



Our Lady of Fatima Primary School

Newsletter — November 2014

'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

November's value is **kindness**. An act of kindness, no matter how small is never wasted. Kindness has no boundaries, so let us all try to reach out to those close to us and those further away.

Harvest Celebration Service

Thank you for your generosity and kindness in supporting the Harvest Celebration. We had a fantastic turnout of parents and families at the service, tremendous support for the Fireside Centre with food and toiletries and an amazing £319 was raised for CAFOD.



Operation Christmas Child

Thank you very much if you have already sent in your Christmas Parcel for 'Operation Christmas Child'. The boxes will be collected early on **Friday 21st November** so if you would like to create a gift parcel with your child please send it in to school by **Wednesday 19th November**. All the children brought home labels for the Christmas boxes, but should you have



misplaced it or you require another one please contact the school office to request another one. There is a two page worksheet attached to this newsletter that can be coloured in / completed by



your child and inserted into the box if they would like to communicate with the recipient of the box! Please remember to insert £3.00 inside the box to cover the cost of postage overseas. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

School Admissions September 2015

Applications for Reception in September 2015 should be made to the local authority where the parent and child live by 3rd December 2014. All applications should be acknowledged. If you have a sibling starting next September remember that you also need to submit a supplementary form (available from school office / website) to the school with a copy of their baptismal certificate.

Extreme Weather Conditions

Just a reminder about school closures in extreme weather conditions. We will still use the system of informing parents via the local radio stations, school website and the SMS text messaging system so please do let us know if you have changed your mobile number.



Year 3 Sacramental Preparation Meeting

There will be an important meeting for Year 3 parents on **Thursday 20th November** at 7 p.m. We would like all parents to attend. At this meeting parents will be asked to indicate a preferred date, either 9th or 16th May 2015 for First Holy Communion.



Book Week

We are having a very successful 'Book Week' with lots of exciting activities taking place. Years 5 and 6 went on public transport to the Repertory Theatre and the new Library of Birmingham last Friday. On Wednesday Dan Callow will lead musical workshops centred around the theme of Justice and Peace. On Thursday Year 2 will lead a special class assembly with a 'book theme' and on Friday all children (and grown-ups!) are invited to dress up to conclude the week of celebration. As our whole school creative curriculum theme this half term is 'Memories' children can dress up in costumes around the 'World War' theme. There is no charge for this 'own clothes day'. The school Book Fair is open from **Monday 10th-Thursday 13th November from 3.30- 4.15 pm.** We are also extending a warm welcome to you if you are free to come into school from 3.00-3.25 pm on Monday 10th (*Reception and Year 1 parents only*) and on Tuesday 11th and Thursday 13th for all parents including Reception and Year 1 parents. This is a lovely opportunity for you to read/share books with your child(ren) and to promote the importance of finding time to read during our very busy lives.



Crossing Patrol Warden

We still do not have a Crossing Patrol Warden for the Hagley Road by school. Should you know anyone who might be interested in this position, they can contact Maureen Reilly at Birmingham City Council (0121 303 7719).



Parking

Please remember to park with consideration on the roads surrounding the school so that local residents can gain access to their own properties. **Parents should never park on any zig zag lines.** On Fridays the coaches that transport the children back from their swimming lesson arrive back to school at 3.20 p.m. It is imperative that your children's safety is not in any way compromised by inconsiderate parking. Please consider arriving a few minutes early so that you have time to park safely and legally.



PTA Firework Disco

There was a very good turnout for the Firework Disco last Friday, and a real family / community atmosphere, despite the inclement weather. Thank you to all the PTA members who worked so hard to make it a most enjoyable occasion, to the fantastic team who set up the firework display and to the staff who supported the event especially Mr Rollason for ensuring the safety of the school site.



Dates for the Diary are attached for this term, please check any that are relevant to you or your child, especially with Christmas Nativity Plays, Carol Services and Masses. Remember the school

website is a useful way of checking for updates. Sometimes you will need to press the 'refresh' button to get the most up to date information.

Inspire Workshops

There has been a fantastic turnout for the 'Inspire eSafety Workshops' and we have two more this term: Year 2 on Tuesday 18th November and Year 4 on Tuesday 25th November. We value your feedback and so far it has overwhelmingly indicated that parents find these sessions very useful. Most of all, the children love the time they get to spend with you! Thank you for your support.

Collection Arrangements

For safety reasons we 'hand out' the children to parents/relatives/childminders at the end of the school day. If there is a change in circumstances please write to your child's class teacher, so that they are aware of the new arrangements. For safety reasons children will be brought into the hall to wait if the person who collects them is not on the playground at 3.30pm.

School Fund - Have you sent in your school fund this term?

We use the school fund to supplement lots of small items and some bigger ones, for example the theatre group visits like the one in December. Please can I ask all families to make their £ 5.00 contribution as soon as possible? We keep a record of all amounts that come in to the office so if you are not sure if you have already contributed please ask. Thank you.

Our Lady of Fatima Church Services

Sunday 23rd November is the Feast of 'Christ the King', which marks the end of the liturgical year. The 10.30 a.m. Mass on this day will be a special Mass for Year 3 children and their families. It is wonderful to see so many of our children regularly in attendance at Mass.

May I also draw your attention to the new Mass times. Starting from **Sunday 30th November** (the first week of Advent) there will only be two Sunday Masses at Our Lady of Fatima Church. These will be **9.00 am** and the **11.00 am** Mass, which will be the Family Mass, with the children's Liturgy led by Mrs Hooper. The Saturday evening Mass will remain at 6.00pm.


ADVANCE NOTICE

The Parish Bazaar takes place on Saturday 6th December in the parish hall, Higgins Lane starting at 11.30 am- 2.30 pm. This is an important fundraiser for the Parish.

There is a fancy dress for children, an important visitor (in red) will be there and there is the opportunity to capture the moment with a photograph. We have some books of raffle tickets (£5 per book) in the school office if you would like some.

Attendance

Congratulations to our newest children in Reception Class for winning the Attendance cup for last half term. As you can see the percentages were so close with a whole school overall percentage of **98.1%**. Well done everyone!

Year Group	% attendance
Reception Class	98.7 
Year 1	98.0
Year 2	98.4

Year 3	98.5
Year 4	98.2
Year 5	97.1
Year 6	97.8

Polite Reminders

As the colder, wet weather looms children are asked to come to school with waterproof coats, hats, scarves, gloves, wellies- all to ensure that they are well wrapped up. Our cloakrooms and lockers are tightly spaced for this additional clothing and footwear. All children are encouraged to bring a book bag only to school and this is an

adequate size for keeping their reading books, homework books and any correspondence inside.

Therefore big bags/back packs are not required. They usually end up on the floor and then this can become dangerous as the straps can be a tripping hazard.

A number of pupils have recently been forgetting to bring their swimming kit to school. Years 5 and 6 have swimming lessons this half term and these lessons always take place on a Friday. Please encourage your child to be pro-active in organising the packing of their swimming kit and then remembering to bring it into school ready for their lesson. Thank you.

Diary Dates - November 2014: Further dates will be added as available

November Dedicated Month for Holy Souls

Fri 7 Yrs 5 & 6 visit Birmingham Rep and the new Library in Birmingham

Fri 7 PTA Fireworks



Mon 10 **START OF BOOK WEEK:** Book Fair open 3.30-4.15 pm Mon-Thurs only

Wed 12 Dan Callow -One Life Music to lead workshops

Thurs 13 Year 2 Class assembly - 9.05 a.m. all welcome

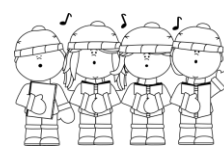
Fri 14 Non Uniform day- End of Book Week

Tues 18 Year 2 Inspire Workshop 9.10 a.m.

Tues 18 Able Writers' Day at Harborne Primary School

Tues 18 Year 4 visit Woodgate Valley (a.m)

- Wed 19** Please return all Christmas boxes for Operation Christmas Child.
- Thurs 20** Year 3 Parent Meeting for anyone whose child will be receiving the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion in the school hall 7 p.m.
- Fri 21** Collection of Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes
- Sun 23** Year 3 'Listening' Mass in Our Lady of Fatima Church 10.30 a.m.
(This is also the Feast of Christ the King)
- Tues 25** Year 4 Inspire Workshop 9.10 a.m.
- Sun 30** Changes to Sunday Mass times at Our Lady of Fatima Church
9.00 am and 11.00am (Family Mass with Liturgy led by Mrs Hooper)
- December** Advent starts Sunday 30 November - 4 Sundays of Advent
- Wed 3** Last day for Reception applications for Sept 2015 to B'ham LA
- Wed 3** Finance and Full Academy Committee Meeting 6 pm
- Thurs 4** Year 3 visit to Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery- Staffordshire Hoard
- Fri 5** Whole School Mass Feast of St Nicholas (led by Year 3) 9.05 a.m. All welcome.
- Sat 6** Parish Christmas Fayre starting at 11.30 am. ALL WELCOME.
- Thurs 11** Infant Nativity 9.15 a.m. and 2.15 p.m.
- Fri 12** Christmas jumper day -£1.00 donation to 'Save the Children Fund'
All donations will be matched by government funding.
- Mon 15** Junior Carol Service 2.15 p.m.
- Tues 16** Christmas Class Parties (afternoon)
- Thurs 18** Christmas Lunch
- Wed 17** Christmas Pantomime- The Wizard of Oz
- Fri 19** Break-up for Christmas Holiday 3.30 p.m.



Back to school on **Monday 5th January 2015** - School opens for pupils 8.45 a.m.



All about me!

This is what I look like



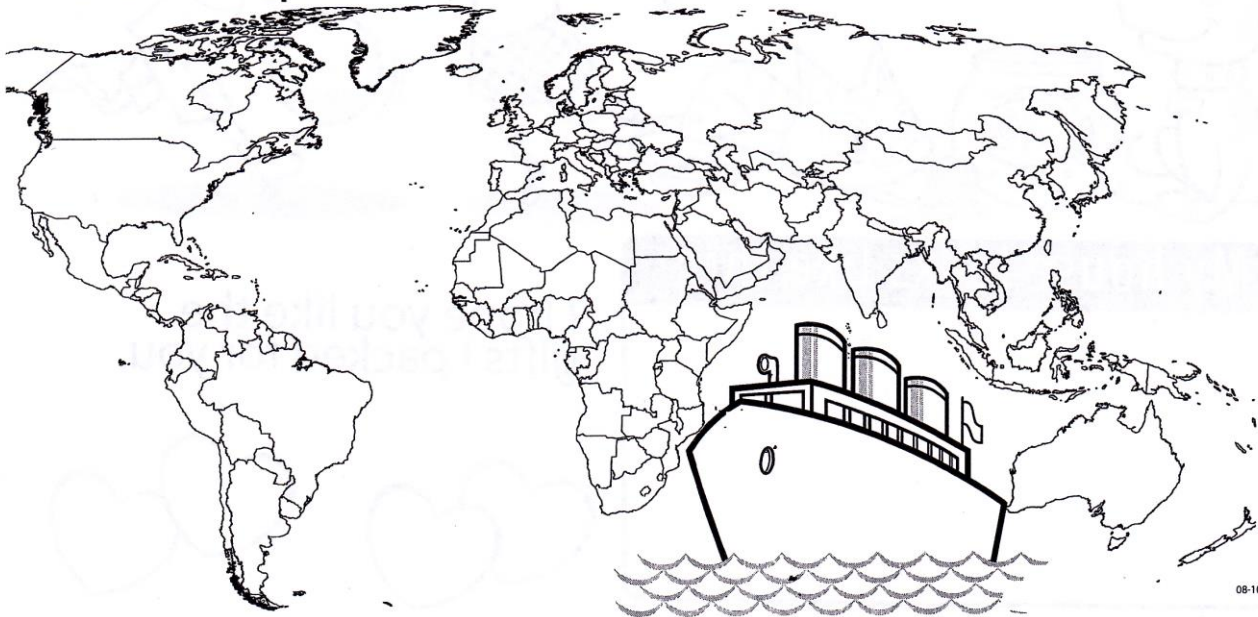
I live in the town of _____

Hi! I would like to introduce myself to you.

My name is _____ and I am very glad to meet you. I am _____ years old. This is a map of my country - the United Kingdom. I coloured the county where I live. My shoe box has taken a fantastic journey to find you!



Here is a map of our world. I coloured the country where I live.





There are lots of things I like.



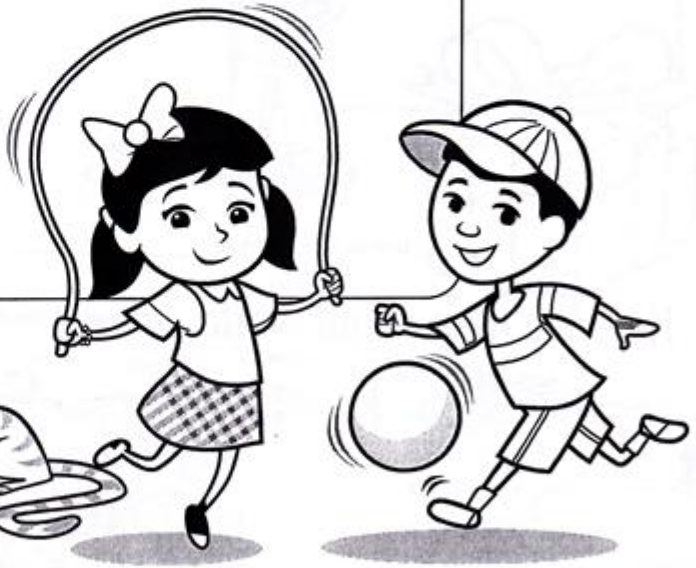
My Favourite:

drink is _____
colour is _____
food is _____
animal is _____
toy is _____

When I have free time,
I like to _____

At school, I like to _____

In my family, I have
_____ brothers
_____ sisters
_____ pets



My house looks like this

I hope you like the gifts I packed for you.

