesday 16 School closed to pupils - Teacher Training Day

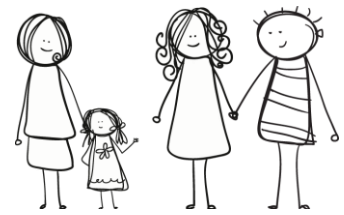
Thurs 18 Harvest Service for whole school 9.05 a.m. (led by Year 5) all welcome
No AVFC after school

Fri 19 Break up for half term 3.30 p.m.

Mon 29 School re-opens to pupils after half term 8.55 a.m.

Tues 30 Year 3 - Inspire Workshop for parents

Weds 31 Open Day (especially for Reception September 2013 pupils) 9.30 - 11.30 a.m.



November Dedicated Month for Holy Souls

Thurs 1 Whole School Mass - All Saints (led by Year 3) all welcome 9.05 a.m.

Fri 2 PTA Fireworks / Disco

Week beginning Mon 5 November 2012 BOOK WEEK (details to follow)

Tues 6 Year 1 trip to Cannock Chase Toy Museum

Thurs 8 Class Assembly - Year 4 - all welcome

Tues 13 Year 4 Inspire Workshop for parents

Thurs 15 Year 3 Parent Meeting for anyone whose child will be receiving the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion 7 p.m. school hall

Sun 18 Year 3 'Listening' Mass in Our Lady of Fatima Church 10.30 a.m.

Tues 20 Year 2 Inspire Workshop for parents

Tues 27 Year 5 Inspire Workshop for parents



December (Advent starts Sunday 2 December - 4 Sundays of Advent)

Mon 3 Last day for Reception applications for Sept 2013 to B'ham LA

Thurs 6 Whole School Mass Feast of St Nicholas (led by Year 4) 9.05 a.m.

Mon 17 Infant Nativity 9.15 a.m. and 2.15 p.m.

Tues 18 Christmas Class Parties (afternoon)

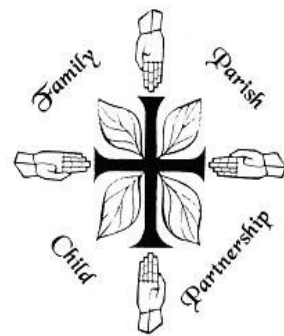
Thurs 20 Junior Carol Service 9.05 a.m.

Fri 21 Break up for Christmas Holiday

Back to school on Monday 7th January 2013 - Teacher Training Day

Tuesday 8th January 2013 - School open for pupils 8.55 a.m.

Dates for Sacramental Preparation 2012/13 - Year 3 Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion



Parents Meetings

Date	Location	Time
Thursday 15 th November start	School Hall	7 p.m.
Thursday 7 th February	School Hall	7 p.m. start
Thursday 21 st March	School Hall	7 p.m. start

Preparation Masses and Services

Thursday 1 st November	School Hall	9.05 a.m.
All Saints (Whole Sc Mass led by Y3)		
Sunday 18 th November	Our Lady of Fatima Church	10.30 a.m. Mass
Theme: 'Listening'		
Sunday 20 th January	Our Lady of Fatima Church	10.30 a.m. Mass
Theme: 'Caring'		
W/B Mon 25 th March	KS2 Passion Service in school, details to follow	
Monday 20 th May	May Procession in School	2.30 p.m.
Sunday 16th June	Our Lady of Fatima Church	12 NOON Mass
Theme: Going Forth followed by 'Communion Breakfast' in Church Hall		

Sacrament of Reconciliation (First Confession) / Making Peace Service

Saturday 9th March	Our Lady of Fatima Church	11.00 a.m.
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First Holy Communion Masses

Saturday 11th May	Our Lady of Fatima Church	12 noon Mass
Saturday 18th May	Our Lady of Fatima Church	12 noon Mass