



# Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Primary School

Newsletter — April 2018

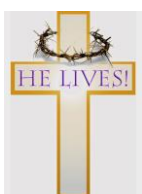
'We welcome everyone into our community to live, love and learn together in the light and example of Jesus Christ'

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

## 'Grateful and Generous'

Pupils at Our Lady of Fatima School aim to be **grateful** for their own gifts, for the gift of other people and for the blessings of each day; and **generous** with their gifts, now and in the future.

### 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 in class, a Service of Reconciliation with individual Confessions for Years 4–6 and an emotional dramatization of events in Holy Week from Palm Sunday to Maundy Thursday. The most generous almsgiving of donations for our Lenten appeals has so far raised an amazing **£917.45** which is to be shared between our nominated charities. This figure is without donations from the Good Shepherd boxes which should be returned to school by **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> April**. 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 as by giving to others, 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 reminded us that the resurrection offers hope in a world "marked by so many acts of injustice and violence. It bears fruits of hope and dignity where there are deprivation and exclusion, hunger and unemployment; where there are migrants and refugees, so often rejected by today's culture of waste and contemporary forms of slavery." May we remember our global family in our prayers; so that through prayer and actions, we become a step closer to world peace.

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### Parents' Evening

We had excellent 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 for also completing the RE and Catholic Life survey. We received extremely positive feedback which will be posted on the school website.

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### Attendance

Congratulations to **Years 1 and 3** for winning the Attendance Cup for the second half of the Spring term with a joint attendance of **97.9%** which is remarkable. The school's overall percentage is **97.1%**, which is still above the national average of 96.1%. Well done everyone!

Year Group	% attendance
Years 1 and 3	97.9 
Years 2 and 6	97.1
Year 4 and 5	96.6
Reception Class	96.3

### Goodbye and Good Luck...

On 11th May 2018 we say a fond farewell to Ms Murgatroyd, who leaves Our Lady of Fatima School to take up a new position as Company Secretary at James Brindley. She will be greatly missed by the whole school community, but we wish her all the best in her new role and thank her for her dedication and commitment during the last five years at Our Lady of Fatima School.



### Our Lady of Fatima School Website



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

Our school website is regularly updated. It continues to be a great line of communication, so that parents and others who want to find out more about our school are able to be kept up to date with news, information and events. Please do spend some time looking at our Events Page, where you will see the varied activities your children complete in school. At the bottom of the welcome page there is an itemised list of what has been added most recently.

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### Parking



I am pleased that it has been a couple of months since I have mentioned any parking issues in the newsletters, but just before the Easter holidays, I received complaints from local residents that cars were obstructing driveways and pavements by Word Hill, Spreadbury Close, Winchfield Drive and surrounding roads, making it impossible for residents to move their own cars and also making it difficult for prams and wheelchairs to pass on pavements. Details were also passed onto the school of a car actually parked on the school driveway behind the gates. I would once again like to thank parents who are thoughtful enough to park considerately on the roads leading to the school.

Despite several polite requests some parents still insist on parking in the bus lane on the Hagley Road. This is an offence and parking fines will be issued if parents continue to break the law. Thank you for your co-operation.

### Advance Notice of Walk to School Week dates

During May there is a dedicated week (21<sup>st</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> May) when all children (and parents!) are encouraged to 'walk to school' or walk part of the way. Why wait until then? Apart from supporting a healthy lifestyle with increased exercise, walking some of the way to school on a regular basis would address some of our parking issues as well as adopting a healthier lifestyle. The weather is becoming milder now and it is also an opportunity for friends to walk together whilst keeping fit. Please do consider parking a little way from school and walking the rest of the way. This will require leaving home slightly earlier to avoid being late!

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### School Meals

There will be a slight increase in the price of school meals. From 16<sup>th</sup> April 2018 prices will be:



<b>1 day</b>	<b>£ 2.30</b>
<b>1 week</b>	<b>£ 11.50</b>

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### Health for Life

Our Health for Life project continues to go from strength to strength. The committee has been busy preparing and planting crops and more planting will take place during the summer term. Once again the Committee will be submitting a wheelbarrow for the 'Meal in a Barrow' competition in June 2018. Please do not allow your children to run around or near the raised beds or planting areas as this can lead to damaging our plants. By treating our plants with respect the children will learn a greater understanding of the



benefits of a cared for environment. Mrs Levack will issue a newsletter later this term to update you with more news.

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### PTA

Thank you to all children, parents and families who regularly support and attend the PTA events; the PTA works very hard to ensure that these events are enjoyable for everyone. We have over 160 families at Our Lady of Fatima School but only a small group of regular volunteers belong to the PTA. For the PTA to continue to plan and organise future events, they really do need more volunteers.

The Summer Fair is planned to take place on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2018 and the PTA need volunteers to help at this great fundraising event as its success is dependent on additional volunteers who can commit to helping beforehand and on the day as well as families coming along to support the event. We appreciate that there are many 'Friends of the PTA' who cannot commit to being full members, but who are willing to help out at certain events. If you feel that you could offer some time at the Summer Fair, please let the office staff know and they will pass details on to Louise Rouse, Chair of the PTA.

The next event is the St George's Disco in the school hall from 6.30-9 pm on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April. Further details have been issued in a flyer. These events raise great amounts which in turn benefit all the children at Our Lady of Fatima School. Thank you for your continued support.

## Arrangements for Year 6 at the end of the school day

In the summer months, when the evenings are lighter, Year 6 pupils like to take the opportunity to walk home/ catch the bus with a friend, in preparation for transition to Year 7. Mr Bagwell will need to be informed **in writing** if you wish your child to walk/catch the bus home. Children who do commute to and from school without parents are permitted to carry a mobile phone with them for emergencies only. This must be switched off when entering the school grounds and handed in to Mr Bagwell until the end of the school day. **This only applies to Year 6 pupils.** Any child from another class found in possession of a mobile phone will have it removed and kept in the school office to be collected by their parents at the end of the school day.



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## School Fund Contributions

We are grateful to those families who donate £5 each term towards extras to supplement your child's education. If you would like to contribute during the summer term, please send in your donation with the slip at the end of this newsletter. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



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## 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 we 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.
- 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. Please buy these long enough to be tucked into skirts, shorts and trousers.
- You can buy uniform online at Tesco's, Clive Marks or Somal Fashions, 11 Faraday Avenue B32 1JP.
- Please avoid fashion haircuts. Agreed school policy states that boys' haircuts will be no shorter than a number 2 cut.
- Hair accessories should be blue and not overly excessive
- Blue **school caps or hats** are available from office. **No fashion caps are to be worn.**

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## Polite Notice

Please ensure that your child does not run on the grass, near the plants or by the PTA shed or any of the privately owned gardens of our local residents before and after school. I would like to remind you that all children are supervised on the climbing /play equipment **during school hours.**



Accidents have occurred after school when children have been handed over to parents by the school staff. At the end of the school day your child/ren should wait **with you**, until you are ready to leave the premises. Thank you.

## Dates for Diary: April- July 2018

There may be more dates to add as the term continues but these dates are available so far:

Mon 16 April	School opens for the start of Summer term
Thurs 19 April	Year 3 First Holy Communion Parents' Meeting at 7pm in school
Fri 20 April	PTA St George's Day disco: 6.30-9pm
Sun 22 April	Year 4 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Thurs 26 April	Years 5 and 6 Junior UK Maths Challenge a.m
Thurs 26 April	Year 6 Confirmation Parents' Meeting at 7.00pm in school
Fri 27 April	Hagley Year 7 Transition visit (1) at OLF
Sun 29 April	Year 6 Enrolment Mass at 11.00 a.m in Church
Tues 1 May	Year 4 attending 10.00 am Mass at OLF church- all welcome
Sat 5 May	First Holy Communion Mass at 11.00 a.m in Church (1)
Sun 6 May	Year 5 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
<b>Mon 7 May</b>	<b>May Day Bank Holiday - School closed</b>
Tues 8 May	8.30-10.30 am School Nurse Clinic
Thurs 10 May	Feast of the Ascension Mass in school at 9.05 a.m
Sat 12 May	First Holy Communion Mass at 11.00 a.m in Church (2)
Sun 13 May	Feast of Our Lady of Fatima
Sun 13 May	Year 4 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Mon 14 May	Year 6 SATs Week
Thurs 17 May	Fun themed school meal day
Sun 20 May	Year 6 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Mon 21 May	WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK begins
Mon 21 May	May Procession in school 2.15 pm
Tues 22 May	Yr 4's Class Feast Day- Non-uniform day for <b>Yr 4 ONLY</b>
Wed 23 May	Hagley Mass Band Tour a.m
Wed 23 May	Academy Committee Meeting 6pm
Thurs 24 May	Year 1's Class Assembly 9.05 am. All welcome
Thurs 24 May	Dental students in school working in Years 2 and 4
Thurs 24 May	Year 6 Vocations workshop p.m

Fri 25 May	PTA Sponsored Bounce p.m
Fri 25 May	PTA cake sale 3.30-4.00 pm
<b>Fri 25 May</b>	<b>Break up for Half Term</b>
Thurs 31 May	Feast of Corpus Christi 10.00 a.m and 7 pm Mass at OLF church
Mon 4 June	School Re-opens
Mon 4 June	Bikeability Week for Year 5 pupils
Tues 5 June	Year 2 attending 10.00 am Mass at OLF church. All welcome
Wed 6 June	Year 2 Singmaker workshop p.m
Thurs 7 June	Year 5 Transition and Alton Castle Meeting at 7.00 pm in school
Fri 8 June	Year 4 Maths workshop at Harborne Primary School
Sun 10 June	First Holy Communion Thanksgiving Mass at 11.00 a.m at Our Lady of Fatima Church
<b>Mon 11 June</b>	<b>Teacher Training Day- School closed to all pupils</b>
Tues 12 June	Year 1 Phonic Screening checks begin for the week
Tues 12 June	8.30-10.30 am School Nurse Clinic
Wed 13 June	Hagley Transition Year 7 <b>Parents' Meetings</b> at OLF p.m
Thurs 14 June	Year 5's Class Assembly 9.05 a.m. All welcome
Thurs 14 June	Year 1 visit to the Thinktank
Thurs 14 June	Year 6 School Nurse workshop p.m
Thurs 14 June	New Intake Evening- Reception Class Sept 2018 at 7 pm in school
Sun 17 June	Year 5 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Mon 18 June	Alexandra Stadium Athletics competition p.m
Tues 19 June	Year 4 Sports' Leaders Festival at Lordswood School a.m
Thurs 21 June	Year 3 attending 11.00 a.m Mass at OLF church. All welcome
Thurs 21 June	Hagley Year 7 Transition visit (2) at OLF
Sun 24 June	Year 4 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Mon 25 June	Hagley Reggae Summer Tour a.m
Mon 25 June	Hagley Year 7 Transition visit (3) at OLF
Tues 26 June	Year 6 visit to St Chad's Cathedral- preparation for Confirmation
Tues 26 June	Year 5 attending 10.00 a.m Mass at OLF church. All welcome.
Thurs 28 June	New Reception Class 2018 half day visits (1)

Fri 29 June	Feasts of St Peter and St Paul/ Year 6 Mass of Illumination 9.05 am in school
Sun 1 July	Year 3 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Wed 4 July	New Reception Class 2018 half day visits (2)
Wed 4 July	Year 6 Transition Day to Secondary Schools
Fri 6 July	Quinzone Concert p.m
Sat 7 July	PTA Summer Fayre 12 noon-4 pm
Sun 8 July	Year 6 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Mon 9 July	Year 3 trip to BMAG
Tues 10 July	8.30-10.30 School Nurse Clinic
Tues 10 July	Year 6 Sacrament of Confirmation at 7 pm in church
Wed 11 July	Academy Committee Meeting 6 pm
Fri 13 July	Sports' Day 1.30 pm
Sun 15 July	Year 5 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Mon 16 July	Parents' Evening- appointments upon request.
Thurs 19 July	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly at 9.05 a.m in school
Thurs 19 July	Year 6 Leavers' Party Day 11.00 am onwards
Sun 22 July	Year 4 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Mon 23 July	Year 6 Leavers' Mass 2.15 pm
Tues 24 July	Year 6 Leavers' Breakfast at Toby Carvery 7.30-8.30 am
Tues 24 July	3.10 pm Farewell Bubbles on the field. End of summer term.

**Pupils return to school on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2018**



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**SCHOOL FUND SUMMER TERM 2018**

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

Eldest child in school \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_.

Please make cheques payable to SNOMAC.

Received in school by \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for your support.**