



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Autumn Term 2020 Issue 2

Dates for your diary

Sadly, there are fewer dates for our diaries than usual! However, we are looking at alternative ways to share the events that take place on the school site and will let you know about our plans as soon as possible.

Saturday 3rd October - First Holy Communion

Wednesday 7th October 7pm - Secondary Transfer Meeting Online for Year 6 Parents

Thursday 8th October – Nasal Flu Vaccinations

Tuesday 20th October – Parents' Evening 4 – 6pm (by phone)

Thursday 22nd October – Parents' Evening 5 – 7pm (by phone)

Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October Half-term

Monday 2nd November - INSET Day
School Closed

Wednesday 18th November – Individual Photographs tbc.

Friday 18th December – Last Day of Term

Monday 22nd December – Friday 1st January Christmas Holidays

School Governor

Currently, we have a vacancy for a school governor at St Mary Magdalen's Catholic Primary School. This position involves you volunteering some of your time in the service of the school community. It is very rewarding and you would be one of an experienced 12 member governing body. All governors are required to have a DBS check as part of our commitment to Safeguarding. For more information, please contact Chair of Governors: Anna Brown at annabrown@hotmail.com [07950021042](tel:07950021042)

Friday 2nd October 2020

Dear Parents,

I cannot believe that we are already in October. I am incredibly thankful that we have not yet had to send home any of our bubbles, as you will know that there have been cases in several local schools.

I am so proud of how the children have adjusted to the new routines and thankful to the staff for all the hard work they are putting in to keep our school safe and healthy.

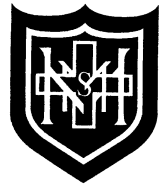
It is very important that we do not become complacent and that we remain vigilant. Key to this is socially distancing, wherever possible, and minimising contacts between households.

We have always been a friendly, welcoming community and I would not want that to change. However, the number of children remaining in the playground after they have been collected and the number of parents staying to chat in groups is increasing each day. As cases within the local area are rising this is putting our school at risk. Please do move through the school site as quickly as possible and wear a mask if you can.

Governors' Fund

Our governors contribute so much to our school and the Governors' Fund provides an invaluable source of financial support for the school. As school budgets continue to be reduced in real terms and we face unprecedented expenses, it is more vital than ever as it ensures that our provision can be maintained and improved.

I know that many families will be facing financial hardship at the moment but I would urge those of you who can afford to make a contribution to please read the letter from our Chair of Governors. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



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Remote/Blended Learning

In an increasingly digital age, we continue to look at our online provision. This is vital given the restrictions coronavirus may place on us but it is also an increasingly important part of any school. This week, we asked you to complete an online form regarding your child's access to the internet and an electronic device (laptop, desktop, chromebook or tablet) to enable them to use Google classroom.

Thank you to all those who have responded. If you have not yet replied, please do so by clicking the link below:

<https://forms.gle/RqdJBWEACsNBRktG6>

This information is vital in order for us to ensure that all our pupils can continue to learn at home in the event of a partial or total lockdown.

Google classroom will be integral to this online provision. We will also be using these online classrooms as part of our eco-committee's drive to minimise the amount of paper we use as a school. Please make sure that you have logged on to your child's new classroom and please contact the school if you have any problems doing this.

Healthy Schools – Snacks and Lunches

We are a healthy school, which means that we encourage children to make healthy choices in relation to their diet and lifestyle.

Part of this includes children bringing healthy snacks and packed lunches. Due to the staggered timetable many older children are now bringing a snack to school to help them stay focussed throughout their long morning. We ask that they bring fruit snacks only and that crisps, chocolate, cakes and biscuits are not sent in as snacks or in packed lunches.

Secondhand Uniform

A huge thank you to our wonderful volunteers and Mrs Barrett who are working hard to get the huge amount of secondhand

uniform we have accumulated ready for sale before half term. This will be online and will be a great chance to purchase school uniform and make a donation to the school.

First Holy Communion

The Year 4 children have worked hard to prepare for this very special celebration and we are so proud of their patience and commitment. I am sure you will all join with me in remembering them in your prayers as they will be receiving their First Holy Communion this Saturday 3rd October.



Well done to the children listed below who were Diving Deep this week:



Seahorses – James Nielson
 Turtles – Clementine Robertson
 Starfish – Filip Kozlowski
 Angel Fish – Eliz Yilmaz
 Seals – Raffi Boghossian
 Dolphins – Emilia Newbold
 Manta Rays – Tito Araujo Filardi
 Blue Whales – Jack Smith
 Orcas – Oscar Woolfenden

Headteacher's Awards for Exceptional Work

All the children in our school are stars. Those listed below have shone very brightly over the last week:

Year 5 – Manta Rays
 Cruz Bennett
 Zac Carter

Year 4 – Dolphins
 Oliver Gardiner
 Bennie Smithson

Year 3 – Seals
 Sam Hughes
 Eva Hughes
 Elias Carter
 Mya Birrell King
 Vakaris Narkevicius
 Morgan Coughlan

I hope you have a wonderful weekend with your children.

Mrs Hughes, Headteacher