



St Aidan's Catholic Primary School



Mini Newsletter

April 2017

New Term

The Summer term has started well. It was lovely to see everyone back at school after the Easter (Spring) break. This half term is dominated by SATs and test preparation but to balance out the curriculum we have a lot of enjoyable activities planned for the children so they enjoy school and develop all parts of their character. **Don't forget the school will closed next Monday, 1st May due to the Bank Holiday, children will return to school on Tuesday, 2nd May.**

Maths Fun Day

We enjoyed a fantastic day of Maths fun on the first day back last week. We are focusing on Maths this year and wanted the children to see how much fun Maths can be and how often we use Maths in activities and games.

We had a Maths House Team Quiz which was very competitive and great fun. Years 3 to 6 took part in an orienteering activity during the afternoon, following a map and reading grid co-ordinates. The younger children played a host of games that involved Maths. There was plenty for everyone to do and I think the children realised that Maths is FUN!

Thanks to all the staff for their hard work.

Attendance

As usual I have sent letters out regarding attendance. Please remember all parents receive letters if their child's attendance is below target.

If your child's attendance is below 95% then they are below the National Target. If their attendance is below 90% then they are classed as persistently absent and we are expected to monitor this closely.

10% is about 2 weeks absent at the moment. Hopefully during the Summer term many will be able to achieve 100% and improve their overall attendance score.

Before the holidays I was delighted to award 80 Silver Badges to pupils who had achieved 100% January to April. In July there will be another opportunity to be awarded a badge which is something for the children to work towards.

Summer Uniform

It is now possible to swap to our Summer Uniform. Girls wear Blue and White checked dresses (light blue not navy). Or their grey skirt and a blue polo shirt. Boys wear grey shorts and a blue polo shirt.

Please remember that **shoes/pumps/trainers MUST be ALL BLACK**. It is really important that all children feel that the uniform is fair and equal so please be supportive.

'Rise and Shine' Breakfast Club

Breakfast club runs from **8am in the morning until the start of school**. Ideally children need to arrive no later than 8.20 am so that they can get breakfast before the fun and games start. **Our club charge remains at £1.50 per day which is a bargain, and is one of the cheapest around with some schools and clubs charging almost £5.** We will be consulting with parents and pupils over the next few weeks regarding our Breakfast Club, and as always, we are open to suggestions if you have any, on how we can improve it.

We are looking at having some **trial days** soon for children who have never been to our 'Rise and Shine' Breakfast Club so watch out for a letter and maybe give it a go.

Miss Stockton

Miss Stockton is on the mend. Her leg was very badly broken. We are in regular contact with her and she is sending in many instructions for staff and also messages for her class which they love. Sadly she probably won't be able to return to work until late July or even September. We look forward to seeing her back, fit and healthy again.

Mrs Kelly Smile Award

Last term the award went to Olivia Pearson in Y2. Olivia is always very cheerful, kind and helpful and she was nominated by a number of staff who had noticed her around school.

We are already on the search for the next worthy winner. The children know we are looking for children who make our school a 'Happy Place'—it is that simple to be a winner!

Clubs

Once again staff are offering a range of clubs and activities after school free of charge so the children can try new activities. **If your child has not signed up for a club and is interested speak to the School Office as some of the clubs are already full and have waiting lists** but there are still some places left on others. If your child does sign up to a club please make sure they attend each week as commitment is a big part of being a member of a club.

New FREE Communication 'Parent App'

In the next few weeks, we hope to launch our new 'Parent App'. **This will be a FREE app available to any parent who has an iPhone or Android device.** We will be using this system to replace paper copies of letters, publish news, calendar dates and events, links to our website, social media accounts and many more features. Further information and launch date will follow. (Please note that for any parent/carer who does not have an iPhone or Android device we will still provide them with paper copy of any letters, newsletter etc—this can be arranged with the School Office).

School Dinner Money

Please ensure that all money is paid to the School Office on a **Monday morning (correct money is most appreciated) or through Parent Pay** on a weekly basis. Thank you.