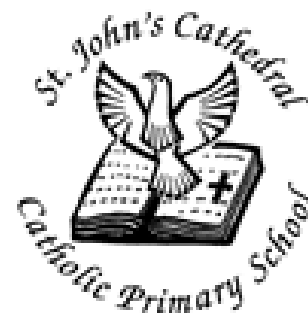


**ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL  
(WITH NURSERY)  
Cottage View  
Landport  
PORTSMOUTH  
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**Headteacher: Miss C.M. Hobbs B.Ed (Hons)**

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11<sup>th</sup> November 2009

Dear Parents,

I can't believe how quickly this term is going. It won't be long before Christmas is upon us.

I hope that this newsletter will help you to plan ahead for everything that will be happening before the end of term.

### **Mrs. Tracey**

I am sure that the children have told you the good news. Mrs. Tracey had a kidney transplant last week and is making a good recovery. I am sure you will remember her and the donor's family in your prayers.

### **Year 6**

I would like to thank Year 6 for making my time with them on the Isle of Wight last week so enjoyable. I am grateful to Miss Leach, Mr. Flanagan and Mrs. Vaughan for giving up their time so willingly to ensure that we are able to offer residential visits to your children. The children were delighted to be visited by Mrs. Titchener along with new baby Sophie and her big brother Joshua while they were away.

### **Parents Evenings**

These will be taking place for all classes during the week of 23<sup>rd</sup> November. I would ask that any separated parents make sure that they liaise with each other to find a mutually convenient slot as we are unable to offer separate appointments.

Lists will be put up to sign up for appointments on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November in the afternoon.

I am very sorry but the office staff are unable to sign up for you.



## **School Building Fund**

Reminders will be going out shortly to those who have forgotten to pay this term's Building Fund. The contribution is less than 50p a week and enables our school building and playground to be developed into the school your child and children of the future deserve. You have chosen to send your child to a Catholic school, so please show your commitment by paying the School Building Fund, thank you.

## **School Photographs**

Any orders for the family photos or school photos must be handed in to the school office by the end of the day on the 19<sup>th</sup> November.

We used a different company for the school photos. I would appreciate any feedback you have to give about the more 'relaxed' style of photograph.

## **Scholastic Book Club**

All orders must be handed in to the office by this Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> November. Please make cheques payable to 'Scholastic'.

## **Pompey Rockets and Pompey Stars**

If anyone wants to sign up for the Christmas Workshops in December don't forget to hand your forms in to the office by 17<sup>th</sup> November. I'm afraid we don't have any spare forms in the office.

## **Underwear**

This might sound strange but can you please make sure your child wears pants to school every day. We have had several cases lately of children being reluctant to change for P.E. It has then come to light that they have no pants on!

## **INSET DAY**

Don't forget that the school will be closed for staff training on **Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November**. I apologise for any inconvenience this causes.

## **Late Arrivals**

This is a reminder that the school day does begin at 8.45 a.m. Children should be in the playground ready to line up by 8.40 a.m. During the winter months the traffic is always heavier so if you drive please allow extra time for your journey. Those who travel the furthest seem to be the children who are always on time.

## **Children in Need**

We will be holding a non-uniform day on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November to support this annual appeal. Children will be asked to pay 50p and bring some chocolate to school, for the privilege of wearing their own clothes.

## **Chocolate Tombola**

We will be holding our chocolate tombola on **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December** to raise money for our Advent Charity. Tickets will be 20p each. The tombola will take place during the school day. Should there be any prizes left at the end of the day then the tombola will take place at the end of the school day.

## **Christmas Production**

This will be taking place on **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December** in the Cathedral at **2.00 p.m.** As in previous years I would ask that you do not bring pre-school children or babies. I am not too sure why, but every year one or two parents think this request doesn't apply to them. If you are one of these parents then please sit at the very back of the Cathedral so that you can easily take your child outside if they make a noise.

## **November/December Diary**

### **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November**

Non Uniform Day. Please bring 50p and some chocolate.

### **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November**

Parents Evenings.

### **Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November**

School closed, Inset Day

### **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December**

Chocolate Tombola – tickets 20p each.

### **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December**

Children's Mass at 12 o'clock. It would be great to have as many Junior children singing with me as possible.

### **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December**

All slips need to be returned by today to book your child's Christmas dinner. Please do not send money in until next Monday (letter to follow).

All costumes need to be brought into school for the Christmas production (details to follow).

5.45 p.m. Children will meet at the Guildhall to sing carols and turn on the Christmas lights.

### **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December**

Today is our Christmas Production in the Cathedral at 2.00 p.m. If you are not coming to watch, your child will need to be picked up at 3.00 p.m. from the Cathedral.

No book bags are needed today. It would also be helpful if any packed lunch children could bring their lunches in a throw away bag.

50p is due in today for the Christmas parties.

### **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December**

All the children preparing for their First Holy Communion will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time today at the Cathedral's Penitential Service at 11.15 a.m. Please remember the children in your prayers.

### **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December**

There will be an Advent service at the Cathedral at 4.00 p.m. All are welcome at this celebration.

### **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December**

The post box will be ready to receive any Christmas cards the children want to give to their friends or the staff. Please make sure that the envelope is marked with the name and class of the child it is intended for.

### **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December**

Nursery will be holding their Christmas Celebration at 10.30 a.m. for the morning children and 2.30 p.m. for afternoon children. All parents, younger brothers and sisters are welcome to come.

### **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December**

This is Christmas dinner day for all who have booked it.

### **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December**

The children will be having a Christmas party this afternoon. The children will need to bring clothes to change into for the afternoon.

### **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December**

Our end of term assembly and awards presentation will take place at 9.00 a.m. today. Everyone is welcome to attend this celebration. I would ask that older brothers and sisters do not attend please as it is difficult to fit everyone in.

Term ends at **1.30 p.m.** today.

## **Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December**

Some Junior children will be singing carols on board a cruise liner at 2.00 p.m. (letter to follow).

## **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December**

On Christmas Eve there is a very special Mass at 6.00 p.m. especially for children. It's always lovely when the children come along dressed as angels, shepherds, kings, etc. Do try and bring your children along to this Mass or the 9.00 a.m. or 10.30 a.m. Mass on Christmas morning so that they can remember and celebrate the real reason for our Christmas celebrations.

## **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January**

We will be celebrating the wonderful feast of the Epiphany today with a children's Mass at 12 o'clock. It would be good to see lots of you there. As usual I would like any Junior children to sing please.

## **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January**

The new term starts today at 8.45 a.m. Don't be late!

Yours sincerely,

C.M. Hobbs  
Headteacher