



Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Primary School



Newsletter — October 2012

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



Please note that there will be Teacher Training Days on the following dates:-

Tuesday 16th October 2012

Monday 29th October 2012

School will re-open for pupils following the half-term holiday on **Tuesday 30th October 2012**.

OPEN DAYS

Hagley RC High School have asked us to remind parents in Years 5 and 6 they will be holding their Open Day on

Saturday 13th October

9.00 am to 12.00 pm.

There will be demonstrations, performances and displays which reflect the range of opportunities offered at Hagley Catholic High School. A tour of the school is likely to take approximately 2 hours so it is advisable for visitors to arrive between 9:00am and 10:00 am.

Harvest Celebration Service

We look forward to welcoming everyone to our Harvest Celebration Service in school on:



Thursday 18th October 2012 at 9.05 am

We will be supporting a local charity for the homeless - **The Fireside Centre**. We ask for donations of non-perishable foods and toiletries. These may be brought into school **on or after** Thursday 11th October.

We also like to support our global family and we do this by making a donation to the charity **CAFOD**. This year we are asking parents and children to make a coin donation. A collection will be taken up during the service on Thursday 18th October.

Internet Safety:

There have been one or two concerns drawn to our attention since the start of term and I would advise parents to be very vigilant about the parental options / filters they have on computers and other devices that children have access to. The Internet is a wonderful learning tool but it can also be quite overwhelming. We have strong filters on the school machines and we are alerted if children deliberately or inadvertently try to access something that is blocked. Using image searches, YouTube and other searches can lead to children accessing material that is completely unsuitable for their age and level of understanding. Primary age children are too young to have their own facebook page (13 years+). Parents can often feel under tremendous pressure to allow their child to engage in games / communication because 'everyone else is' but if you believe it is unsuitable it probably is. Cyberbullying is a growing worry. If your child has access to the internet, do check your child's search history to make sure they are only accessing sites that are suitable for their learning and wellbeing. Here are some common sense safety rules you may want to share with your child:



I will not give out personal information such as my address, telephone number, parents' work address/telephone number, or the name and location of my school without my parents' permission.

I will tell my parents right away if I come across any information that makes me feel uncomfortable.

Monday 15th October - 3.45 pm - 6.45 pm

I will never send a person my picture or anything else without first checking with my parents.

I will not respond to any messages that are mean or in any way make me feel uncomfortable. It is not my fault if I get a message like that. If I do I will tell my parents right away.

I will talk with my parents so that we can set up rules for going online and using a mobile phone. We will decide upon the time of day that I can be online, the length of time I can be online and appropriate areas for me to visit. I will not access other areas or break these rules without their permission.

I will check with my parents before downloading or installing software or doing anything that could possibly hurt our computer or mobile device or jeopardize my family's privacy

I will be a good online citizen and not do anything that hurts other people or is against the law.



Healthy Schools

Reminder: Our school promotes Healthy Eating; we would encourage parents to please consider this when preparing pupils lunch. There should be limited chocolate items and savoury snacks. The school has a NO NUTS or ingredients with known nut contents policy eg. peanut butter, chocolate bars with nuts, etc. as we have children with nut allergies. Packed lunches should be brought in a small, strong, clearly labelled box.

Operation Christmas Child

Although we try not to think about Christmas until after $\frac{1}{2}$ term, we will be sending out our annual 'Operation Christmas Child' slips before we break up because the team that collect the shoe boxes collect at the beginning of November. It is a lovely activity for the children to engage in during the half term break. Details will follow shortly.



Parents Evening

Wednesday 10th October - 3.45 pm to 6.45 pm

Diary Dates - October 2012: new dates are in bold

Please contact your child's class teacher urgently if you have not been allocated an appointment time.

Year of Faith

In this week's Gospel, Mark paints a touching portrait that is familiar to most of us, of Jesus Christ who loves all children:

And people were bringing children to him that he might touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this he became indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not prevent them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."

The Holy Father, Pope Benedict has initiated a **Year of Faith** which begins this Thursday 11th October. Pope Benedict outlined the purpose of the year of faith: 'to give fresh impetus to the mission of the whole Church to lead human beings out of the wilderness in which they often find themselves to the place of life, friendship with Christ that gives us life in fullness.'

The Year of Faith is an invitation to everyone in the Church to celebrate and renew their faith - individually, in families, in parishes and schools, in our Diocese, country and across our global Catholic community.



We have already started to see growing numbers at Sunday Mass, especially the 10.30 children's mass which is very encouraging. Thank you for your support.

You can find out more from our diocese website: <http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk>

School Admissions September 2013

Secondary School closing date: Wed 31 October '12
Primary School closing date: Mon 3 December '12
Our Open Morning for prospective parents is Wednesday 31 October 9.30 - 11.30 a.m.

October**(Month of the Rosary)**

Tues 9 Reception Class Inspire Workshop for parents
 Weds 10 Parents Evening (1) 3.45 - 6.45 p.m.
 Thurs 11 Start of 'Year of Faith'
 Class Assembly - Year 3 - 9.05 a.m. all welcome



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 today

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

Mon 29 **TEACHER TRAINING DAY**

Tues 30 **School re-opens to pupils after half term 8.55 a.m.**

Tues 30 Year 3 - Inspire Workshop for parents

Weds 31 Open Morning (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)

Mon 5 **Firework School Dinner** (children who have packed lunch can book a meal)

Tues 6 Year 1 trip to Cannock Chase Toy Museum

Thurs 8 Class Assembly - Year 4 - 9.05 a.m. 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.

Thurs 20 **Christmas Dinner** (children who have packed lunch can book a meal)

Fri 21 Break-up for Christmas Holiday