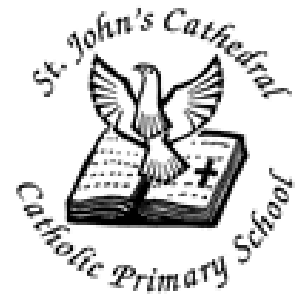


**ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL  
(WITH NURSERY)  
Cottage View  
Landport  
PORTSMOUTH  
PO1 1PX**



**Headteacher: Miss C.M. Hobbs B.Ed (Hons)**

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7<sup>th</sup> September 2009

Dear Parent,

Welcome back. I hope you all had an enjoyable summer and good break from routine. I would like to thank you all for ensuring that your children looked so smart and were on time at the start of term.

### **Welcome**

To Miss Giner who has joined our school as a volunteer as part of her Teacher Training Course in Spain. She will be with us for 5 months.

We also welcome the following children and their families:

Wojciech Chomicki, Martyna Chomicka, Anna Kucharska and all the Nursery and Reception children who will be starting with us over the next few weeks.

I hope they will soon feel part of the community.

### **Congratulations**

To Mrs. Coyle (Miss Vacher) on her marriage over the summer.

### **Thank you**

To Renz and Christy who represented the school at last Sunday's Civic Mass. They looked very smart in their uniforms as they took the gifts up at the offertory.

### **Swine Flu**

We have heard much in the press about Swine Flu over the past few months. Whilst hoping our school will not be affected too badly by the illness we do need to be practical in our approach to dealing with it. It is our hope that we would be able to remain open at all times, unless of course a large majority of staff caught it at the same time. We would like to reduce the likelihood of germs being spread by introducing antibacterial gel in the classrooms. If you would rather your child didn't use the gel please let your child's teacher know in writing.



## **Earrings**

Please ensure that all earrings are removed on days when children have P.E. If they are unable to remove them please send in tape or plasters for your children to use to cover their earrings.

## **Family Learning**

Starting on Wednesday September the 30<sup>th</sup> for four weeks there will be a Family Learning Course for Year 3 parents run by the Local Authority. The sessions will be mornings only and will help you to help your children now that they are in the Juniors. More details will follow shortly.

## **School Building Fund**

Every parent is asked to contribute £5 per child per term (including the Nursery) towards the maintenance and development of the school building. Thank you to all those parents who have already been in to pay. Please send your contribution to the school office by half-term.

## **Book Club**

Leaflets for the Scholastic Book Club have been circulated. Please return any orders to Mrs. Wilson in the office by Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September. Please make cheques payable to Scholastic.

## **Inset Days**

Staff training will be held this term on:

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October and

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November

I apologise for any inconvenience the school closure on those days causes.

## **Staff Availability**

Teachers are always in the playground at the beginning and end of the day to see parents. This is really just an opportunity to pass on messages, sort out changes in collection arrangements, etc. It is not meant as an opportunity to discuss any concerns or issues you may have.

Anything requiring a discussion with the class teacher really needs to be sorted out by making an appointment to see the teacher.

## **A few practical reminders**

### **First Holy Communion**

If your child is in Year 3 or above and has not yet made their First Holy Communion please complete the form you would have received last Friday and return it to school

as soon as possible. The first session for Parents is on 24<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00 pm in the Cathedral hall. The first session for the children is at 11.30 a.m. on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October.

### **Becoming a Catholic**

If you would like to know more about becoming a Catholic a course will be starting shortly. Please see Fr. David, Fr. Steven or myself for more details.

### **Education Sunday**

All children are expected to attend the 12 o'clock Mass in their uniform on **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October**. The children will be involved with singing, reading the offertory, etc. Reception children will be given a special welcome. Please keep this date free.

### **Children's Mass**

Don't forget we hold a Children's Mass on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month at 12 o'clock at the Cathedral.

### **Applications for School**

If your child is due to start school in September 2009 applications must be submitted by Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October.

Fr. David and Fr. Steven will be available to sign forms on

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October in school at 11.15 – 11.45 a.m.**

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October in school at 3.15 – 3.45 p.m.**

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October at Bishop's House 6.30 – 7.30 p.m.**

Please try not to get them to sign forms at other times.

### **Open Day**

If you are a Nursery parent applying for a place at our school and would like to know more about the school or have a tour, come along on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September at 9.30 a.m.

### **Family Photos**

These will be held on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October at the school. Details will follow later.

### **Term Dates**

#### **Autumn Term**

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December

Half Term 26<sup>th</sup> October – 30<sup>th</sup> October

### **Spring Term**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January – Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April

Half Term 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> February

### **Summer Term**

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July

Half Term 31<sup>st</sup> May – 4<sup>th</sup> June

### **Holidays**

Please make sure that holidays are not taken during term time, particularly in Year 6 and Year 2. If for any reason your holiday has to be taken during the term, permissions must be requested **before** the holiday is booked.

I am sure as the year goes on we will have much to celebrate. I look forward to working alongside you in the year that lies ahead.

Yours sincerely,

C.M. Hobbs  
Headteacher

## Term Dates

### September

Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 Whole School Mass
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 KS2 at Cathedral to welcome St. Therese of Lisieux relics
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 KS2 at Cathedral
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 Year 2 Family Learning 9.30 New Parents Tour of School
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup>	7.00 First Holy Communion Parents Meeting
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 Year 3 Family Learning Nursery Coffee Morning
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup>	10.45 School Nurse for Year 6 1.00 Netball Year 5/6
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 Family Learning for Year 3

### October

Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup>	9.00 Year 3 to Royal Armouries 11.15 – 11.45 – Signing of Application Forms in school 9.30 Year 2 Liturgy
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Year 1 Family Learning 3.15 – 3.45 – Signing of Application Forms in school
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup>	12 O'clock Education Sunday Mass
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	9.00 Year 6 Family Learning
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 Year 5 Mass
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Inset Day – School closed
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 Manor Farm Trip 6.30 – 7.30 Signing of Application Forms at Bishop's House

Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Travelling Books Arrive
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 Year 4 Mass
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 Year 6 Family Learning
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Arts Week
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Fire People in Years 1 and 2
	9.30 Years 3 and 4 Swimming Gala
	1.30 Years 5 and 6 Swimming Gala
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	9.15 Whole School Mass
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Family Photos
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Half Term
<b>November</b>	
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	9.00 School Photos
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	10.00 Year 5 Museum Trip
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 Years 3 and 4 Non-Swimmers Gala
	1.30 Years 5 and 6 Non-Swimmers Gala
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 Year 3 Mass
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 Year 6 Mass
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 Year 5 Family Learning
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 Year 1 Liturgy
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 Year 4 Family Learning
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Parents Evening
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evening
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evening
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 Year R Liturgy
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evening
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Inset Day – School Closed

**December**

Monday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Carol Singing, Guildhall Steps
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup>	2.00 Christmas Production
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 Nursery Nativity 2.30 Nursery Nativity
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	p.m. Christmas Parties
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup>	12.15 Christmas Dinner
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 End of Term Assembly 1.30 Term Ends