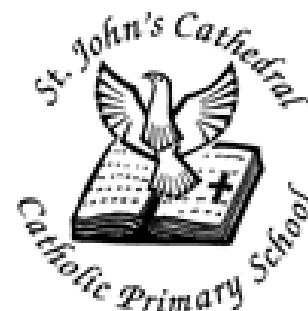


**ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL  
(WITH NURSERY)  
Cottage View  
Landport  
PORTSMOUTH  
PO1 1PX**



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

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15<sup>th</sup> September 2010

Dear Parent,

Welcome back. I hope you all had an enjoyable summer and good break from routine. I would like to thank you all for ensuring that your children looked so smart and were on time at the start of term.

### **Welcome**

To Mrs Lucas, Miss Poppleton and Mr Mercer who have joined the teaching staff.

To Miss Brennan who has joined us as a Learning Support Assistant.

To Miss Camilleri and Miss Chandler who have joined the team of Lunchtime Supervisors.

We also welcome the following children and their families:

Kyle McDonald, Amrutha Antony, Markan Morandet, Monrhei Abo Duhair and all the Nursery and Reception children who will be starting with us this week.

I hope they will soon feel part of the community.

### **Congratulations**

To Mrs. Langford (Miss Carter) on her marriage over the summer.

### **Thank you**

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

### **School Building and Fund**

I was delighted and relieved that most of the work to the refurbishment of our school was completed in time for the start of term. I am very grateful to the team of builders who worked at weekends to complete the work and to the patience and hard work of the staff in unpacking and setting up their rooms while workmen worked around



them. Thank you for the support that you give to the building fund. It is this money that enables the work we have had to happen. I'm sure you can appreciate it will take many years to pay for the work. Every parent is asked to contribute £5 per child per term (including the Nursery) towards the maintenance and development of the school building. Please send your contribution to the school office by half-term. I'm sure you would like to have the chance to look round. We would like to invite you to join us for our **School Mass tomorrow (Thursday) at 9.15 a.m.** This will be a chance for you to meet Fr. Phillip the new assistant priest at the Cathedral and to look around the school. If you can't make it you are welcome to look round on Thursday or Friday after school once you have collected your child.

### **Arrangements for start and end of the school day.**

We will be keeping the existing arrangements using the gates at the back of the school and in Arundel Street at the beginning and end of the day. This will enable us to develop the Nursery and Reception outdoor area as it will no longer be used as a thoroughfare.

If the bell has already been rung by the time your child gets to the gate they will need to walk round to the office to be let in. Please do not try banging on any windows to be let in or ask the Nursery to let you in either.

### **Book Club**

Leaflets for the Scholastic Book Club have been circulated. Please return any orders to Mrs Wilson in the office by Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September. Please make cheques payable to Scholastic.

### **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.

### **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.

### **First Holy Communion**

If your child is in Year 3 or above and has not yet made their First Holy Communion please complete the form you would have received last Friday and return it to school as soon as possible. The first session for Parents is on 23rd September at 7.00 pm in the Cathedral Hall. The first session for the children is at 11.30 a.m. on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September.

## **Becoming a Catholic**

If you would like to know more about becoming a Catholic a course will be starting tomorrow evening (Thursday) at the Cathedral. Please see Fr. David, Fr. Phillip or myself for more details.

## **Papal Visit**

As you are probably aware His Holiness Pope Benedict will be visiting this country this week. The children will be watching a 'Big Assembly' with the Pope on Friday morning at 10.15 a.m. You may like to tune in and watch it on the Papal Visit website too. I will be attending the event at St. Mary's, Strawberry Hill along with Fabian, Dominik and Kevin who will be representing the school.

## **Education Sunday**

All children are expected to attend the 12 o'clock Mass in their uniform on **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October**. The children will be involved with singing, reading the offertory, etc. Reception children will be given a special welcome. Please keep this date free.

## **Children's Mass**

Don't forget we hold a Children's Mass on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month at 12 o'clock at the Cathedral.

## **Applications for Secondary School**

If your child is due to start Secondary School in September 2011 applications must be submitted by Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October.

Fr. David will be available to sign forms for St. Edmund's or Oaklands on

**Thursday 7th October at Bishop's House 3.30 – 5.00 p.m.**

Please try not to ask him to sign forms at other times.

## **Applications for Primary School**

If your child is currently in Nursery and due to start Reception in September 2011 applications must be submitted by **Saturday 15th January**.

Fr. David will be available to sign forms for St. John's or any of the Catholic schools on

**Wednesday 10th November at school 11.20 – 11.50 and 3.15 – 3.50 p.m.**

Please try not to ask him to sign forms at other times.

## **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 Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> September at

9.30 a.m. or 2.00 p.m.

### **Family Photos**

These will be held on Saturday 23rd October at the school. Details will follow later.

### **Term Dates**

#### **Autumn Term**

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December

Half Term 25<sup>th</sup> October – 29<sup>th</sup> October

#### **Spring Term**

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April

Half Term 21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> February

#### **Summer Term**

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> July

Half Term 30<sup>th</sup> May – 3<sup>rd</sup> June

### **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.

Please note that we return to school straight away after the Easter weekend this year.

This year marks the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the school moving to its current site from the Cathedral. I am sure as the year goes on we will have much to celebrate. I look forward to working alongside you in the year that lies ahead.

Yours sincerely,

C.M. Hobbs  
Headteacher

## **September**

Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 School Mass
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	9.30 Year 6 Mass - Cathedral 7.00 First Holy Communion Parents Meeting
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup>	11.30 First Holy Communion Session
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 Trip to Manor Farm
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 Trip to Highclere Castle 9.00 – 10.00 Nursery parents information session – Hall 1.0 – 2.00 Nursery parents information session – Music Room
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 Year 5 Mass – Cathedral

## **October**

Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	12 o'clock Education Sunday Mass
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 Year 4 Mass - Cathedral 3.30 – 5.00 Year 6 Form signing at Bishop's House
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 – 3.00 Pompey Stars at the School
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	11.30 First Holy Communion Session
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 Year 3 liturgy
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 – 3.00 – Pompey Stars at the School
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	9.15 Whole School Mass
Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10.30 Family Photos at School
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 29 <sup>th</sup>	HALF TERM

## **November**

Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Year 6 to Isle of Wight
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 return from Isle of Wight
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup>	11.30 First Holy Communion Session
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	11.20 – 11.50 Form signing in School

	3.15 – 3.50 Form signing in School
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 Year 2 Liturgy
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 Year 1 Liturgy
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup>	11.30 First Holy Communion Session
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Parents Evening
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Parents Evening
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evening
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evening
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Book Fair 30 <sup>th</sup> – 7 <sup>th</sup> December
<b>December</b>	
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	9.30 Year R Liturgy
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup>	11.30 First Holy Communion Session
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup>	6.30 Carol Singing Guildhall steps
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup>	2.00 Christmas Production
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup>	11.15 First Confessions
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Children's Christmas Parties
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Children's Christmas Dinner
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 End of Term Assembly
	1.30 Term Ends