



Our Lady of Fatima Primary School

Newsletter October 2016

'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

'Curious and Active'

Pupils at Our Lady of Fatima School aim to be **curious** about everything and **active** in their engagement with the world; changing what they can for the better.



October is the month of the Rosary. Our school name is dedicated in honour of Our Lady. Please spend time with your child sharing prayers from their class Prayer Book and praying the Rosary in your home as a family.



On Thursday we will officially welcome our new Reception Class to Our Lady of Fatima School family during a special Blessing Service. It will undoubtedly be an uplifting, prayerful occasion. Thank you to our new and existing parents from Reception Class for allowing us the privilege of nurturing and educating your children through their primary years. Please remember our new children and their families in your prayers.

Serving Christ in the Community

I would like to thank the children who regularly read at the 11.00 am Mass on Sundays at Our Lady of Fatima Church. Please encourage your child to



volunteer to read at the Children's Mass. Thank you also to our regular Altar Servers who assist Father Craig during Masses. Mrs McGuinness is currently training several of our Junior children to become Altar Servers. This is a wonderful way of serving the school and church community.

Religious Inspection

We ask that you keep the whole school community in your prayers as we prepare for the Archdiocesan Inspection of Religious Education. Thank you.

Harvest Celebration Service

We look forward to welcoming everyone to our Harvest Celebration Service in school on:



Monday 10th October 2015 at 9.05 am

This year's theme for our Harvest Service is taken from Laudato Si from Pope Francis - looking after our world's resources and not wasting them. Once again we will be supporting the **Fireside Centre** - a Birmingham charity for the homeless. We ask for donations of non-perishable foods and toiletries.

These should be brought into school **as soon as possible**. Charitable donations are truly recognised as a way the children can show kind acts of helping their neighbour through the Corporal Works of Mercy.



We also like to support our global family and we do this by making a donation to the charity **CAFOD**.

This year we are asking parents to make a **coin donation** at the end of the service. Peter McCann, a representative from CAFOD will be attending our Harvest Service and will talk to the children about how their donations really do make a difference, especially with the current refugee crisis. We are therefore not only asking for your compassion and prayers, but also your generosity. Thank you.

The annual staff 'Bake Off' will take place after half term. All proceeds will go towards CAFOD. The pressure is on for the staff to practise their baking skills during the half term holidays.

OCTOBER INSPIRE WORKSHOPS



Year 5 has already enjoyed their workshop with their parents. They shared different ways of calculating, extending their thinking skills. Thank you to the Year 5 parents for the most positive feedback we received. Year 2 will be working alongside their parents sharing their Maths skills on Tuesday 18th October at 9.10 am.

Reception Class parents are invited to a meeting on Thursday 20th October at 2.15 pm where Mrs Lake will share tips and ideas for making learning to read fun.

Parents' Evenings

Thank you to all parents who attended the recent Parents' Evening. These 'meet and greet' meetings are so important so that you can be reassured of how well your child has settled into their new class. Please send in any outstanding annual Data Collection forms so that our records are up to date.

Open Morning

Our Open Morning for prospective parents here at Our Lady of Fatima School is on Wednesday 2nd November 9.30 - 11.30 a.m. If you are intending to apply for a place for your child, please provide the school office with your child's Baptismal Certificate by the end of term. Please remember to also complete the Local Authority form

Open Day

Hagley RC High School has asked us to remind parents in Years 5 and 6 that they will be holding their annual Open Day on

Saturday 15th October

9.00 am to 12.00 pm.

There will be demonstrations, performances and displays which reflect the range of opportunities offered at Hagley Catholic High School. A tour of the school is likely to take approximately 2 hours so it is advisable for visitors to arrive between 9:00am and 10:00 am.

Operation Christmas Child

I am aware that it is only October and we do try not to think about Christmas until at least after half term, but planning ahead I will be sending out our annual 'Operation Christmas Child' slips before we break up. The team that collect the shoe boxes will collect them during



November. It is a lovely activity for the children to engage in during the half term break. Further details to follow.

Advance Notice:

On Wednesday 2nd November it is National Roast Dinner Day. If your child is in KS1 and usually has a packed lunch, please let the office staff know if your child would like a roast dinner. If your child is in KS2, usually has a packed lunch but would like a roast dinner on this day, please send in £2.15 in a labelled envelope.



School Nurse Drop In Clinic

Sophina Khan, our school nurse, will be available in school every fortnight on Tuesday mornings from 9.00- 11.00 am. Her next visit will be on 11th October. She will be able to offer advice and support with any medical issues or other concerns such as dietary requirements. She will also be meeting with pupils who have medical conditions such as asthma, to help to support them in their understanding and use of administering their inhalers independently. Should you have any concerns about this, please contact the school office.

Sports' News



We are delighted to announce that Our Lady of Fatima School was awarded a Bronze School Games Mark for the academic year 2015-16 for our commitment, engagement and delivery of competitive school sport.

Already this term children from Year 4 have represented the school as part of the School Games initiative in football, with both teams finishing fourth in their mini-leagues. Later in the term Years 5 and 6 will be the school's first competitive representatives in basketball. These

children have been enjoying learning about the sports improving their skills after school with Matthew.

We are also grateful to welcome back Ryan Howard, who is delivering FA Skills coaching to Years 2 and 3; Aston Villa coach Simon, who is coaching Year 3 and 4 after school; and tennis coach Simon, who is working with Years 1 and 4.

School Admissions September 2017

Secondary School closing date: Monday 31st October 2016 (Birmingham).

Year 3 Sacramental Preparation

Advance Notice: There will be a meeting for Year 3 parents on Thursday 17th November at 7 p.m. All parents should attend. The dates for sacramental preparation have already been issued and can also be found on the school's website. On 17th November parents will be asked to opt for one of the two dates in May 2017 for First Holy Communion.

POLITE REMINDER

For safety reasons may I remind parents once again to park with due care and consideration on the surrounding roads to school. We try to maintain good relationships with the local residents; however, there are still a few adults who park illegally on nearby roads. We prefer appointments to be made out of school hours but should there be a need to collect your child, the school car park must NOT be used during the school day. Thank you for your co-operation.

PTA News

Many thanks to all the parents and pupils who

attended the first PTA event of the year-the Welcome Disco. We managed to improvise with the



music and the BBQ was extremely popular and will be a regular feature of PTA events this year. The night raised almost £700, so thanks again to everyone who supported the event!

Last year the PTA donated an amazing £6,428 to the school to support a range of purchases and activities - these ranged from brand new iPads, outdoor play equipment for Reception class and funds to ensure each year group had a class trip at an affordable cost for parents.

This year we plan to support the Forest School being developed, class trips and events, persuade Father Christmas to visit, and much more. None of this would be possible without your generous support and the work of the volunteers who give their time and energy to planning and running events. We always need more helpers, and recognise that not everyone can make evening meetings, or want to be involved in every event. Even if you can only help out at one event over the year, this would still help us - please contact us at olfpta@gmail.com

We would like to extend a special thanks to Vicky Ford, who has now stepped down from the PTA as treasurer; she will be missed.

Our next events are the cake sale after school on 21st October and our fantastic Firework Disco on 4th November at 6.30 pm. Thank you as always for your generous support.



Half Term Holiday Camp Activities

'Premier Education Group' will be bringing a special Harry Potter theme for this October half term's holiday camps including a wide range of activities. The Multi Activity camp will consist of sports and team activities and our Performing Arts camp will have children making props, acting plus more ready for the end of camp performance. Book online at www.premier-education.com or for more information call the Camp Hotline on 07756846987.

October	(Month of the Rosary)
Tues 4 Oct	Feast of St Francis- Non-uniform day for Year 1 ONLY
Wed 5 Oct	SNOMAC Years 4 and 5 basketball at OLF
Wed 5 Oct	Parents' Evening 4pm-7pm <u>Parents only for all appointments</u> - please make arrangements for your child/ren to be supervised at home.
Thurs 6 Oct	9.05 am Reception Class' Welcome and Blessing Service
Fri 7 Oct	Year 5 celebrating St Teresa of Calcutta as the founder member of the order of the Missionaries of Charity: non-uniform day for Year 5 ONLY
Sun 9 Oct	Year 5 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Mon 10-Tues 11 Oct	RE Inspection
Mon 10 Oct	9.05 am Harvest Service led by Year 5

Wed 12 Oct	6 pm OLOF ARC meeting
Thurs 13 Oct	Teacher Day (2) School closed to pupils
Fri 14 Oct	Teacher Day (3) School closed to pupils
Sun 16 Oct	Year 4 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Mon 17 Oct	Black History Week
Tues 18 Oct	9.10 am Yr 2 Inspire Workshop
Wed 19 Oct	Year 6 Door of Mercy Pilgrimage Retreat Day at St Chad's
Wed 19 Oct	SNOMAC Cross Country Years 3, 4 and 5 at Hagley
Thurs 20 Oct	2.15 pm Rec Class Learning to read workshop
Fri 21 Oct	3.30 pm PTA Cake Sale
	HALF TERM
Mon 31 Oct	Feast of St Jude (28 October). Non uniform day for Year 4 ONLY
Mon 31 Oct	9.40 am Yr 1,2,3 anti flu treatment
November	Dedicated Month for Holy Souls
Wed 2 Nov	9.30- 11.30 am Open Morning
Fri 4 Nov	6.30 pm PTA Firework Disco
Sun 6 Nov	Year 6 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Mon 7 Nov	Book Week starts
Mon 7 Nov	6 pm MAC Full Board meeting
Thurs 10 Nov	9.05 am Year 4's Assembly
Fri 11 Nov	SNOMAC KS1 Multi Skills
Fri 11 Nov	11.00 am Observe 2 mins silence
Sun 13 Nov	Year 5 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Tues 15 Nov	9.10 am Year 4 Inspire Workshop
Thurs 17 Nov	7 pm FHC Meeting in school hall
Sun 20 Nov	11.00 am in church Year 3 Listening Mass
Tues 22 Nov	9.10 am Year 1 Inspire workshop
Sun 27 Nov	Advent begins
Sun 27 Nov	Year 4 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Wed 30 Nov	SNOMAC KS1 Multi Skills

December

Thurs 1 Dec	Years 5 and 6 after school Basketball at Shenley
Sun 4 Dec	Year 6 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Mon 5 Dec	6 pm Full MAC Board Meeting
Tues 6 Dec	9.05 am St Nicholas Feast Day Mass Year 3
Wed 7 Dec	6 pm OLOF ARC Meeting
Sun 11 Dec	Year 5 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Mon 12 Dec	9.15 am and 2.15 pm Infant Nativity
Thurs 15 Dec	9.15 am Carol Service
Thurs 15 Dec	Christmas lunch
Thurs 15 Dec	PTA Disco in church hall
Fri 16 Dec	PTA Film night
Sun 18 Dec	Year 4 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Mon 19 Dec	Christmas Panto, parties and Santa's visit
Tues 20 Dec	Christmas Jumper Day

Break-up for Christmas Holiday 3.30 p.m.

Pupils back to school on **Wednesday 4th January 2017** - School opens for pupils **8.45 a.m.**

Thank you to those families who have already contributed to the Autumn Term's School Fund. Your £5.00 termly family donation enables us to buy additional resources for your children. Please consider contributing if you haven't already done so.



.....
SCHOOL FUND AUTUMN TERM 2016

I attach my family contribution of £5 / other £ _____ for the Autumn Term 2016.

Eldest child in school _____ Class _____ .

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

Please make cheque payable to SNOMAC.

Received in school by _____ Thank you for your support.