



# Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Primary School



Newsletter — May 2014

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

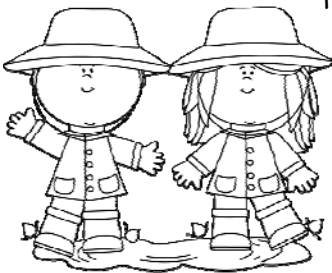
We welcome everyone into our community to live, love and learn together in the light and example of Jesus Christ



Welcome back after the Easter holiday break. I do hope that you had a restful and relaxing time and enjoyed some of the spring sunshine!

## Lenten Charity collections:

A huge thank you for supporting the children in collecting a magnificent £ 1716.63 for Father Hudson's Society and Birmingham Catholic Primary Partnership's Rwandan schools project. This is our best fundraising for many years.



The new term has started cold but it is lovely to see the signs of nature all around us. It is so easy, when the sky is blue and bright in the morning, to leave coats

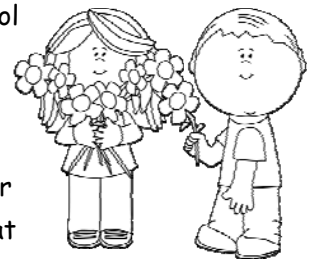
at home but please do ensure that your child brings a coat of some description with them every day. The weather is still very changeable. All children should bring a drinks bottle. We have water dispensers so that they can refill bottles during the day. School caps can be purchased from the school office.

**First Holy Communion:** Please remember the children in Year 3 who will shortly be receiving Holy Communion for the first time on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> May.

**Date for Confirmation:** we have been notified of the details for Year 6 Confirmation. We will be able to welcome our newly appointed Bishop - Robert Byrne to the parish on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July when he confers the sacrament at 7 p.m. There is a

lovely article about the Bishop in the recent edition of Catholic Today. There will be a separate letter to Year 6 parents regarding the arrangements for preparation meetings and services.

**May Procession:** as the school is dedicated to Mary, we love to celebrate the Month of May with a procession led by Year 3. The date this year is Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May starting at 2 p.m. and you are all welcome to join us,



weather permitting on the field (for safety only the Winchfield Gate will be open). We encourage the children to bring flowers on the day.

**New Intake arrangements:** A reminder that reply slips must be returned to the school as soon as possible but by 2 May at the latest. We already have a waiting list of 30 places for this new class so we appreciate a prompt response in order that other parents can be made aware of the situation.

**Academy updates:** the chair of governors, myself and Mrs van Vliet are regularly attending steering committee meetings with the relevant representatives from other schools. We are currently awaiting notification from the DfE whether our applications have been accepted. I will keep you updated.

**Academic Term Dates 2014-15:** are published on the school website: [www.olfatima.bham.sch.uk](http://www.olfatima.bham.sch.uk)

**School fund:** there is a slip attached to this newsletter for summer term school fund contributions of £ 3. Thank you to those families who have already sent their contributions into school.

**Summer uniform:** we do hope that the children will be able to enjoy our lovely grounds in the summer term and many switch to summer uniforms. Our uniform is listed on the school website. Please do ensure that we can maintain the high standards of presentation at our school by keeping to some basic uniform rules:

- Summer dresses if worn are light blue check or stripes.
- School shoes are important, not trainers. If girls wear sandals they need to be suitable for wearing to run on our lovely field.
- Boys and girls can wear a white polo shirt instead of shirt and tie.
- Don't forget you can buy uniform online at Tesco's as well as Clive Marks or the standard supermarkets.
- No fashion haircuts and avoid excessive accessories.
- School caps or hats available from office.

Thank you in anticipation of your support.

#### Alton Castle and secondary school options

A visit to Alton Castle has provisionally been arranged for 24<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> September. As this is a residential visit for next year's Year 6, we hold an information meeting for Year 5 parents. The meeting will take place on **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June at 7 p.m.** We also combine this meeting with a presentation about secondary transfer. We strongly urge all Year 5



parents to attend. If your child is currently in Year 4 you may also want to attend the first part of the meeting. Most of the secondary schools hold their Open Evenings in the autumn term and it can be a good idea to take your child along to these in Year 5 when you have more time to consider your options.

#### Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers

Thank you for your support in collecting these vouchers and bringing them into school.



**School Meals:** From April 28<sup>th</sup> prices are:

**1 day**                    **£ 2.05**

**1 week**                    **£ 10.25**

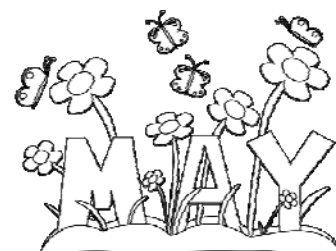
**Change in meal arrangements:** school staff try to be as flexible as possible when parents change meal arrangements but please remember that it is important to give a week's notice if your child is changing to school meals or vice versa. If your child has a Friday school meal please still remember to send your money into school on Monday.


If your child brings a packed lunch to school, please be very careful about which snack bars you include in their packed lunch. We now have quite a few children with food allergies including allergies to nuts. Some of these children require medication, including adrenalin 'epipens' if they come into contact with nuts / the food they are allergic to.

**Remaining Aston Villa tickets for the last match of the season available now from the school office.**

#### Diary Dates - updated May 2014:

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| Thurs 1 May | 9.05 a.m. Whole School Mass led by Y4 - all welcome |
| Thurs 1 May | UK Maths Challenge                                  |
| Thurs 1 May | Football Match v. Chad Vale (home)                  |

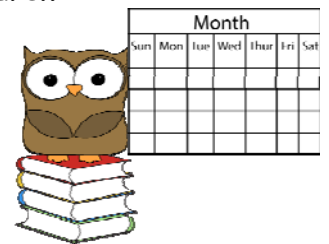


Mon 5 May	<b>School closed - Bank Holiday</b>	
Sat 10 May	12 noon First Holy Communion Mass	
Mon 12 May	Start of 'SATs' week for Year 6	
Wed 14 May	6 p.m. GB Meeting	
Fri 16 May	9.15 a.m. GB Curriculum Committee Meeting	
Fri 16 May	PTA Sponsored Bounce	
Sat 17 May	12 noon First Holy Communion Mass	
Mon 19 May	May Procession 2 p.m. - all welcome	
Wed 21 May	Hagley High School touring band	
Fri 23 May	<b>Break-up for half term</b>	
Mon 2 Jun	<b>Children return to school</b>	
Mon 2 Jun	Able writers - consortium schools	
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 on 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	
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 & 4 Parents Meeting (Secondary Transition & Y6 Residential to Alton Castle Information Meeting (September '14)	
Fri 13 Jun	Bear Creek Edgbaston Reservoir Physical Activity Day - all KS2 classes	
Sat 14 Jun	Catholic Swimming Gala	
Sun 15 Jun	10.30 a.m. Mass of Enrolment for Year 6 at OLF Church (Confirmation)	
Mon 16 Jun	<b>Teacher Day - school closed to pupils</b>	
Tues 17 Jun	School photographer	
Weds 18 Jun	NSPCC Workshops - Years 5 & 6	
Thurs 19 Jun	Year 2 Class Assembly 9.05 a.m. - all welcome	

- Thurs 19 Jun Year 3 visit to Sea-Life Centre
- Thurs 19 Jun 6.45 pm New Intake Meeting for Parents of children who will join the school in Reception Class, September 2014
- Tues 24 Jun Circus Skills workshop - all classes
- Thurs 26 Jun Year 5 'Technology' Day at St Paul's School, Edgbaston
- Thurs 26 Jun Year 4 Lordswood Sports Festival
- Fri 27 Jun 9.05 am Whole School Mass (of Illumination for Y6 Confirmation Preparation)
- Tues 1 Jul Bishop Robert Byrne visits school
- Wed 2 Jul Transition Day including new Reception intake  $\frac{1}{2}$  day visits
- Wed 2 Jul Sacrament of Confirmation at Our Lady of Fatima Church 7 p.m.
- Mon 7 Jul Sports Day starting at 1.45 p.m.
- Tues 8 Jul Reception Class Sept 2014 2<sup>nd</sup> session in school (am or pm)
- Weds 9 Jul End of school year Mass of Thanksgiving led by Y1 - 9.05 a.m. all welcome
- Weds 9 Jul Governing Body Meetings (6 pm Finance Committee, 6.45 Full GB)
- Fri 11 Jul Hagley High School Touring Band concert 9 a.m.
- Mon 14 Jul Retirement Mass (Mrs. Martin) 2 p.m.
- Thurs 17 Jul Year 6 Leavers assembly 9.05 a.m. all welcome
- 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**

Remember to visit the school website for information including copies of newsletters on [www.olfatima.bham.sch.uk](http://www.olfatima.bham.sch.uk)



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### SCHOOL FUND SUMMER 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.

Our Lady of Fatima School  
School Term Dates 2014/15

Autumn Term 2014	
Mon 1 September	(Teacher Training Day - School closed to pupils)
Tue 2 September	Start of Term - School opens
27 to 31 October	Half Term
Fri 19 December	End of Term - School closes for Christmas
Spring Term 2015	
Mon 5 January	Start of Term - School opens
16 to 20 February	Half Term
Fri 27 March	End of Term - School closes for Easter
Summer Term 2015	
Mon 13 April	Start of Term - School opens
Mon 4 May	May Day Bank Holiday
25 to 29 May	Half Term
Fri 17 July	End of Term - School closes for Summer
Mon 20 July	(Teacher Training Day - School closed to pupils)

Three further teacher training days are to be notified.