



ST GREGORY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

"LOVING & LEARNING"

FEBRUARY 2016 NEWSLETTER



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - February 2016

- Thursday 4 - Year 5 Pyramid Concert at Birmingham Town Hall
- Friday 5 - Key Stage 1 and Year 3 Premier Sports Competition
- Closing date for Nursery Admission application forms September 2016
- Year 2 Mexican Themed Lunch
- Tuesday 9 - Choir Workshop at the Symphony Hall
- Wednesday 10 - Whole School Mass
- Friday 12 - Years 4, 5 and 6 Premier Sport Competition
- Reception - Hearing Screenings (Sandwell Audiology)
- **School closes for half term**
- Monday 22 - **School reopens**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - March 2016

- Thursday 3 - Father Hudsons whole school assembly
- HCPT Charity Fashion Show
- Tuesday 15 - Parents Evening 4.00pm to 6.00pm
- Thursday 24 - **School closes for Easter**
- Monday 11 April - **School re-opens**

Please note the whole school consultation week is week commencing 14th March.

SCHOOL MEALS

May I remind parents that it is school policy that pupils who request school meals at lunch time are only permitted to change to sandwiches each half-term. This is to assist Cook with ordering, budgeting and the smooth running of the kitchen.



PACKED LUNCHES

Children take food home that they have not eaten, this is to enable parents to track what their children are eating and adjust the amount accordingly. It would be advisable for parents to provide flasks for drinks as children do not always finish a full carton.



May I also remind you not to send in nuts or sweets/chocolate bars in their packed lunches.

SAINSBURY'S ACTIVE KIDS 2016

The Sainsbury's Active Kids Voucher scheme has started again and runs until 8 July 2016. Please send your vouchers to school, there is a collection box in the school entrance ready and waiting.



The more we can collect the more equipment we will be able to enjoy!

DINNER MONEY

Please note that any parents who owe outstanding dinner money will receive a letter and be contacted by the office staff to arrange payment.

We ask that £10 is paid each Monday morning in advance to cover that weeks meals. Thank you!

NEW OFFICE STAFF—Miss Griffiths and Mrs Duncan

My name is Miss Griffiths I would like to introduce myself and Mrs Duncan as the new office staff at St Gregorys. Thank you to parents and children who have made us feel very welcome and part of the family already!

Could I take this opportunity to inform parents that the new office opening hours are 8.00am until 4.00pm, therefore could I please ask you to contact the office asap if you have any issues with collecting your child or have information that needs passing on.

Should you need to contact school after 4.00pm please only do so if your child is participating in an after school club and an urgent message needs to be passed on.

We shall look forward to meeting you all in the coming months!

CHILDREN'S SAFETY

Could I please remind you not to leave pupils to stand outside their classroom doors alone when waiting for the school bell to ring. We would ask that children are seen safely into school by a parent/child minder. Thank you.

PYRAMID CONCERT - YEAR 5 Have you got your tickets yet?

The concert will be taking place at Birmingham Town Hall on Thursday 4 February. Tickets are available from the school office at £8 each, hope we see you there.

All children will need to be collected from the Town Hall at the end of the concert.



QUIZ QUESTION

Pharaoh is the title given to the rulers of which ancient country?



MR TURVEY'S JOKE CORNER

Q: What do you call an alligator in a vest?

A: An Investigator



HEALTH AND SAFETY

In the interest of Health and Safety may I remind you to tie your child's hair back off their face.

Head lice is an on going problem within the school and I suggest regular checks for any 'visitors'.

CAR PARKING

Please may we remind you to be considerate when parking your cars. We have received complaints from pupils parents with regard to children being dropped off at the top of the drive, parking on yellow lines and even leaving small children in the car whilst older children are seen up/down the school drive.

The children's safety above all should be the first consideration. Please take care.

CHILDREN FEELING UNWELL

It is unfortunate that we have had a high level of sickness this term with pupils being sent home during the day. Could I remind parents that statutory guidelines advise that if children are experiencing diarrhoea and/or vomiting that they do not return for 48 hours from the last episode of sickness. If your child is suffering from Flu (influenza) they need to make a full recovery before returning to school.

Thank you for you continued support.

ATTENDANCE - 04.01.16 - 25.1.16

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
% Overall Attendance	87.7	97.6	96.1	98.3	94.2	98.7
% Authorised Absence	12.3	2.4	3.9	1.7	5.8	1.3
% Unauthorised Absence	0	0	0	0	0	0
No. of Children	30	30	30	30	30	30

Well done to all classes and Year 6 in particular

UNIFORM

The children have returned after their Christmas holiday looking very smart. Could we please ask you to ensure that your child's clothes are clearly labelled?

P.E. Kit - please ensure all children have their P.E. kit in school ready for lessons and during this cold weather please don't forget to send them in with a suitable outdoor kit. P.E. bags are available to buy from the school office at £3.00.

CASH/CHEQUES IN ENVELOPES

May I remind you when sending any money into school to please put it in an envelope with your child's name, class and what the money is for on the front. Please put the correct amount in as it is impossible to return change on such a large scale. The younger children find it difficult to cope with cash in their hands.



SAFEGUARDING

Please check the website for the new Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy. The policy will be available to view online shortly.

Our Policy states:

- Providing a safe environment for children to learn and develop in, including curriculum to provide children with the skills to keep themselves safe.
- Ensuring that all school staff are trained to recognise signs of child abuse and know how to report any concerns.
- Supporting pupils in accordance with his/her agreed child protection, child in need of a TAF (Team Around the family) Plan.
- Ensuring we practice safe recruitment processes to ensure that all staff and volunteers are employed by the school are suitable to work with children.
- Most importantly this guidance puts the needs of children and young people at its heart - so the system fits and responds to you and not the other way around.

Lent offers us a very special time to grow in our relationship with God and to deepen our commitment to our Faith. During this Year of Faith let us invite God into our lives to enrich us and help us. Let us reflect, pray, grow and deepen our Faith together.

**Dear God,
We thank you for the gifts
Of Faith, Hope and Love.
We ask you to make these a power
By which we live and pray each day.
Forgive our many failures and
Fill us with your love.
Amen**



I _____ the parent of _____
have received the February Newsletter. Signed _____
Answer to the Quiz question is: _____