

St Fidelis Catholic Primary School

6th September 2017 Newsletter



WELCOME

Welcome back to another academic year at St Fidelis, I hope everyone had a good break at some time or another during the break.

During the summer holidays, our Premises Manager Mr Kinsella has been busy coordinating lots of works and improvements to our school. The large-scale project to replace the windows in all classrooms has now been completed. This has made our classrooms brighter with the shaded glass removing the need for blinds, and cooler with the use of solar glass to reflect much of the heat from the sun back away from the classrooms making these spaces more comfortable for the children too.

Over the past few weeks, staff have been working hard coming into school to undertake a range of jobs to ensure that the start of the new term is a smooth one and that everything looks its very best. The office staff have been measuring children up and selling school uniform, the cleaners undertaking deep cleans, the teaching assistants putting up display boards and organising new books, and the teachers arranging their classrooms and planning lessons for the first few days' learning.

CONGRATULATIONS

During the holidays, there were many staff developments! One of our Year 3 teachers, Miss Manning got married. Everyone wants to congratulate her and her new husband and we will all have to learn her new surname- Mrs Thompson- over the next few weeks. One of our Year 4 teachers, Mrs Ransom had a baby. Everyone wants to congratulate her and her husband on the birth of their daughter and hope that she is enjoying this time with her growing family.

PRAYERS

We were sorry to hear of the death of one of our parents, Mr Sakyi, father to Samuel and Irene, at the end of the summer term. His funeral will take place on Friday 15th September in Woolwich. We would ask for your prayers for the Sakyi family at this time.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Mr McGurn (parent of Megan in Yr1) who very kindly volunteered over the summer to transform the pedestrian pathway into our school. Over a period of days he removed the ivy and weeds before planting new plants and trees that have created a much more attractive entrance to our school grounds. As always, we are grateful to all our volunteers who help in a wide range of ways to improve our school and the offer we can make to all our children.



FOREST SCHOOL

This year we are introducing Forest School as a weekly session for children in all year groups right across the school. As parents with children in Reception to Year 2 last year will already know Forest School takes place in the large woodland behind Our Lady of the Angels church next door and provides exceptional opportunities for children to collaborate, communicate and create outcomes in a natural environment.

SWIMMING

Physical Education is a central component in the curriculum that St Fidelis offers to all our children. Every child receives two hours of PE lessons each week led by the excellent specialist teacher Miss Bull. In order to develop the effectiveness of our curriculum we have decided to restructure the delivery of swimming within our school. This year children in Year 3 will have swimming in the autumn and spring terms, followed by Year 2 in the summer term. With this new structure, pupils will begin to receive a year of swimming instruction through which the hope is that more children make the expected rate of progress in this aspect of PE. Year 3 Penguins first swimming lesson will take place on Wednesday 13th September and Year 3 Kingfishers first swimming lesson will take place on Thursday 14th September.

READING LISTS

Your child will come home today with a reading list. This is an age appropriate guide taken from the Book Trust to give you an idea of the books your children could be reading this year. Please use this when taking your child to the library or buying them books. You can refer to <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books/100-best-books/> for any more recommendations. If you have any further questions, please ask your child's class teacher or Miss Phelan.

COFFEE MORNINGS

Mia Weatherill, our school based social worker, is arranging a series of tea/coffee mornings here in the school in St Martha's Kitchen where parents and carers can chat informally about common concerns:

Wednesday 20th September 9:00-10:00am

Coping with homework

Wednesday 11th October 9:00-10:00am

Accessing benefits, housing and community support

Wednesday 29th November 9:00-10:00am

Improving sleep and bedtime routines

Wednesday 13th December 9:00-10:00am

Supporting anxiety in children

END OF SUMMER BALL

Mrs Thornton-Hayes is putting the final changes to her annual ball in the Angelus Centre. All the tickets for this excellent social have now been sold and we hope everyone has a great evening on September 9th.

SCHOOL CLUBS

Please note there are no school clubs this week as it is the first week of term. There are still places available in some clubs, which can be booked through the school's SIMS Agora website.

SIMS AGORA

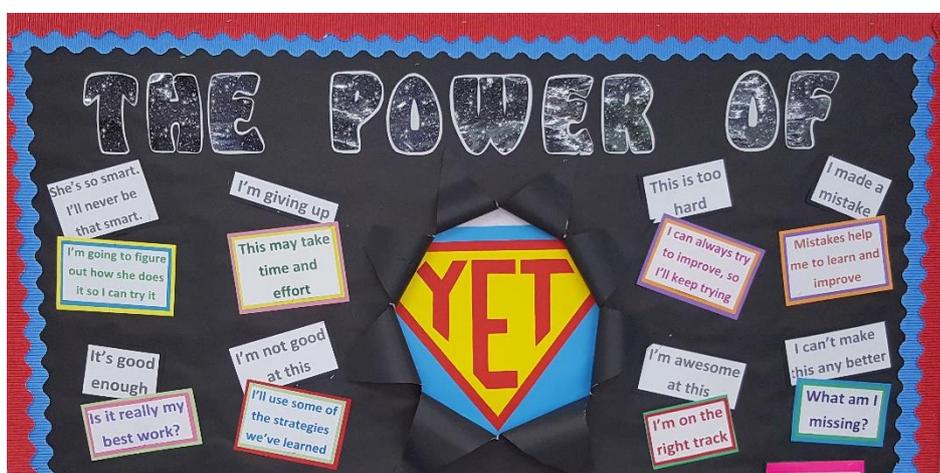
Please ensure that your SIMS Agora code is up-to-date as this is the method the school uses for payment of school dinners, uniform etc. If you need a new code, please contact the school office.

GROWTH MINDSETS

Here is a photograph of a lovely display in Yr6 Owls classroom that reminds us all of the power of positive language on learning.

Yours sincerely

Mark Hannon
Head Teacher



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 17 th September 10:30am	School Mass Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Church
Thursday 7 th September 9:00-9:20am (repeats weekly)	Reading Café Classrooms
Thursday 21 st September 6:00-7:00pm	Year 3 Parents Meeting First Holy Communion School Hall
Friday 22 nd September 3:00pm	Year 6 Owls Class Assembly School Hall
Friday 29th September All day	Staff Training Day (INSET) School Closed
Monday 2 nd October All day	Year 6 Trip to Docklands Museum
Friday 6 th October All day	Year 2 Trip to Howletts Zoo
Friday 6 th October 3:00pm	Year 4 Puffins Class Assembly School Hall
Thursday 12 th October All day	Year 4 Trip to Museum of London
Friday 13 th October 3:00pm	Year 2 Swallows Class Assembly School Hall
Sunday 15 th October 10:30am	School Mass Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Church
Monday 16 th October - Friday 20 th October	Year 6 Residential Trip to Ashford
Friday 20 th October 3:00pm	Year 3 Penguins Class Assembly School Hall
Monday 23rd October – Friday 27th October All day	Autumn Half Term Holiday School Closed
Wednesday 8 th November 9:00-10:00am	Positive Parenting Workshop School Hall

CLASSES AND TEACHERS FOR 2017-2018 ACADEMIC YEAR

Class

Teacher

Nursery Wrens
Nursery Doves



Mrs Sheridan

Mrs Chapman

Reception Sparrows



Miss Freeman

Reception Robins



Miss Finch

Year 1 Swans



Miss Hall

Year 1 Eagles



Miss Thumwood-Browning

Year 2 Swallows



Mrs Whalley

Mrs Atherton

Year 2 Jays



Mrs Campbell

Year 3 Penguins



Mrs Sargent

Mrs Tylee

Year 3 Kingfishers



Miss Manning

Year 4 Hawks



Miss Cosshall

Year 4 Puffins



Mr Kennor

Mrs Itiveh

Year 5 Kestrels



Miss Daly

Year 5 Flamingoes



Miss Pembroke

Year 6 Woodpeckers



Mr McNicholl

Year 6 Owls



Miss Phelan

SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

As a Catholic school, we believe parents are the first educators and are grateful for the support shown in the maintenance of high standards of appearance and presentation by all our children. Please ensure that all items of uniform are labelled clearly with your child's name. Without this information, it is impossible to reunite mislaid clothing with the correct pupil.

The children always look beautifully presented at the start of each year, and I believe it says something about us as a school and the value and importance we place upon education. As ever, the staff and I are dependent upon your support for our school uniform policy.

Boys:

Navy-blue V-neck jumper
Grey trousers
White shirt
School tie
Grey socks

Summer:

Grey shorts or trousers and a white polo shirt

Coats: Must be plain navy-blue or black

Footwear: Plain black flat school shoes.

PE Kit: Navy-blue tracksuit
Navy-blue shorts
White t-shirt
Black plimsolls
White trainers
PE kit must be kept in a suitable labelled bag

Headwear:

Warm hat, scarf and gloves for winter months
Navy-blue plain baseball cap for summer months

Equipment: School bag
No handbags or oversized sports bags
No mobile phones
No earrings

Girls:

Navy-blue cardigan
Navy-blue skirt or tunic
Grey trousers
White blouse
School tie
White socks or navy tights

Summer:

Light-blue and white checked dress

Hair, etc:

Long hair to be tied back
Neat and tidy with no extreme hairstyles
No earrings

Summer uniform can be worn through to the end of the Autumn 1 half term (October). Many items of uniform are available to purchase through the school's online shop. Parents are not required to buy these items from the school and can source the majority of uniform items from a range of other suppliers.