

**ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
(WITH NURSERY)
Cottage View
Landport
PORTSMOUTH
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27th April 2007

Dear Parents,

A belated welcome back to everyone after the Easter holidays. I hope you all made the most of the wonderful weather.

Thank you

To all the families who joined me at the Cathedral on Good Friday and Easter Sunday. It was lovely to see so many of you there.

To a group of our First Holy Communion children who led the children's Stations of the Cross at the Cathedral.

To everyone who supported our Lenten 5p appeal for CAFOD. £130 was raised which Sneha and Jose presented at Mass at the Cathedral on Holy Thursday.

For the support for the Easter Egg Raffle. I hope the winners enjoyed their eggs and £181 was raised for plants for the school.

Welcome Back

To Mrs. Wilding who has rejoined the staff following her maternity leave.

We are hoping Mrs. Kern will be back with us very soon. She is recovering well from her hip replacement operation, and is already planning her next one!

Welcome to Julia Heller and her family who joined Reception this week.

Nethercott Farm

The children in Year 4 and 5 have now left for their trip to Devon. I am very grateful to Mrs. Park, Mrs. Curtis, Mrs. Clark and Mrs. Pescops for giving so freely of their time to enable your children to have this wonderful opportunity. I'm already worried about what pictures of me farming I'll find attached to the school door this year!

Coats

Although we have been blessed with some wonderful weather already this term, please make sure your children do bring coats to school with them as the weather can be a little unpredictable at times.

Dates

My apologies if there has been any confusion over holiday dates. Summer dates are as follows:

16 th April	Term started
3 rd May	School closed for polling
28 th May – 1 st June	Half term
25 th June	School closed for staff training
19 th July	Term ends 3.30 p.m.
20 th July	School closed for staff training

Scholastic Book Club

Leaflets have just gone out and any orders are due in by Friday 4th May. Please make cheques payable to Scholastic .

Family Learning

I am delighted to see that so many parents in Reception have signed up for our current long family learning course. I'm sure you and your children will enjoy working together.

Last term a family learning morning was held for Year 3 and their parents . I would like to extend this opportunity to the other year groups this term. I do hope you or a grandparent will be able to make the sessions.

Friday 18 th May 9.00 – 10.30	-	Year 1
Wednesday 6 th June 9.00 – 10.30	-	Year 4
Monday 18 th June 2.00 – 3.30	-	Year 6
Tuesday 19 th June 2.00 – 3.30	-	Year 2
Tuesday 10 th July 2.00 – 3.30	-	Year 5

Mr. Hellyer's Walk

Every May Mr. Hellyer completes a 100km walk around the battle fields of Belgium. This year Mr. Hellyer is seeking sponsors to raise money for Great Ormond Street children's hospital and Cystic Fibrosis. If you feel you are able to support these two very worthy causes please sign the sponsor form available in the office or with Mr. Hellyer.

Congratulations / Thank you

I feel strange writing about myself but am thrilled to say that following a nomination from a member of the school community I am a finalist for the southern region Headteacher of the Year award. The school was visited by the judges this week and I have been invited to attend the award ceremony at the Guildhall in Winchester in June. I am grateful to the staff, parents, pupils, governors, priests, local authority who willingly gave up their time on Tuesday to talk to the judges about me. I feel very honoured to have been nominated and thrilled to be a finalist. I know that my success is down to the hard work and commitment of all the school community and for this I am so grateful.

I hope you all manage to make the most of the lovely weather this weekend.

Yours sincerely,

C.M. Hobbs
Headteacher