



# ST GREGORY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

## "LOVING AND LEARNING"

### JANUARY 2016 NEWSLETTER



Happy New Year to you all. May your New Year be blessed with peace, love and joy. On behalf of St Gregory's Governors and Staff thank you for all the generous gifts we received at Christmas

#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - January 2016

- Monday 11 - Year 4 Fire Station visit
- Tuesday 12 - Year 5 Swimming commences
- Friday 15 - Closing date for Reception Admission application forms for September 2016
- Saturday 16 - 12.00pm Father Cownleys 40th Anniversary Celebration Mass at St Gregory's Church followed by refreshments at school from 1.00pm onwards

#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - February 2016

- Friday 5 - Key Stage 1 and Year 3 Premier Sport Competition
- Friday 12 - Years 4,5 and 6 Premier Sport Competition
- School closes for half term
- Monday 22 - School reopens

#### THANK YOU! Message from Mrs Bolton

After my many years at St. Gregory's I cannot thank you enough for all your kind words, retirement cards, flowers and so many wonderful gifts. It has been such a pleasure and privilege to 'work' for and with so many families and staff. Thank you for making my retirement such a memorable occasion, it is something I will never forget. My best wishes to you all, a very Happy New Year and good luck for the future.

#### CHANGE OF ADDRESS/TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Please ensure that you notify the office of any change of address or telephone number. It is best to inform the office personally as children often forget to give in messages or letters.

#### SNOW DESK INFORMATION

During the winter months and the possibility of snow please keep an eye on the school website [www.st-gregorys.sandwell.sch.uk](http://www.st-gregorys.sandwell.sch.uk) for any updates on school closures. School will notify Sandwell Council who will then inform local media/radio stations of closure and update Sandwell Facebook and Twitter to give parents instant notice.

We will continue to send text messages, these have proven very successful as a means of informing you of school arrangements during any severe weather conditions. **Please remember to inform school of any changes in mobile phone numbers.**

#### A REMINDER

Holidays cannot be authorised unless there is exceptional circumstances.

In line with our school attendance policy we may refer unauthorised leave of absence to the Attendance and Prosecution Service. Such a referral may lead to a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued.

It is inappropriate for children in Year 6 or Year 2 to have any holiday leave during this vital year. Similarly all children sit tests **during the week of May 9 including the statutory SAT's**, and no holiday time will be authorised after Easter until the end of the test week 13 May 2016.

#### LARGE PRINT

If anyone would like a copy of the Newsletters or any other school correspondence in large print please contact the school office.

## SEPTEMBER INTAKE 2016

### RECEPTION

Children born between 01.09.11 and 31.08.12 are due to start school in September 2016. Please ensure that your child is registered, children are not automatically awarded a place if they are in Nursery or if they have an older sibling in school. The school cannot accept responsibility for the non registration of children.

### NURSERY

If your child was born between 01.09.12 and 31.08.13 then your child is eligible for a part time Nursery place. The closing date for registration for the Nursery is Friday 5 February 2016. Parents will be informed as to the outcome of the admissions committee decision by letter which will be posted before the Easter holiday.

### PUPILS ARRIVING AT SCHOOL

Please ensure that your child is escorted to and from school especially during the dark mornings and evenings. Children are being dropped off/collected and running down the school drive unaccompanied. Please think of the children's safety.

### CHARITY WORK

You raised the grand sum of **£73.29** for the Poppy Appeal and **£123.55** for Save the Children.

**Dates for your Diary - Year 3 Saturday 11 June at 12.00pm - First Holy Communion**

**Inspire workshops - Year 3 10th March, Year 4 17th March, Year 2 14th April, Year 5 19th May and Year 6 9th June**

### MONTHLY REFLECTION - The Epiphany

On 6th January we celebrated the feast of the Epiphany. 'The Epiphany' means a showing, a revealing and an enlightening. The 'Wise men' represent all the peoples of the world they know of the prophecies of the infant king the Saviour of the world. Through them Jesus' arrival was announced to the world. Jesus the Lord had come to save **all** people. The feast shows us two aspects of our faith; the presence of the Son of God being revealed and God's desire to save all peoples made clear.

#### A FAMILY PRAYER

Dear God, like the three Wise men  
we are here today to worship you, Jesus.  
We have no gold,  
but we give you our love.  
We have no frankincense,  
we give you our prayers.  
We have no Myrrh,  
so we give you ourselves.



## SCHOOL UNIFORM

May I please remind you that children should be in full winter uniform in line with school policy.

We have both elasticated/ordinary ties on sale at £4.00 at the School Office.

May I please remind you to label your child's school uniform as we have an ever increasing lost property basket.

School bags are available from the school office, back packs £7.50, book bags £5.00 and pump bags £3.00.



### MR TURVEY'S JOKE CORNER

- Q. Why did the jelly baby go to school?  
A. Because he really wanted to be a smartie.

### QUIZ QUESTION

What day of the week does Ben visit his Granny in Gangster Granny?

I \_\_\_\_\_ the parents of \_\_\_\_\_  
have received the January 2016 Newsletter Signed: \_\_\_\_\_