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Forward Together in Christ

*'Live together, pray together, learn together  
and grow together in Christ'*

## Prayer

Lord Jesus, we ask for Your help as we begin this new school year.

Allow us to experience Your presence in the many blessings You put before us.

Open our eyes to the new challenges and exciting opportunities that this new school year will bring.

Open our heart and mind to new friends and new staff.

We thank you that we do not travel life's journey alone, but together with others,  
and that you promise to guide and keep us along every step of the way.

**Amen.**

## Welcome

Welcome back to a new school year at St. Patrick's!

We look forward to working in partnership with *all* our parents during this academic year to enable all our children to make the most of their time in school.

An extra special welcome to Mrs Grove (Reception) & Mrs Apperley (Inclusion Team) who have joined our Staff Team.

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

### **Masses/Assemblies**

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September 9.05am: Y5's Prayer Service

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> September 10.00 am: Youth Mass at St. Patrick's Church (Introduction)

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October 9.05am: Y4's Prayer Service

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October 10.00am: Harvest Mass (School Hall)

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2.15pm: Congratulations Assembly

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2.15pm: Black History Celebration Assembly

### **Other Dates**

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September: Reception start full-time

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September 3.30pm: Parent Partnership Meeting (Hall)

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September pm: Election Day for House Captains

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2.15pm: Assembly: Jeans for Genes Day (Non-Uniform)

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> October 3.30pm **OR** 5.30pm Parents' Meeting for Y6 Residential children

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September: Macmillan Squash & Biscuit Morning

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September pm: St. Matthew's House Celebration

24<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> September: DT Focus Week

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October pm: Artefacts Theatre Company 'Time Capsule' Production

15<sup>th</sup>- 19<sup>th</sup> October: Y6 Residential to Whitmead

22<sup>nd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> October: Black History Focus Week

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October 3.30-7.00pm: Autumn Term Parents' Evening

**Half term:** Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October - Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November. School opens again on **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November.**



## **INSPIRE Workshops**

This year we have listed the INSPIRE Workshops for the year in the hope that parents can plan ahead and book time off if need be to come and join in these sessions. Please put these dates in your diary/phone/tablet/on the fridge!

### **INSPIRE WORKSHOP DATES -AUTUMN TERM 2018**

This term our focus is on Reading. Lots to learn! We look forward to seeing as many parents as possible.

Reception: Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October 9.15am

Year 1: Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2.00pm

Year 2: Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 9.15am

Year 3: Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2.00pm

Year 4: Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 9.15am. Cancelled.

Year 5: Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> October

Year 6: Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October 9.15am

### **INSPIRE WORKSHOP DATES -SPRING TERM 2019**

This term our focus is on R.E.

Reception: Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 9.15am

Year 1: Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2.00pm

Year 2: Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 9.15am

Year 3: Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2.00pm

Year 4: Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March 9.15am

Year 5: Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 9.15am

Year 6 (Maths): Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 9.15am

### **INSPIRE WORKSHOP DATES -SUMMER TERM 2019**

This term our focus is on Maths

Reception: Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June 9.15am

Year 1: Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2.00pm

Year 2: Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June 9.15am

Year 3: Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2.00pm

Year 4: Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June 9.15am

Year 5: Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 9.15am

Year 6 (R.E): Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June 9.15am

## REMINDER OF SCHOOL DATES FOR THIS ACADEMIC YEAR (2018-2019)

|   |  |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
| <b>Autumn Term 1 2018</b><br>Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September<br>- Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> October<br><br><i>Half term break</i><br>Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> October -<br>Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November<br><br><b>Autumn Term 2 2018</b><br>Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> November -<br>Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> December | <b>Spring Term 1 2019</b><br>Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> January -<br>Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> February<br><br><i>Half term break</i><br>Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> February -<br>Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February<br><br><b>Spring Term 2 2019</b><br>Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> February -<br>Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> April | <b>Summer Term 1 2019</b><br>Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> April -<br>Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> May<br><br><i>Half term break</i><br>Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> May -<br>Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May<br><br><b>Summer Term 2 2019</b><br>Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June -<br>Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July | <b>Teacher Training Days</b><br><br>Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sept.<br>Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> Sept.<br>Mon. 7 <sup>th</sup> Jan. 2019<br>Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> July<br>Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July |
|---|--|---|---|

## ATTENDANCE 2018-2019

Please check the dates above and **DO NOT** book any holidays during term time. Please let family know these dates as well so that they can plan celebrations accordingly.

### PARKING-IMPORTANT!

Parents are reminded that they should NOT drop off or collect children in the school car park.

Parents can drop children off for Breakfast Club ONLY but must leave the premises by 8.30am at the latest. Please be considerate about where you drop your child off and not block parking spaces for staff or visitors who are arriving. If parents do not co-operate it may, unfortunately, be necessary to ban parents from using this service. There may be times when you have to reverse back into the car park if cars are already coming up the drive. Please give way to these vehicles as it is too dangerous to reverse back onto the Dudley Road.

### PARKING ON DUDLEY ROAD

Traffic wardens regularly patrol Dudley Road in the mornings and will not hesitate to give parents a ticket for parking illegally at this time-even though you may just be dropping your child off! Quite a few parents were caught out last year. Parking is not allowed until after 10.00am. The School has no influence over Birmingham City Council about tickets issued.

### CROSSING DUDLEY ROAD

Please keep yourselves and your child/ren safe by using the crossing outside City Hospital. Dudley Road is an extremely busy and dangerous road and we do not want any of our children/parents hurt.

## **ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY**

School starts at **8.55 am** BUT the doors are open at 8.45 am. Please try and have your child/ren already in the school playground by this time.

Children should **not arrive before 8:40am** as supervision is not available and we cannot accept responsibility for children **UNLESS THEY ARE ATTENDING BREAKFAST CLUB**.

Children arriving after 8.55 am will be given a late mark in the register. Entry is then only gained by going to the front entrance of the school.

Our School target this year is **96%** for attendance.

Therefore, we will still be closely monitoring children whose attendance is below 96% and those children who are persistently late for school.

**PLEASE READ THE IMPORTANT 'SPOTLIGHT' ON ATTENDANCE' LETTER ATTACHED TO THIS NEWSLETTER.**

## **BREAKFAST CLUB**

Breakfast Club has resumed service in the school canteen from 8.00am until 8.35am each morning. Prices of the food on offer are reasonable. Please remember that there is an additional £1.00 supervision cost per day.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS A BREAKFAST CLUB AND NOT A CHILD CARE SERVICE!**

If your child/ren make use of this service then they need to purchase breakfast because if we just offered child care provision we would have to raise the costs considerably to meet overheads.

## **REMINDER!**

**CHILDREN ARE NOT TO BE LEFT UNATTENDED AT ST. PATRICK'S.**

Breakfast Club opens at **8.00am** and the School accepts responsibility for children from this time. Only Y6 are allowed to wait by themselves.

## **APPOINTMENTS**

Ideally, appointments for the dentist, optician, doctor etc should be made during lunchtime, after school or during the school holidays.

Obviously this cannot always be the case. If you do need to collect your child early from school please bring the appointment card with you to show the School Office. Please note that children should not be collected for any other reason unless authorised by the Headteacher.

## **LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Parents who wish to take their child/ren out of school during term time must come into school and request a 'Leave of Absence' form whether it is for a day or longer. This should be returned to the school for the Headteacher's attention and as far in advance as possible. Permission for authorised leave of absence may be granted in exceptional circumstances only and **NOT** for holiday leave. The school is routinely checked to ensure that we are following these procedures.

## **LATE COLLECTION OF CHILDREN**

School finishes at 3.15 pm. A parent (or responsible adult) is expected to collect their child/ren promptly at this time. Children who walk home by themselves should leave the premises straight away after the bell has gone and they have been dismissed.

## **SCHOOL MEALS**

May we remind you that the cost of a school meal is **£2.30 per day (£11.50 per week)** Please ensure this money is paid separately from any other money ie. in an envelope with the child's name, class and amount enclosed. This should always be paid on a Monday and given to your child to hand to their teacher- please do not pay at the Office. Please remember we are no longer able to accept cheques as payment. If you wish to change meal arrangements -this must be done in advance and the Office Manager needs to be informed as soon as possible.

All monies need to be paid into school through your child's class. There is a system in place for monies to be recorded in a book in the classroom

before being sent to the Office for checking and banking.

Universal free school meals are available for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.

## **MEDICATION**

The only medication that should be brought into school should be prescribed by a doctor.

Parents must come into the school to complete a 'School Medication Consent Form' before any medication can be administered.

Medicines must be in their original container, labelled clearly with the contents, your child's name, the dosage and when to administer it.

All medication with the exception of inhalers and Epi-pens will be kept safely in the Head's Office.

Please note: If your child is issued with medication to be given three times a day-**this does not** need to be administered in school as one dose can be given before school, one when your child arrives home from school and one before bedtime. Therefore, only medicine prescribed with a *four times a day* dosage really needs to be in school for the extra dose to be given at lunchtime.

Your co-operation in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

## **ASTHMA**

On the advice of the Asthma UK, we need to update our Asthma Register on an annual basis. We will be sending out new asthma cards to parents who have previously filled them in. However, if you are new to the School or if your child has recently been diagnosed as asthmatic then please contact the School so a card can be issued for you to complete. Completed cards should be sent back to School as soon as possible please.

## **UNIFORM**

It has been lovely to see the children looking so smart on their return to school and to see that the majority of children are wearing the correct uniform.

However, there are some children still wearing trainers. Trainers are not part of our school

uniform policy. Children should be wearing sensible shoes as a matter of comfort and safety around school. If there is a problem regarding shoes or any other parts of the uniform please contact the School and speak to Mrs Downes.

Also if your child is wearing a collared shirt then they need to be wearing a school tie with it. Ties can be purchased from the School Office. Children wearing polo shirt are not required to wear a tie.

If you have any uniform that your child has grown out of and is still in good condition then the school will gratefully accept them to support other families.

**Please make sure all items of clothing are named!** Quite a few children have the same or similar coats and obviously very similar jumpers! This causes a problem when jumpers and coats are not labelled. Also we understand that in poor weather the children may wear wellingtons or other types of boots but please provide a pair of shoes to change into at school as wellies and boots are not suitable to wear around school all day and can cause children to trip over.

Please see the attached uniform list to ensure that your child is wearing the correct uniform. Uniform will be monitored and letters will be going out to parents if children fail to come to school in the correct uniform.

## **MACMILLAN SQUASH & BISCUITS**

This is another charity that we support annually. The School Council will be selling squash and biscuits on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September.

## **GLASSES**

If your child needs to wear glasses, please make sure s/he brings them to school every day. Not being able to see properly can severely impact a child's learning. It would be ideal (if possible) to have a school pair and a pair at home.



# Jeans for Genes Day

Changing the world for children with genetic disorders

For over a decade now years we have supported this national fundraising day. Individually, genetic disorders are rare but together they affect 1 in 25 children born in the UK - that's more than 30,000 babies each year. The money raised on Jeans for Genes Day funds a range of initiatives that improve the quality of life of children affected by genetic disorders. Children are allowed to wear any form of denim to school to mark Jeans for Genes Day. This year the charity's day is on **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September**. If your child wants to participate then please send in £1 (or more if you wish!). Please support this good cause. See [www.jeansforgenesday.org](http://www.jeansforgenesday.org) for more information.

## HARVEST CELEBRATION MASS

Our annual Harvest Celebration Mass is taking place on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October in the school hall. We hope you will be your usual generous selves and donate items of food that will be distributed to the needy of the Parish and the Ladywood Food Bank.

## Y6 RESIDENTIAL

The Y6 residential takes place from Monday 15<sup>th</sup>-Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October. Please note final payment is expected by Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October. Please note date of Parents' Meeting for this residential: Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> September 3.30pm **OR** 5.30pm.

## IMPORTANT

### DATA COLLECTION SHEET

In the envelope with this newsletter you should find a copy of your child's school Data Collection Sheet.

It is very important that this form is returned to school as soon as possible please.

**We need up-to-date contact information, especially mobile phone numbers!**

**Please only put contact numbers of people who, in an emergency, are able to collect or make arrangements for your child to be collected if you are unable to be contacted.**

**Please also put any additional information you think we should know on the back of the sheet.**

### AND FINALLY.....NEWSLETTERS

If you've reached here well done and thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter! At the start of a new school year there are always lots of reminders.

Newsletters are an important way of getting a lot of information out to parents. They take a lot of effort to put together and cost the school in terms of paper etc. Please take time to read newsletters carefully and make notes of any important dates.

**If there is anything you don't understand that is mentioned in a newsletter please contact the School and we will be more than happy to clarify things.**