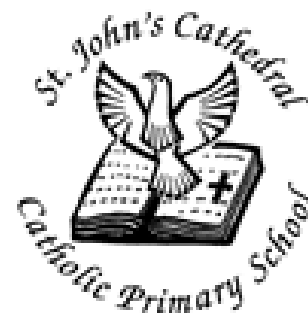


**ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
(WITH NURSERY)
Cottage View
Landport
PORTSMOUTH
PO1 1PX**



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

**Tel: 023 92821055 Email: admin@stjohnscathedralschool.org.uk
Fax: 023 92815065 www.stjohnscathedralschool.org.uk**

15th July 2011

Dear Parents,

I can't believe we are almost at the end of term and the end of another academic year. Time really seems to have flown.

Congratulations to:

Mrs. Beaton who has been appointed as our Deputy Headteacher.

The footballers who were runners up in 'The News' Faith and Football competition at the beginning of the month.

Benita Thomas who was winner of the Portsmouth Book Award prize for being the reader of the year in the City.

Jack Ellcome who also won a prize for designing a book cover.

Thank you to:

The Parents Forum and volunteers who ran the successful Summer Fair last week. In spite of the poor weather £632.20 was raised and everyone had an enjoyable afternoon.

Goodbye and Welcome

At the end of term we say goodbye to Mrs. Swords. She is leaving us to train as a teacher.

Hopefully over the summer we will be recruiting a new Caretaker and Learning Support Assistant.

In September we will be welcoming Miss Gardner to our teaching staff.

Nursery Times

From September the nursery times will change slightly. The morning session will be from 8.40 – 11.40 a.m. and the afternoon from 12.35 – 3.35 p.m.



National Support School
designated by

National College
for Leadership of Schools
and Children's Services

Dinner Money

From September the school dinners will be increasing to £2.00 per day. Please pay for all meals in advance on a Monday morning. Thank you.

Please ensure that all outstanding dinner money for this term is paid by Monday 18th July.

Uniform

I have attached a uniform list to remind you of our uniform expectations ready for September. If you wish to purchase any new uniform please do so next week or on the 5th September. Uniform will not be for sale on the first day of term 6th September or during the school holidays.

Building Fund

If you have not already done so please make sure you have paid the school building fund of £5 per term before the end of term. Your contributions are needed to ensure our buildings are maintained to a high standard. We have more work planned!

Term Dates next year

I hope the following will assist you in planning your holiday / work commitments for next year.

Autumn Term 2011

5th September – 21st December
(children will start on the 6th September). (Please note the 21st December is later than the rest of the schools in the city).

24th – 28th October - Half Term

Spring Term 2012

9th January – 30th March. (Please note the start date is later than the rest of the schools in the city).

13th February – 17th February – Half Term

Summer Term 2012

16th April – 23rd July

4th June – 8th June – Half Term (Please note that the half term is a week later than usual to coincide with the Bank Holidays for the Queen's Jubilee celebrations).

Please note that holidays should not be taken during term time. This particularly applies to Year 6 who should not take holidays during term time

especially until the end of May when their SATs are over. Whatever your views on SATs, they are a way of ensuring the pupils leave here knowing they have achieved a great deal and have a bright future ahead of them if they keep up the hard work. It is unbelievable that a family this year decided to go on holiday during SATs week. As a result the tremendous work of the rest of the class and the staff will be penalised when the results are published later in the year. This is so unfair on the children and the school.

I hope the following information will help you to prepare for the final week of term.

Monday 18th July

The school will be visited by Julian Wooster the Head of Children and Family Services. He is directly responsible for all the schools in the Local Authority.

Mr. Simon Graham the new Head of St. Edmund's will also be visiting us, to get to know his feeder primary school ahead of starting in September.

Tuesday 19th July

This is our health and fitness day. Children will need to make sure their P.E. kits are in school on this day.

Parents are invited to come along at 12.30 p.m. and bring a packed lunch. We are going to be holding a low waste challenge for the packed lunch. We will be looking at which packaging can be recycled and seeing which class has the lowest waste from the packed lunches.

Fruit, bread crusts, biscuits, cardboard, cheese can become compost or worm food.

Plastic bottles, plastic carrier bags and foil can all be recycled. At the end of lunchtime you will be taking part in a fitness session with the children for 20 minutes, so come prepared! If the weather is wet the picnic will be cancelled. School dinners will be provided as usual for the children.

Wednesday 20th July

Year 6 will be joining the other Catholic Schools in the City for Mass at the Cathedral. They will need to bring a packed lunch.

At 3.00 p.m. each class will be hosting a session for parents on how to keep your children safe when they are using the internet or social networking sites. You can choose any class to go to for this session.

Thursday 21st July

Year 2 will be crossing over to the Isle of Wight to explore island life. They will need to bring a packed lunch and a coat.

Friday 22nd July

The end of term assembly will be at 9.00 a.m. All parents are welcome. I would ask that older siblings who may have already broken up from school do not attend. If pre-school children attend please take them out if they are noisy. The Easter end of term assembly was rather disrupted by toddlers and adults talking.

Year 6 will then be leaving to go on a trip to London to celebrate their time with us. The money raised by the Parents Forum has been used to subsidise the trip. The children will be going to see a West End show while they are in London. Year 6 will need to bring a packed lunch and will be collected from Portsmouth and Southsea Station at 9.58 p.m.

Saturday 23rd July

11.00 – 2.00 p.m. the Cathedral will be holding its Summer Fair. Please come along and support this event.

Sunday 7th August and 4th September

Family Masses continue throughout the summer. It would be great to have any Year 3 upwards coming along to help me with the singing on those Sundays.

I hope this day by day newsletter is useful to you at this end of the term.

I wish you all a restful holiday and thank you all for your support throughout the past year.

Yours sincerely,

C.M. Hobbs
Headteacher