



Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Primary School

Newsletter — June 2013



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

www.olfatima.bham.sch.uk

Welcome back after a short (and wet!) break. I think we have officially had the coldest and wettest spring in 50 years so let us hope it brightens for the final stretch of the summer term. There is much to do and hopefully the children are rested and recharged, ready to complete this academic year.

Staffing News - I am sorry to inform you that we are 'losing' Mrs Barrett on 14th June. Although she has not been with us for too long she has been a much valued member of the team. Mrs Barrett has gained a promotion (in Sandwell) and leaves with our very best wishes. Mrs Quinn, Reception Class teacher, will be leaving in July as will Mrs Thatcher who has been covering her maternity leave. They too, leave with our very best wishes and gratitude. We have recently appointed a very experienced early years teacher, Miss H. Davis, who will join the school in September.

First Holy Communion and May Procession

Thank you to parents for supporting the children so well for their First Holy Communion. It was the first time we have celebrated over two weeks and on both occasions the church was full with families and dear ones. It was wonderful to see so many attend the May Procession. Although we would have preferred to be outdoors, the rain overnight put paid to that. If you attended, I am sure that you agree that the hymns to honour Mary raised the hall roof!



Kata Skupien Concert Wednesday 12 June 7 p.m.

You and the children are invited to enjoy an evening in the school hall with the

wonderfully talented 'Kata' who is a classical pianist. Kata is donating all money raised to Heart Research UK. Tickets are available from school office.

Attendance Trophy Summer 1

Congratulations to Year 6 who collected the half term trophy for the first time this year. There are still a very small minority of families who continue to take extended holidays in term time. I would urge all families to do everything they can to avoid unnecessary absences from school.

Year 6	97.9 %
Year 4	96.9 %
Year 3	96.7 %
Year 5	96.2 %
Year 1	95.8 %
Year 2	95.3 %
Year R	95.1 %



UKMaths

Congratulations to all the children who took part in the UK Junior Maths challenge with great success. Special congratulations go to the six children who achieved silver and bronze awards: Eva Reilly, silver (and highest school score), Alice Millington, silver and Mary Levack, Thomas Wakeman, Daisy Stretton Chang and Niamh McAuley - all bronze achievers. These are excellent results, given that the children were undertaking the same paper as Year 7 and Y8 pupils.

Important Changes Transport to School charges

I strongly urge all parents to go on to this newsletter on the school website where the

Challenge

following hyperlink will take you to the city council website page:

http://www.birminghambeheard.org.uk/childrenscommissioning/consultation_transport

The changes to the Home to School Transport policy affects new users but proposals that may apply to current users include:

1. The adoption of the statutory qualifying distances - up to 8 years old 2 miles, over 8 years old 3 miles.
2. The removal of transport support based on parental choice of denominational (faith) school.

Some of our current pupils currently have a bus pass but the qualifying distance is likely to change. Even more concerning is the removal of subsidised travel to secondary school when the school is a faith school and not the nearest school to a child's home address. This will have severe financial implications for some families. Parents of children who are currently transferring to secondary school would not have been aware of the changes at the point of making their preferences last autumn. There are also public meetings for parents to attend. Please, regardless of the age of your child(ren), do consider making your views known to the city council **by the end of June**. There is a meeting in July when all views will be considered. This is something that will affect all children in the future. If you would like a paper copy of the questionnaire, this can be obtained from the school office.

Year R assembly follow on coffee

There will be tea / coffee and refreshments in the Before and After school club following the class assembly on Thursday 27 June. Our Inclusion leader / teacher - Mrs Harlow will be hosting the meeting - all welcome.

Summer drinks and school caps



Now that the summer has started it is vital that all children have a water bottle in school that can be refilled during the day. We also suggest that children have a school cap / hat to wear at lunchtime / breaktime / outdoor PE lessons. If your child does not have one, they are available to purchase from the school office. Prices range from £2.50 - £3.50.

Final reminder - school fund

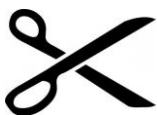
If you have forgotten to contribute to school fund this term and would still like to, please send £3 by 10th June. Thank you.



Dates for Diary — updated 3 June 2013 - please look for changed (underlined> / new dates

Monday 3 June	8.55 a.m. School re-opens for pupils
Thursday 6 June	Parent Meeting Year 6—Sacrament of Confirmation 7 p.m.
Friday 7 June	Reception Class educational visit to Mount Pleasant Farm a.m.
Sunday 9 June	Year 6 Mass of Enrolment at Our Lady of Fatima Church 10.30 a.m.
Wednes 12 June	Kata Skupien Classical Piano Concert 7 p.m. in school hall
Thursday 13 June	7.00 p.m. Year 5 Parents Meeting (Secondary School transition & details of residential visit to Alton Castle planned for September 2013). Yr 4 parents are also welcome encouraged to attend the transition meeting 7pm
Saturday 15 June	Birmingham Catholic Swimming Gala
Sunday 16 June	12.00 noon 'Going Forth' Mass—Year 3 Our Lady of Fatima Church

Wednes 19 June	Year 6 educational visit to St Chad's Cathedral
<u>Thursday 20 June</u>	Keyboard Concert 9.10 a.m.
Thursday 20 June	New Intake meeting for parents of children joining the school Sep 2013 7 p.m.
Friday 21 June	All Junior classes to Bear Creek Adventure Centre, Edgbaston Reservoir as part of Physical Health Week (separate letter to be sent out)
Monday 24 June	Year 6 and Reception Class Group Photographs
Thursday 27 June	Reception Class assembly 9.05 a.m. - all welcome
Friday 28 June	9.05 a.m. Mass of Illumination (Year 6) whole school mass - all welcome
Wednes 3 July	Year 6 Secondary Transition Day (most secondary schools)
	New Intake Reception 2013 visits to school (1/2 day sessions)
<u>Thursday 4 July</u>	Year 2 Class Assembly 9.05 a.m. - all welcome (change of date)
Thursday 4 July	Year 3 educational visit to Severn Valley Railway
Saturday 6 July	PTA Summer Fete
Monday 8 July	Sports Day (afternoon school field)
<u>Tuesday 9 July</u>	New Intake Reception 2013 visits to school (1/2 day sessions)
Wednes 10 July	Governing Body Meetings (Finance 6 p.m., Full 6.45 p.m.)
<u>Thursday 11 July</u>	Year 6 Class Assembly 9.05 a.m. all welcome
<u>Thursday 11 July</u>	Year 6 Leavers activity (after assembly)
<u>Monday 15 Jul</u>	Back up Sports Day (afternoon school field)
Monday 15 Jul	Annual Reports to Parents
Wednes 17 Jul	Mass of Confirmation 7 p.m.
Thursday 18 Jul	Final School Mass of Year <u>2 p.m.</u> - all welcome - <u>please note change in time</u>
Friday 19 July	3.30 p.m. School closes — End of Academic Year



Concert Tickets

Wednesday 12th June 7 p.m. in the school hall

Please can I order:

_____ adult tickets at £ 4 each and / or

_____ children's tickets at £ 3 each.



Name of child in school _____