



Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Primary School



Newsletter — May 2014 (2)

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



Deputy Headteacher

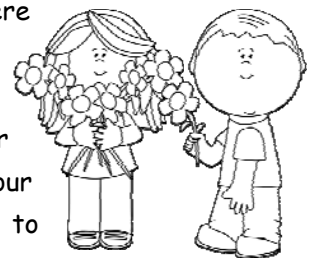
Appointment: I am very pleased to inform you, that following a detailed recruitment process culminating in interviews yesterday, Mr D. O'Connor has been appointed as Deputy

Headteacher from September. I know that he will offer very strong support to Mrs van Vliet and that their complementary strengths will lead the school to even greater successes in the future. Congratulations Mr O'Connor!

Academy Progress: We are making good progress with this venture and our Chair of Governors, Mrs van Vliet and I are meeting regularly with the other schools who will form the anticipated Multi-Academy Company (MAC). We have now received notification from the DfE that our application has been accepted. We have appointed a firm of lawyers as required by the Diocese to ensure that we receive the right legal support. The next step is for staff and union representatives/ professional associations to meet with school leaders and local authority representatives to ensure that their employment contracts are protected under the transfer. We have agreed that there will be no change to the school name or school uniform. There are no plans to expand the school or make any significant changes to the day to day operation of the school. Anyone who attended the parent consultation meeting or has read the consultation document will understand that the most significant change is in governance. If you are interested in applying to be one of the 'academy representatives' (who replace existing governors) please contact me to discuss this opportunity.

First Holy Communion: The last two weekends have been very joyful occasions for the families of our Year 3 children who received the Blessed Sacrament for the first time. I want to sincerely thank all of their parents and families for their wonderful support for their child's faith journey. My grateful thanks go also to the staff who have helped to prepare them so well and to Father Seamus and our visiting priest, Father Bideri. Of course, I am immensely proud of the children themselves who have shown great dignity, joy and respect throughout their time of preparation. We now look forward to the Going Forth Mass on Sunday 8th June at 12 noon followed by a celebration in the Parish Hall. The photographer will be in the parish hall from 10.45 a.m. for individual and family photographs. We welcome any volunteers who would like to help prepare the hall or serve teas and coffees. Please let the office staff or Mr Clinton know if you can assist.

May Procession: We were blessed with beautiful weather for the May Procession. Thank you for sending in flowers to honour Mary and it was so lovely to have so many family members join us for what is a very important faith tradition.



Date for Confirmation: It seems fitting that Father Robert Byrne was ordained Bishop on the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima! Let us pray both for him in his new ministry for our diocese and the children he will confirm on Wednesday 2nd July at 7 p.m. We welcome any volunteers who would like to help prepare the hall or serve teas and coffees.

Please let the office staff or Mr Clinton know if you can assist.

Football: Well done to our team who have had two magnificent home victories:

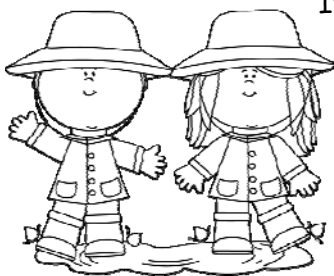
OLF 5 - Chad Vale 2

OLF 3 - Nonsuch 2

Bikeability: Congratulations to Year 5 pupils who achieved either Level 1 or Level 2 in Bikeability. As well as being excellent exercise, it is good for the children to learn about road safety awareness.

Walk to School Week: Thank you for supporting the children in either walking or walking part of the way to and from school. Again, as well as fitness, it is an ideal opportunity to develop road awareness skills.

PTA Sponsored Bounce: This event is always one that the children love participating in and thankfully we were able to bounce outside this year! If you have any sponsor money, please send it into school ASAP.



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.

Academic Term Dates 2014-15: Are published on the school website: 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: Most children have now transferred to the summer uniform. 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.

There are some very important evening meetings planned for three Thursdays in June:

5th June 7 p.m. Year 6 Confirmation Parent Meeting
At this meeting we will explain the complete programme of preparation so we urge all parents attend.

12th June 7 p.m. - Alton Castle and secondary school options



A visit to Alton Castle has provisionally been arranged for 24th - 26th 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 12th 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.

19th June 6.45 p.m. New Intake arrangements:
We welcome the parents of all the new children who will be joining the school in September in Reception Class.

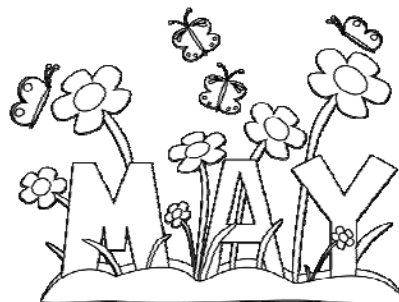
Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers Thank you for your support in collecting these vouchers and bringing them into school. They have now stopped

giving out vouchers so please search in handbags and pockets and send any remaining vouchers in to school.



Diary Dates - updated 20 May 2014:

Fri 23 May	Hagley High School touring band
Fri 23 May	Break-up for half term
Mon 2 Jun	Children return to school
Tue 3 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 nd 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 6pm Wyndley Pool
Sun 15 Jun	10.30 a.m. Mass of Enrolment for Year 6 at OLF Church (Confirmation)
Mon 16 Jun	Teacher Day - school closed to pupils
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

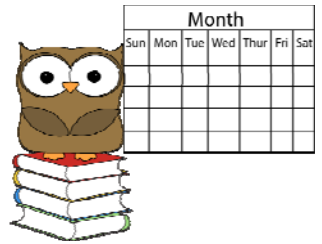


Reception Class, September 2014

- 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. (weather permitting)
- Tues 8 Jul Reception Class Sept 2014 2nd 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



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.