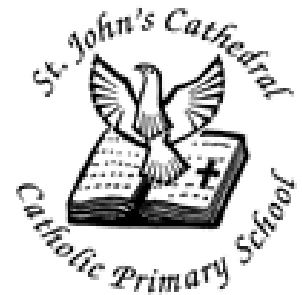


**ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
(WITH NURSERY)
Cottage View
Landport
PORTSMOUTH
PO1 1PX**



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

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11th September 2008

Dear Parent,

Welcome back. I hope you all had an enjoyable summer in spite of the weather. I would like to thank you all for ensuring that your children looked so smart at the start of term.

Welcome

To Mrs. Titchener and Mrs. Olie who have joined the teaching staff in Year 6 and the Nursery. We welcome back Mrs. Beaton as the teacher in Year R and Mrs. Mackenzie as an LSA in Year 1 following her maternity leave.

We also welcome the following children and their families:

Christy Philip, Chris Philip, Dominik Jezior, Austin Fernandes, Shirya Parambi, Benita Thomas, Rosalin Fernandes, Kinga Jezior and Dawid Ostrowski.

I hope they will soon feel part of the community.

Congratulations

To Mrs. Pearson (Mrs. Harding) on her marriage over the summer.

To Mrs. Bailey (who was the support teacher in Year 6) who gave birth to 7lb baby Moses on 2nd August.

Thank you

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

To those parents who have ensured that their children follow the school's policy on haircuts/styles. Just to clarify, boys are asked to have a smart haircut. This means the length should be above the collar (but not too short) with no patterns shaved in or hair products used.



Girls with long hair should have it tied back with something small and blue.
If you are unsure of the suitability of your child's haircut please check with me.

Awards

We were notified at the end of term and during the holiday that we have successfully obtained Healthy Schools Status and have had our Quality Mark for Basic Skills renewed. My thanks go to Mr. Flanagan, Mrs. O'Neill and all the staff for their hard work in putting the evidence files together.

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

Following on from the positive feedback of last year we will continue with Family Learning Workshops for each class each term.

School Building Fund

Every parent is asked to contribute £5 per child per term 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.

Inset Days

Staff training will be held this term on:

Monday 6th October and

Monday 24th 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 and you would like them to please turn up at the 12 o'clock Mass this Sunday and take them to the Jubilee Room (the room just inside the door from the car park).

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 5th October**. The children will be involved with singing, reading the offertory, etc. Reception children will be called up to receive a prayer book. Please keep this date free.

Children's Mass

Don't forget we hold a Children's Mass on the 1st 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 24th October.

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

Sunday 5th October following the 10 a.m. or 12 o'clock Mass.

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 Tuesday 30th September at 9.30 a.m.

Family Photos

These will be held on Saturday 25th October at the school. Details will follow later.

Book Club

Please hand in all orders for the Book Club to the school office by Friday 19th September. Please make cheques payable to 'Scholastic' and write your cheque number on the reverse of the cheque.

Term Dates

Autumn Term

Wednesday 3rd September – Friday 19th December

Half Term 27th – 31st October

Spring Term

Monday 5th January – Friday 3rd April

Half Term 16th – 20th February

Summer Term

Monday 20th April – Wednesday 22nd July

Half Term 25th – 29th May

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.

Last year was an ‘outstanding’ year here at St. John’s and I’m sure as the year goes on we will continue to 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 11 th	Parents Coffee Morning – Music Room 7.00 First Holy Communion Parents Meeting
Sunday 14 th	First Holy Communion Programme starts
Monday 15 th	10.00 Year 5 City Museum
Friday 19 th	9.00 Year 3 Family Learning
Wednesday 24 th	9.30 Year 5 Liturgy

October

Wednesday 1 st	9.30 Year 4 Liturgy
Friday 3 rd	9.00 Year 6 Family Learning
Sunday 5 th	12 o'clock Mass - Education Sunday
Monday 6 th	Inset Day – school closed
Wednesday 8 th	9.30 Year 1 Liturgy 11.00 – 11.45 – Year 3 / 4 Author Visit
Thursday 9 th	Hockey League Match
Tuesday 14 th	Netball League Match
Wednesday 15 th	9.30 Year 2 Liturgy Y4 last swimming lesson
Friday 17 th	9.00 Year 5 Family Learning
Monday 20 th	Year 5 – Manor Farm Trip
Wednesday 22 nd	Maths Day 9.30 – 11.30 Y3 / 4 Swimming Gala 1.30 – 3.00 – Y5 / 6 Swimming Gala

Thursday 23 rd	Hockey League Match
Saturday 25 th	Family Photos
Monday 27 th – Friday 31 st	Half Term
November	
Sunday 2 nd	12 o'clock Children's Mass
Tuesday 4 th	Netball League Match
Wednesday 5 th	Year 6 to Isle of Wight
Thursday 6 th	Hockey League Match
Friday 7 th	9.00 Year 4 Family Learning
Wednesday 12 th	9.30 Year 3 Liturgy
	Yr 5 / 6 to Action Stations
Friday 14 th	Yr 5 to Kings Theatre
Tuesday 18 th	School Photos
	Netball League Match
	Parents Evening
Wednesday 19 th	Parents Evening
Thursday 20 th	Hockey League Match
	Parents Evening
Friday 21 st	9.00 Year 1 Family Learning
Monday 24 th	Inset Day – school closed
Tuesday 25 th	Netball League Match
Wednesday 26 th	9.30 Year R Liturgy
	Year 1 to HMS Warrior
Friday 28 th	9.00 Year 2 Family Learning

December

Monday 1 st	Carol Singing on Guildhall Steps
Thursday 4 th	Yr 5 /6 Girls Football Tournament
Saturday 6 th	Children's University
Sunday 7 th	12 o'clock Children's Mass
Thursday 11 th	Hockey League Match
Friday 12 th	2.00 Christmas Production
Tuesday 16 th	10.30 Nursery Christmas Celebration
	2.30 Nursery Christmas Celebration
Wednesday 17 th	Christmas Dinner
Thursday 18 th	Christmas Parties
Friday 19 th	9.00 End of Term Assembly
	1.30 Term Ends
Wednesday 24 th	6.00 p.m. Children's Mass