



St Aidan's Catholic Primary School



Newsletter

February 2017

HAPPY HALF TERM

Tomorrow is the last day of this half term. We break up for 1 week. We have now completed half of the school year already. It is amazing how fast the year goes by.

After the holiday we will start thinking about Easter and the season of Lent with the children. We will be encouraging them to do something extra for Lent, to put themselves out and to show resilience towards the tasks they choose until Easter Sunday—a big challenge ahead!

We will also celebrate World Book Day on 2nd March so start thinking about costumes—keep it simple and cheap, it's just a bit of fun. We will be joined by the Book People next term who have an amazing range of books for children and vastly reduced prices so you will be invited to come and look.

Some classes have trips and activities planned after the holiday which will give some new experiences and enhance learning opportunities.

The children will need a week off school to gather enough energy for all we have planned for them.

I hope everyone has a happy and safe half term break!

Open Evening

Thank you to the many parents who came to parents evening. This is one of the few opportunities parents and carers have to discuss progress and look through the children's books. The children love to share these days with you all and the staff find them extremely useful. I know that we often speak to many of you on the yard but it is still good to hear some of the lovely things staff have to share with parents and carers about the children's time in school.

If you didn't come then that is a real shame as you have missed out on a fantastic opportunity to support your child in their learning. It is still possible to speak to the classteacher and make an appointment for after the holiday.

Safety Messages

Bikes and Scooters on the yard—please remind or ensure children do not ride these on the yard as it is dangerous in the morning time. I have had to ban some children from bringing their bikes as they kept ignoring our safety warnings and reminders.

Dogs—unfortunately we cannot have dogs on the yard. Dogs and children can be very unpredictable and even the most gentle dog can get upset, therefore please leave them at home

Cars— Please park and drive carefully. The Police will be patrolling after the holiday following some dangerous parking

Staff and Governor News

Miss Stockton has unfortunately broken her leg and ankle and probably won't be in school for a good while as the break is quite severe. Keep her in your prayers for a speedy recovery as we miss her greatly in school.

Mr Williams, Mrs Lloyd and Mr Pennington have all had a busy yet enjoyable first term at St Aidan's. They all feel like they have been here forever and thank everyone for being so welcoming and supportive.

Parent Governor Vacancy—following our appeal for a new Parent Governor, we are delighted to announce that **Mrs Gemma Woods** has been elected from the 28th January 2017 to serve for 4 years on our Governing Body as a Parent Governor. Mrs Woods has children in our Nursery and Year 5.

Follow us on TWITTER @StAidansHuyton

Uniform

Please ensure your child is wearing the correct uniform. We have a uniform so that everyone feels equal and there is no competition or difference.

Shoes should be ALL BLACK. I don't care if they are a pump or a trainer but I do need them to be black. It causes such a lot of trouble when one or two children don't follow the uniform code. If you want to be at St Aidan's then please follow our uniform code.

Children also need PE kit and it MUST stay in school. We often have to change PE days for a range of reasons and it is really difficult when children do not have kit. Please do not let family members share kit, it causes all sorts of problems.

Breakfast Club— 'RISE AND SHINE CLUB'

If you have never tried Breakfast Club then now is the time to give it a go. We have new staff running it and there have been some changes with new activities and organisation of each session. Breakfast club is £1.50 This must be paid if a child attends. The club opens at 8am and runs until school starts.

Sports News

We have been competing in a range of events this term—mostly football. Although we have not managed to win a tournament yet we are getting closer and closer. Our girls team made it to the final in their recent tournament and just lost out due to a stunning long range goal. Miss Harrison was very impressed with the competitiveness and commitment the girls showed in every game. She said they were amazing and a real credit to the school. Year 3 and 4 girls also had an opportunity to play in a tournament and we have some great potential for the next few years amongst our female footballers, they had a great tournament.

Our boys teams have also been improving with each opportunity they have had. They managed 3rd place recently so we are very pleased and proud of all of those who have represented us. Sport is a great way to develop confidence, make new friends and get fit. That is why so many staff give up their free time to run these activities. We are very lucky.

Attendance

Over 90 children received 100% certificates again this term which is just amazing. The School Attendance Service continue to work with us to support pupils who miss school. We have some Attendance Panel meetings planned for next term and I will be writing to you if your child's attendance has slipped below 95% or even 90% It is important for the children that we keep on top of this. Every day counts!

Do you receive our text messages?

If the answer is no then it is likely we do not have your up to date details. We use the text system a lot to inform you of changes and remind you about events so please make sure we have your current number.