



St Sebastian's Catholic Primary School & Nursery

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Only my best will do; Be kind to one another

19th July 2018

Dear Parents,

I have always found this newsletter very difficult to write as I have mixed emotions, sadness but also delight and pride. The YEAR 6 LEAVERS ASSEMBLY was a great tribute to our children, the staff and their families. I am always sad to see tears but in some circumstances like Tuesday, these were from parents and children. "We will miss our school". As I said humour and connections with our children have enabled all to achieve and many EXCEED our targets for them. How wonderful this is for them. I hope all take on the advice given in these last few days to help transition and the start of a new and exciting adventure ahead of them. We send you on to your next step confident that you do have the "tools" when you use them correctly, to be successful in whichever school you go to and in your future life. We send you with our prayers and best wishes.

Remember: ONLY MY BEST WILL DO; BE KIND TO ONE ANOTHER.

Saying Good Bye to Mrs Freda Turner.

Mrs Turner is retiring, sadly and although we managed to hang onto her maybe for a year or two more it is now her time like Year 6 to go on to the "next step" in her life journey. What a wonderful colleague, friend and link to many of our parents she has been. She has been with us 20 years and an integral part of our successful federation. She started her career with us as St Sebastian's in the Administration Team so she was "one of the faces" who welcomed not only visitors but more importantly our parents and children always with a smile and helpful advice if asked. She moved over to St Cuthbert's to take charge of the office with Joan Lally's retirement and helped to introduce systems we were integrating across The Federation. In recent years, we used her "vast" expertise to help improve attendance which wasn't good enough. In the recent Ofsted at St Cuthbert's the Lead Inspector commented that what she had done was great and "An example of good practice". This was also echoed by The School Improvement Partner and The Governors. She also was entrusted with the delicate and sensitive job of becoming one of our Child Protection Team. Her professionalism with families and other agencies has helped several families. Most recently she has introduced "Coffee Mornings" at St Cuthbert's which have been well received.

I want to thank Freda from all in the school communities, children, parents, staff and governors for her loyalty and outstanding quality of work for The Federation. We send you on with our love and good wishes, you will be missed by us all.



Term Dates for The School Year 2018/2019:

We welcome all our children back Wednesday 5th September.

Dates have been sent out previously but are also available on the School Website.

The new term starts on Monday 3rd September however there will be 2 Staff Training Days 3rd and 4th September so children will return to school Wednesday 5th September. Foundation 2 children will already have been informed if they are attending a morning or afternoon session from the 5th September. Current Foundation 1 children who are carrying on in F1 will start back Monday 10th September.

Splash:

Splash Holiday Club will run for 4 weeks from Monday 23rd July. Booking forms have been sent out via class and are also available on the school website or from the school office this week.

Social Media: Internet Abuse:

I mentioned this to all at The Leavers Assemblies, BUT for our children, families and schools, IT IS such a "worrying and distressing" new technology that we really don't know how to use. I MUST reiterate to parents it is a huge responsibility to be aware of how your children are using social media (and legally are they supposed to be?) also have you got "the safeguarding" systems in place so you are in control. Let's not allow our children, families to become THE VICTIMS. Talk to teachers, parents AND the police to safeguard and protect everyone.

Staff changes for year 2018/2019:

Finally, what a fantastic staff we are fortunate to have to teach, look after and care for our children. They present so many extra opportunities to upskill and excite them while in our schools. I can honestly say I do not know of many schools nationally in which clubs are run so generously and freely with the added bonus of our children being asked to represent our schools individually or as a federation in singing, music, speech choirs, pantos, chess, computers, art clubs or sport that non are excluded from. All add value to our end of year Children's University Graduation.

This coming year Miss Newby will be teaching Year 4 in St Cuthbert's and Miss Radburn will be teaching in Year 4 at St Sebastian's.

On my behalf and the children and parents our heartfelt thank you to these wonderful staff. Long may it continue.

So to all our children, families and staff have a wonderful break and come back refreshed in September to an "exciting" new school year of 2018/2019.

School will finish at 2pm tomorrow Friday 20th July for the summer break. Please take care of yourselves and your children whilst they are enjoying the long summer days off school. We hope they are vigilant at all times especially when crossing roads.

Dennis Hardiman M.B.E

Executive Headteacher

Mrs Mulligan

Head of School St Sebastian's