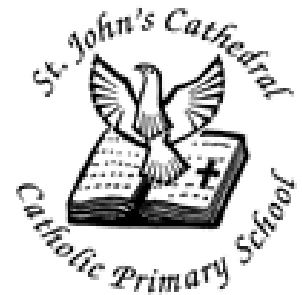


**ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
(WITH NURSERY)
Cottage View
Landport
PORTSMOUTH
PO1 1PX**



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

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27th June 2008

Dear Parents,

I can't believe how the term is racing on. It is hard to imagine that the end of the school year is almost here.

Congratulations

To Mr. and Mrs. Flanagan and Nia on the birth of 9lb 3oz Eoin (Owen) on the 13th June. Mr. Flanagan will be back with us full time on Monday.

To our netball and girls and boys football teams who have showed great sportsmanship in difficult situations at recent tournaments. They were a great credit to the school. Thanks to Mrs. Park, Mrs. Kern and Miss Sprake for all the hard work they put in organising and coaching the school teams.

To the Year 2 children and junior choir who performed so well at the Guildhall this week. My thanks go to Miss Lane and Mrs. Park for preparing the children so well and to Mrs. Gardner and Mrs. Stokes for all their help and support on the night.

Staff Changes

Not all staffing positions are as yet finalised for September. Mrs. Titchener will be joining our teaching staff in September and Mr. Hellyer and Mrs. O'Neill will be leaving at the end of term.

Mr. Hellyer and Mrs. O'Neill have been at our school for many years and contributed a great deal to the lives of the families of St. John's. Mr. Hellyer has been looking forward to his day of retirement for sometime; for Mrs. O'Neill it has come a little earlier than she had hoped, but following surgery and the complications that have ensued she has decided to retire in order to recover fully. I am grateful for all that they have given to our school and wish them a very fruitful and fulfilled retirement.

Haircuts

As you are aware from our school prospectus we ask that children have smart haircuts and no gel, wax, etc.



A smart haircut means not too short, no shaved patterns or no following the latest trend. It does also mean ensuring that the hair is not too long either. I have noticed a few longer styles creeping in and would ask that your children have their hair cut to above the collar please. Thank you for your co-operation. Visitors always comment on the smart appearance of St. John's pupils and naturally this is something I'd like us all to continue to be proud of.

R.E. Validation

Today we have had our R.E. Validation, when the Catholic life of the school is evaluated. Two Validators have been present watching lessons, collective worship, the behaviour of children and staff as well as talking to the Chair of Governors Commodore Swan, Canon Hopgood as Parish Priest and the children. I am sure it will be a very positive outcome. You should receive a copy of the report before the end of term.

Celebration

To celebrate our 'outstanding' year at St. John's we are planning to hold (weather permitting) a fun afternoon of activities as a reward and thank you to the children on Friday 18th July. If you would like to join us at 3.00 p.m. we will be ending with ice lollies for the children and parents. I'm afraid I cannot however extend the invitation to older brothers and sisters and so would ask that they don't come along. In order to keep the site secure the only entrance will be via the back playground. I apologise for any inconvenience caused but do hope you will be able to join us.

School Meals

As from the start of term in September school meals will increase in cost to £1.70. Can I also take this opportunity to remind you that dinner money is to be paid on a **Monday morning** not at the end of the day or week or even the following week!

Attendance

We have a few families whose children seem to be having lots of 'odd days' off. The children are expected to be at school 5 days a week and not have time off because it's raining, their birthday, they're tired or have a headache. We will always contact you if children are too ill to be at school.

I hope the following will help you with your planning for the rest of term:

Wednesday 2nd July

Nursery Trip

Year 5 Book Awards

Thursday 3rd July

Nursery Trip

Friday 4th July

Outdoor Athletics Competition – Mountbatten Centre

Sunday 6th July

1.30 p.m. Super Sixes Football Tournament

Monday 7th July

Year 6 Day at St. Edmund's

Tuesday 8th July

Junior Intersport Competition

Wednesday 9th July

Year 6 Catholic Cluster Day at Park Place

2.30 p.m. Year R Liturgy at the Cathedral

7.30 p.m. Children's University Awards

Friday 11th July

9.30 a.m. Whole School Mass at the Cathedral

3.00 p.m. Flute Concert for Year 4 parents

Saturday 12th July

11 a.m. - 2.00 p.m. Cathedral Summer Fair. Do come along and support this event.

Monday 14th July

9.30 a.m. – 11 a.m. Nursery and Reception Sports

1.30 p.m. – 3.30 p.m. Year 3 and Year 4 Sports

Tuesday 15th July

9.30 a.m. – 11 a.m. Year 1 and Year 2 Sports

1.30 p.m. – 3.30 p.m. Year 5 and Year 6 Sports

5.30 p.m. Book Awards at the Pyramids

Friday 18th July

9.00 a.m. Leavers' Assembly

Sunday 20th July

Kit Car Racing at Goodwood

Monday 21st July

9.30 a.m. Leavers' Mass at the Cathedral

Tuesday 22nd July

9.00 a.m. End of Term Assembly

Yours sincerely,

C.M. Hobbs
Headteacher