



# Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Primary School



Newsletter — February 2014

[www.olfatima.bham.sch.uk](http://www.olfatima.bham.sch.uk)

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



Dare I tempt fate by saying we are doing well with the winter weather? The nights are getting *slightly* lighter and the mornings a little brighter. On Sunday we celebrated the beautiful feast commonly called

'Candlemas'. In the gospel we heard of the old man Simeon who praises God because he has now beheld the 'light of the nations'. The nights may still be long and cold but the feast brings some warmth into our lives. It reminds us that Christ is the Light of our World.

## Inspire Workshops

We have now completed the class 'Inspire' workshops and I would like to pass on the thanks of all teachers for your tremendous support. We had an excellent parent turnout of 98% overall (including some extended family members like grandparents, aunts, uncles etc). The feedback you provide is very useful and helps us reflect on what you find helpful or where you require more guidance. Please remember that you can always make an appointment to meet with your child's classteacher if you want to discuss any aspect of progress. Our Parent Consultation Meetings also take place this term on

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> and  
Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March.  
Classrooms will be  
open for parents to  
look at classwork and



meetings will take place in the school hall so it would be very helpful if all parents could make arrangements in advance for children to be supervised off premises.

## AVFC Tickets for Schools

We are continuing our participation in the 'Tickets For Schools' scheme launched by Aston Villa Football Club. The scheme enables pupils to attend a home Premier League football match at Villa Park for £1. If you are interested in taking part, we will issue your child with a voucher. This can be redeemed at the Aston Villa ticket office for an under 12 match ticket at a Barclays Premier League football match of your choice. Your child can attend up to 10 football matches each football season with the Tickets For Schools scheme. Children taking part in this offer must be accompanied to Villa Park by an adult and an adult can accompany up to 4 children. Aston Villa will sell one match ticket per voucher to an accompanying adult at reduced prices £15/£20.



**ASTON VILLA  
FOOTBALL CLUB**

## Waitrose Tokens

Thank you to anyone who has shopped at Waitrose, Harborne and dropped a token into our 'box'. We received a welcome cheque for £300 which boosts our funds and enables us to continue to provide a range of additional

activities for the children.

### **Punctuality**

Our attendance and punctuality is very good and this contributes strongly to the children's ability to progress. Any child who does not arrive in time to enter the school through the correct entrance and is brought in through the office entrance must be signed in by an adult.

This is to audit our pupils' punctuality, particularly if they have already been marked absent by the classteacher on the register. Please make sure that your child arrives in plenty of time to enter school through the correct entrance for their class. Doors open at 8.45 in the morning.

**Preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation** This Thursday - 6<sup>th</sup> February there is a meeting for all Year 3 parents at 7 pm in preparation for the children's Sacrament of Reconciliation which will take place on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March. It is very important that all children are represented at this meeting.

### **PTA Quiz Night**

The PTA's quiz night is this Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February. Good luck to everyone who has booked to take part and enjoy your evening away from the children!



## **SCHOOL FUND SPRING TERM 2014**

I attach my family contribution of £3 / other £ \_\_\_\_\_ for the spring term.

Eldest child in school \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ .

We will return this slip to you to acknowledge your contribution.

Received in school by \_\_\_\_\_ Thank you for your support.

### **School Fund - please read**

Thank you to all the parents who responded to our 'gentle' reminder regarding school fund. It would be very much appreciated if a voluntary contribution of **£3 per family** (per term) was made to the fund by all families.

If you haven't done so already, please return the attached slip with your contribution as soon as possible. All donations are recorded so please fill in your child(ren)s name(s) on the attached slip. A final reminder will be sent to parents who have not replied by half term. If you cannot make a contribution this term, please indicate this on the slip so that we do not need to contact you with a reminder.

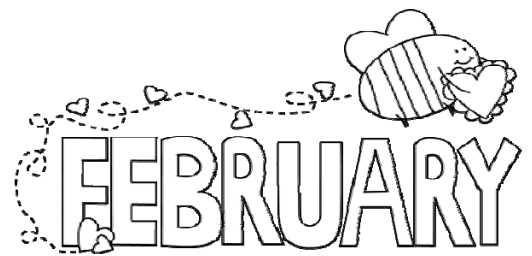
### **KS2 'Read for my school'**



A separate letter regarding this has been sent out to all KS2 parents so please check your child's book bag if you have not come across the letter.

We always try to recognise the importance of reading so please do encourage your child to take part in this new reading initiative. All KS2 pupils have a log in and password to access the electronic books at: [www.readformyschool.co.uk](http://www.readformyschool.co.uk)

## Dates for Diary –February 2014



Thurs 6 Feb 9.05 a.m. Year 3 Class Assembly

Thurs 6 Feb 7 p.m. Meeting for all Year 3 Parents of children receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March

Fri 7 Feb PTA Quiz (adults only)

Thurs 13 Feb Year 5 Hagley Consortium Concert at Birmingham Town Hall

Fri 14 Feb Year 3 'Clock on to Safety' concert at Symphony Hall

Friday 14 Feb 3.30 p.m. Break up for Half Term

Monday 24 Feb 8.55 a.m. School re-opens

Weds 26 Feb Irish Cultural Group working with Year 5 in school

Mon 3 Mar Irish Cultural Group working with Year 5 in school

Weds 5 Mar 9.05 a.m. Ash Wednesday Mass led by Year 5 - all welcome (infants will have a short service later in the morning to receive their ashes)



### A SEPARATE LETTER WILL BE SENT GIVING DETAILS OF ALL OUR LENTEN CHARITY ACTIVITIES

Fri 7 Mar Birmingham Primary Keyboard Concert at MAC Theatre

Sat 8 Mar 11 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation (First Confession) – Yr 3 at Our Lady of Fatima Church

Fri 14 Mar PTA St Patrick's Disco

Mon 17 Mar Feast of St Patrick - own clothes day (Green theme)

Weds 19 Mar Governing Body Meetings (6 pm Finance Committee, 6.45 Full GB)

Fri 21 Mar University of B'ham Think Tank Science visit (Years 4 & 5)

Tues 25 Mar Year 6 visit Hagley High School pm to see dress rehearsal of 'Joseph & his Amazing Technicolour Coat'

Wed 26 Mar Parents Consultation Meetings 3.45–6.45

Thurs 27 Mar 9.05 a.m. Reception Class Assembly - all welcome



Mon 31 Mar	Parents Consultation Meetings 3.45—6.45
Thurs 3 Apr	9.05 a.m. Year 1 Class Assembly - all welcome
Mon 7 Apr	Reconciliation Service and Confessions in school - Years 4—6
Wed 9 Apr	Lenten Toy Sale
Wed 9 Apr	Governing Body Meeting 6 pm
Thurs 10 Apr	Year 3 'Sharing a Meal' service & brunch
Thurs 10 Apr	7 p.m. Meeting for all Year 3 Parents of children receiving the Sacrament of the Eucharist in May
Fri 11 Apr	3.30 p.m. Last day of spring term—school closes for Easter Holiday



**Advance notification of some summer term dates** (*further dates to follow*):

Mon 28 Apr	8.55 a.m. start of summer term
Thurs 1 May	UK Maths Challenge
Mon 5 May	<b>School closed - Bank Holiday</b>
Sat 10 May	12 noon First Holy Communion Mass
Mon 12 May	Start of 'SATs' week for Year 6
Wed 14 May	6 p.m. GB Meeting
Fri 16 May	9.15 GB Curriculum Committee Meeting
Fri 16 May	PTA Sponsored Bounce
Sat 17 May	12 noon First Holy Communion Mass
Mon 19 May	May Procession 2 pm - all welcome
Fri 23 May	<b>Break up for half term</b>
Mon 2 Jun	<b>Children return to school</b>
Wed 4 Jun	Year 6 visit to St Chad's Cathedral
Thurs 5 Jun	9.05 a.m. Year 5 Class Assembly - all welcome



- Thurs 5 Jun 7 pm Meeting for all Year 6 Parents of Catholic children receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation
- Sun 8 Jun 12 noon Going Forth Mass at OLF Church
- Weds 11 Jun NSPCC Assembly Years 5 & 6
- Thurs 12 Jun 7 pm Year 5 Parents Meeting (Secondary Transition & Y6 Residential to Alton Castle Information Meeting.
- Sat 14 Jun Catholic Swimming Gala TBC
- Sun 15 Jun 10.30 Mass of Enrolment for Year 6 at OLF Church (Confirmation)
- Mon 16 Jun Teacher Day - school closed to pupils
- Weds 18 Jun NSPCC Workshops - Years 5 & 6
- Thurs 19 Jun 6.45 pm New Intake Meeting for Parents of children who will join the school in Reception Class, September 2014
- Thurs 26 Jun Year 5 'Technology' Day at St Paul's School, Edgbaston
- Fri 27 Jun 9.05 am Whole School Mass (of Illumination for Y6 Confirmation Preparation)
- Wed 2 Jul Transition Day
- Sat 5 Jul PTA Summer Fayre
- Tues 8 Jul Reception Class Sept 2014 2<sup>nd</sup> session in school (am or pm)
- Weds 9 Jul Governing Body Meetings (6 pm Finance Committee, 6.45 Full GB)
- Fri 18 Jul **End of academic school year - last day of term for children**



Children start new academic school year on Tuesday 2 September 2014



Month						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

There are more dates that need to be added for the summer term including sports day. Please check further newsletters for additional dates. Remember to visit the school website for information including copies of newsletters on [www.olfatima.bham.sch.uk](http://www.olfatima.bham.sch.uk)