



St Margaret Mary's Catholic Primary School

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Friday 9th September 2016

St Margaret Mary's Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

As mentioned in my letter earlier this week it has been lovely to welcome the children back into school after the summer break, with them all settling in superbly over the last few days, making a great start to the new term.

'Meet the Teacher'

Hopefully you have had the chance to meet your child's classteacher over the last few days at the start of this new academic year. There will be a further opportunity for you to meet the classteacher for an informal chat on Thursday 22nd September from 3-4. I would encourage all parents to attend wherever possible, with staff introducing themselves, sharing topic overviews for the half-term, as well as guidelines and other key information. If you are unable to make this time then please do not hesitate to arrange an alternative quick meeting or introduction.

Attendance & Punctuality:

It has been fantastic to see the children return after the summer break with excellent attendance and punctuality, 'on-time' for the start of the school day. **It is so important that the children arrive 'on-time' for the start of the school day at 8:55 am to begin their lessons settled and alongside their classmates, as being 5 or 10 minutes late each day really does add-up over the course of a week & term.**

As I am sure you are aware, attendance at the school is of the utmost importance if your child is to meet their full potential and make the expected progress. Our school attendance target this year is once again set high and we will be introducing a series of rewards and incentives to recognise those who meet this each half-term and improve their overall attendance. We will be monitoring attendance and punctuality across the whole school weekly to work alongside you in ensuring that poor attendance & punctuality does not affect your child.

A reminder to please check the school calendar to ensure that children are not taken out of school during term-time for holidays & that any leave of absence requires permission & authorisation as not doing so could result in the submission of a fine (forms for this are available from Mrs Peel in the School Office).

After-School Clubs:

I have attached an additional letter highlighting after-school provision this coming half-term. These will start the week beginning the 19th September. Please see details explaining the clubs offered and how your child can access these.

Swimming & P.E. Kits:

Children in Y3/4 and Y4 will be starting their swimming tuition on Monday as outlined in a reminder letter this week. I'm sure they will be developing key life skills as well as having a great deal of 'water-fun'! Please ensure that children have school P.E. kit in school for their lessons this coming week. Children have at least two P.E. lessons a week so it is a major part of their curriculum and important that they can participate fully at all times.



School Photographs:

On **Tuesday 20th September** John Hunt Photographers will be coming to school to 'capture' our children at the start of the new school year. They will take individual and family photographs of our children and staff. A reminder will follow next week.

Parent Meetings/Workshops:

Soon we will be hosting Parent Meetings for children in **Year Two** and **Year Six**, as well as other year groups & curriculum workshops. These will be to provide key information regarding changes we are implementing this year, the curriculum that is being taught & how it is assessed, as well as ways in which you can support your child. A letter with additional dates & information will be distributed next week as mentioned below.

Uniform:

It has been lovely to see the children looking so smart in their uniforms at the start of the year. Just a reminder for future reference that dark-coloured trainers are not part of the school uniform, but if they have been purchased & it is an issue replacing them then these will be accepted in the short term.

Once again thank-you for your continued support

Mr Sutton

Assembly & Collective Worship Dates Diary:**Wk Bg: 19.09.16**

- 21.09.16 9 am Y5E Class Assembly
- 22.09.16 3-4 'Meet the Teacher Drop-In'
- 23.09.16 2:30 pm Y5K Collective Worship (Followed by refreshments in the Hall)

Wk Bg: 26.09.16

- 28.09.16 9 am Y3/4A Class Assembly
- 30.09.16 2:30 pm Y1N Collective Worship (Followed by refreshments in the Hall)

Wk Bg: 03.10.16

- 05.10.16 9 am Y3C Class Assembly
- 07.10.16 2:30 pm Y6P Collective Worship (Followed by refreshments in the Hall)

Wk Bg: 10.10.16

- 12.10.16 9 am Y2E Class Assembly
- 14.10.16 2:30 pm Y4D Collective Worship (Followed by refreshments in the Hall)

Wk Bg: 17.10.16

- 19.10.16 9 am Y1/2C Class Assembly
- 21.10.16 2:30 pm Y3C Collective Worship (Followed by refreshments in the Hall)

A more comprehensive diary with additional dates & events will be shared with you towards the end of next week.

Stay with us, Lord, on our Journey'

