



Our Lady of Fatima Primary School

Newsletter — May 2017

'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

'Compassionate and Loving'.

Pupils at Our Lady of Fatima School aim to be **compassionate** towards others, near and far, especially the less fortunate; and **loving** by just actions and forgiving words.

Our Journey from Lent to Easter to Pentecost



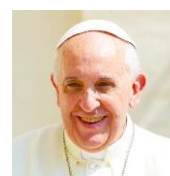
Easter is a very important time in the church's liturgical year and during Lent the children prepared themselves very well for this great Feast by remembering the three

important aspects of Lent: **Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving**. During the last week of the Spring Term our preparations included: praying the Stations of the Cross during a whole school assembly led by Year 6, a Service of Reconciliation with individual Confessions for Years 3—6 and Year 3's thought provoking 'Sharing a Meal' service. The most generous almsgiving of donations for our Lenten appeals has so far raised the magnificent amount of **£1061** which is to be shared between our chosen charities—Father Hudson's Society and the Catholic Primary Partnership's Rwanda Schools Appeal. This total is *without* the Good Shepherd boxes donations. I will inform you of the total Lenten funds raised in June's newsletter. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all pupils and their families for their generosity. Practical tasks,

together with prayer, mean so much to others as huge rewards of satisfaction and spiritual growth are received. This half term the children will be discovering more about the liturgical feast of Pentecost when we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit, marking the birthday of the church.

Pope Francis' Easter Message

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis urged us to think about others during his Easter message. He asked us to pray for those who are hungry, yet aggravated by conflicts and the immense wastefulness in the world. He urged us to protect the vulnerable and those suffering from diseases spread through neglect and dire poverty; prayers were also asked for the many priests and laity, who have been kidnapped in various parts of the world, as well as those who have left their own lands to migrate to places offering hope for a better future. Let us remember our global family in our prayers.



May- The month of the Rosary

During May we are encouraged to pray the Rosary in honour of Mary.

It is a simple but powerful prayer

to God, through His mother Mary. As it is a combination of vocal and mental prayer, saying the Rosary as a family can be so rewarding. Whilst reciting the Our Father, ten Hail Marys and a Glory Be, we can reflect on the life of Jesus.



There are some rosary beads in the class prayer bags, so if your child brings the prayer bag home during May, please support your child when saying the Rosary.

Year 3- First Holy Communion



Please remember in your prayers, the children in Year 3 who will be receiving the Sacrament of Holy Communion for the first time on Saturday 6th and 13th May.

May Procession



As the school is dedicated to Mary, Our Lady of Fatima, we enjoy celebrating the month of May with a procession led by Year 3. This will take place on **15th May at 2.15 pm** and you are all most welcome to join us, weather permitting on the field. Year 3 will have another opportunity to wear their Holy Communion outfits as they honour Mary in the procession. For safety reasons only the main Winchfield Drive gate will be open. We encourage all children to bring flowers on the day and during the procession each child will have an opportunity to lay flowers by Mary's


statue. This is always a lovely, memorable occasion and is even more special this year as we celebrate our 50th anniversary since the school opened.

Parents' Evening

We had excellent **99.5% attendance** at the mid-year consultation meetings. This was an important opportunity for you as parents to gain an update about your child's progress and well-being. Thank you for the support that you offer; by working in partnership we ensure that we offer each child the very best education, personalised to their needs. Thank you also for taking the time to complete the parent survey. You can find collective results of this survey shortly on our website: www.olfatima.bham.sch.uk along with many other events that took place during the Spring term.

Attendance

Congratulations to **Year 2** for winning the Attendance Cup. Given the illness that can occur during the winter months, the class percentages were remarkably good, with an overall percentage of **97.2%**, which is still well above the national average of 96.1%. Well done everyone!

Year Group	% attendance
Year 2	97.7 
Year 3	97.5
Year 5	97.4
Reception and Year 6	97.2
Year 4	97.1
Year 1	96.4

Our Lady of Fatima School's 50th Anniversary



Our school opened 50 years ago in 1967. This is a wonderful occasion for us to celebrate the memories and successes shared over the many years. Would you like to take part in a Memories Project to help us commemorate this big event? If you are a past or present parent, staff member, pupil or friend of the school, have you a memory that you would like to share? We are hoping to gather 50 stories from 1967 to the present day. If you would like to take part, please send your contributions to school in an envelope marked "50 Memories" or email to 50memories@olfatima.bham.sch.uk If any parents know of any past pupils, teachers or indeed anyone connected to the school, please share with them that there will be an Open Evening on **Tuesday 11th July from 5-8 pm**. Everyone is welcome and it would be lovely to see as many of you there as possible. More details will follow.

School Meals

There has been a slight increase (10p) in the price of school meals. From 24th April 2017 prices will be:

1 day	£ 2.25
1 week	£ 11.25



American Themed Meal



On Thursday 18th May children who currently bring a packed lunch will be able to purchase a school meal with an American theme. Hot dogs, chocolate brownies and milkshakes always prove very popular. If your child would like a school meal on this day please send in £2.25 in an envelope

clearly labelled 'American Meal' by Monday 15th May. (KS1 pupils who currently bring a packed lunch but would like a cooked lunch on this day need to inform the office- no payment required).

Academic Term Dates 2017-18 including Teacher

Inset Days are published on the school website:

www.olfatima.bham.sch.uk

School Fund

We are grateful to those



families who have donated £5

each term towards extras to supplement your child's education. Your donations have contributed towards many activities. If you feel you could contribute during the Summer term, please send in your contribution with the slip at the end of this newsletter. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Walk to School Week



From the 15th - 19th May it is 'Walk to School Week'. This is a time when we encourage children (and their parents) to walk part of the way or all of the way to school, depending on their home location. In support of 'Walking to School Week', we have organised an 'Informal Walking Bus' which will leave from the **Toby Carvery at 8.10 a.m promptly each day**. This has proved very popular over the last few years with increased numbers walking to school each day. Walking part of the way to school will promote a healthier lifestyle, whilst also encouraging social communication and enjoyment. It would certainly help towards our on-going parking issues by reducing congestion by the surrounding

roads to school. The children will also learn about road safety and its importance. If you and your child/ren would like to join the 'Walking Bus', please feel free to do so. You will be totally responsible for your child, even though staff members may be present.

Health for Life



For the second year running, Our Lady of Fatima School has entered the *Meal in a*

Barrow competition which will be displayed during the BBC Gardeners World Exhibition at the NEC between the 15th and 18th June 2017. The recipe used for our entry will be an anniversary salad with some gold and yellow colours to reflect this event. Crops that are being grown in school at the moment by classes and the Before and After School Club will be used to fill our barrow. We will pass on more details about the event as we get them, including some free tickets!

PTA News

The PTA would like to thank all families who have supported events so far this year. Every entrance fee, raffle ticket, food item that has been bought raises funds for the school and for your children. Please support forthcoming event:

Sponsored Bounce and Cake Sale on Friday 26th May.



Weather permitting the bouncy castle will be outside. More details will follow via the PTA. The children (and staff!) all enjoy this event.

It is a really great way of raising funds for the school. This will be followed by a cake sale at 3.30 pm.



Advance notice: Summer Fayre: Saturday 8th July 12-4pm

Preparations for our 50th Anniversary themed Summer Fayre are underway. Please keep the date available in your diary and support the PTA. Over the next few weeks the PTA will be sending out flyers to promote various stalls. Please contact Mrs Rouse (parent of Emily in Year 4), Chair of the PTA if you can help out on the day. For the fayre to be successful we need lots of volunteers and support on the day.

Alton Castle and Secondary School Transfer

A visit to Alton Castle has provisionally been arranged for 20th - 22nd September 2017. As this is a residential visit for next year's Year 6, we hold an information meeting for the current Year 5 parents. The meeting will take place on **Thursday 8th 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 Years 4 and 5 when you have more time to consider your options.



Summer Uniform

At the beginning of the summer term, we encourage pupils to start to wear summer uniform, now that the warmer weather is on its way. Our uniform is listed on the school website. Please ensure that the high standards of presentation at our school are maintained by keeping to some basic uniform

rules:

- Summer dresses if worn are light blue check or stripes.
- Grey shorts or trousers for the boys.
- School shoes are important, not trainers. These must be suitable for wearing to run on our lovely field.
- Boys and girls may wear a white school polo shirt instead of shirt and tie.
- You can buy uniform online at Tesco's as well as Clive Marks or standard supermarkets.
- **Please avoid fashion haircuts or excessive multi coloured hair accessories.** Children can be quite persuasive but they do know and understand the school rules about haircuts.
- Blue school caps or hats are available from office. No fashion caps are to be worn as these are not part of our school uniform.
- **School sun hats** are available from the office.
Baseball cap: £3.50
Girls' sun hat: £5.00
Legionnaire cap: £2.75

Parking



Our Police Community Officers have informed me

that they will be carrying out unannounced 'spot checking' of parking near schools in the area to ensure that cars are parked legally and considerately. On the spot parking tickets will be issued if cars are not parked legally or are causing obstructions to private properties or the bus lane on the Hagley Road. As we have three entrances to our school, all areas will be checked.

Towards the end of the Spring term complaints from local residents living in houses on and nearby Spreadbury Close, Hunstanton Avenue, Sheepmore Close and Minley Avenue were received that our



pupils were running across privately owned gardens. Once you your children have been collected from school, please keep them close by you to avoid these incidents occurring. Thank you for your co-operation.

The School Nurse is available on Tuesdays from 8.30-10.00 am should you wish to discuss any health issues or concerns with her. Appointments can be made via the school office or you can just 'drop in' to meet with her. Dates of her visits are listed below.

Diary Dates for May-July 2017- more dates may be added

Wed 3 May	Our Lady of Fatima Parish dedicated day to pray for Vocations
Wed 3 May	Year 4 History Hunt at the Town Hall
Fri 5 May	SNOMAC Basketball Year 5 St Joseph's v OLF pm
Sat 6 May	Year 3 First Holy Communion Mass at 12.00 noon in Church (first date)

Sun 7 May	Year 5 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Mon 8 May	Year 6 SATs Week
Wed 10 May	Years 4 Change4Life at Shenley Academy pm
Sat 13 May	Our Lady of Fatima's Feast Day
Sat 13 May	Year 3 First Holy Communion Mass at 12.00 noon in Church (second date)
Sun 14 May	Year 4 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Mon 15 May	WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK: (Leaving Toby Carvery at 8.10 am)
Mon 15 May	May Procession at 2.15 pm in school
Tues 16 May	Years 5 and 6 tag rugby at Shenley Academy 3.30- 5.30 pm
Thurs 18 May	Fun themed school meal day
Sun 21 May	Year 6 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Mon 22 May	Year 1- Farm trip to Mount Pleasant
Mon 22 May	Year 5 Able Writers' workshop at Harborne Primary
Tues 23 May	Years 3 and 5 Birmingham Open Top Bus trip
Tues 23 May	School nurse 8.30-10.00 am
Tues 23 May	Years 5 and 6 netball competition at Shenley Academy 3.30-5.30 pm
Wed 24 May	Year 2 visit Lightwoods Park pm
Wed 24 May	Academy Committee Meeting 6 pm
Wed 24 May	SNOMAC Years 3 and 4 Athletics pm
Thurs 25 May	Hagley Mass Band a/m
Fri 26 May	PTA Sponsored Bounce and cake sale pm
Fri 26 May	Break up for Half Term
Mon 5 June	School Re-opens 8.45 am
Mon 5 June	Bikeability Week for Year 5 pupils
Wed 7 June	Reception Class and Year 6 class photos
Wed 7 June	Years 3, 4/ Years 5, 6 Mini red tennis at Shenley Academy pm
Thurs 8 June	Malachi workshops Years 3 and 6 pm
Thurs 8 June	Year 5 Transition and Alton Castle Meeting at 7.00 pm in school
Fri 9 June	SNOMAC Year 6 Athletics OLF v St Joseph's
Sat 10 June	OLOF 50 th Anniversary Exhibition at John Lewis opens

Sun 11 June	Going Forth Mass at 11.00 a.m at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Mon 12 June	Teacher Training Day- School closed to all pupils
Tues 13 June	Year 1 Phonic Screening checks begin for the week
Tues 13 June	Year 6 to attend the Good Shepherd Mass at St Chad's Cathedral- p.m
Wed 14 June	SNOMAC Year 6 Rounders OLF v St Joseph's
Thurs 15 June	KS2 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament p/m
Thurs 15 June	New Intake Evening- Reception Class Sept 2017 at 7 pm in school
Fri 16 June	Science Ambassadors Conference
Fri 16 June	PTA Children's Quiz at 6.30pm - venue to be confirmed
Sun 18 June	Year 5 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Sun 18 June	50 th Anniversary Exhibition at John Lewis, Birmingham until 22 June
Mon 19 June	Years 3 and 4 Athletics competition at Shenley Academy 3.30-5.30 pm
Tues 20 June	School Nurse- 8.30-10.00 am
Tues 20 June	Years 1 and 2 attending 10 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church.
Wed 21 June	SNOMAC Year 6 Rounders OLF v St Mary's
Thurs 22 June	Year 1 Class Assembly 9.05 am
Thurs 22 June	Year 4 Sports at Lordswood
Thurs 22 June	Years 5 and 6 Rounders at Hillcrest pm
Thurs 22 June	OLF 50 th Anniversary Exhibition at John Lewis closes
Fri 23 June	Year 6 Illumination Mass at 9.05am in school
Fri 23 June	PTA cake sale 3.30 pm
Fri 24 June	Netball Tournament at Our Lady of Fatima School
Sun 25 June	Final day for 50 th Anniversary exhibition at John Lewis'
Sun 25 June	Year 4 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Tues 27 June	Year 6 visit to St Chad's Cathedral- preparation for Confirmation
Tues 27 June	Reception Class visit to Ash End Farm
Wed 28 June	New Reception Class 2017 half day visits (1)
Wed 28 June	Year 5 Kwik Cricket at Lordswood 3-5 pm
Thurs 29 June	Mass led by Year 4 to celebrate the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul 9.05 a.m in school
Sun 2 July	Year 3 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church

Mon 3 July	Sports' Day 1.35 pm
Wed 5 July	Year 6 Transition Day to Secondary Schools
Wed 5 July	Year 6 Sacrament of Confirmation at 7 pm in church
Thurs 6 July	New Reception Class 2017 half day visits (2)
Thurs 6 July	Year 6 Maths Workshops at Hagley High School a.m
Fri 7 July	SNOMAC Year 6 Athletics OLF v St Mary's pm
Sat 8 July	PTA Summer Fayre 12-4 pm
Sun 9 July	Year 6 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Mon 10 July	Police Community workshops all day
Mon 10 July	Year 2 'Singmaker' a.m at the Symphony Hall
Tues 11 July	Hagley 50's Band Tour a.m
Tues 11 July	50 th Anniversary Open Evening with refreshments: 5pm-8 pm
Wed 12 July	SNOMAC Rounders at Hagley High School
Wed 12 July	Academy Committee Meeting 6pm
Fri 14 July	SNOMAC Rounders final at Hagley High School
Fri 14 July	PTA film night 3.35-5.45 pm
Sun 16 July	Year 5 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Mon 17 July	50 th Anniversary celebrations week begins (details to follow)
Mon 17 July	Parents' Evening- appointments by request
Tues 18 July	School Nurse- 8.30-10.00 am
Wed 19 July	50 th Anniversary Mass (including Year 6 Leavers') celebrated by Bishop Robert Byrne 9.05 am in school
Thurs 20 July	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly at 9.05 a.m in school
Thurs 20 July	Year 6 Leavers' party
Fri 21 July	Year 6 Leavers' Breakfast at the Toby Carvery from 7.30 am
Fri 21 July	Farewell Bubbles on the field. End of summer term- 3.10 pm.

Pupils return to school on Wednesday 6th September 2017



SCHOOL FUND SUMMER TERM 2017

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

Eldest child in school _____ Year _____.

Please make cheques payable to SNOMAC.

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

Received in school by _____

Thank you for your support.