**SS John & Monica’s Catholic Primary School – Bulletin 1**

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**Friday 14th September 2018**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Term** | **Start** | **Half Term** | **Reopens** | **Term Ends** |
| **Autumn 2018** |  | **Mon 29th Oct** | **Mon 5th Nov –Training Day School Opens Tues 6th Nov** | **Fri 21st Dec - 2pm Finish** |
| **Spring 2019** | **Mon 7th Jan 2019** | **Mon 18th Feb** | **Mon 25th Feb** | **Fri 12th Apr – 2pm Finish** |
| **Summer 2019** | **Mon 29th Apr** | **Mon 27th May** | **Mon 3rd June** | **Fri 19th Jul – 2pm Finish** |

**A New Academic Year!**

Welcomeback! The children have already settled well into their classes and daily routines. Thank you again for ensuring that your children are smart in their new labelled school uniforms. This year promises to be another very busy but productive and exciting one!

**Class Masses**

The next school Mass will be celebrated on **Thurs 20th Sept at 9.00am – Y4 (St Matthew) and Thurs 27st Sept Y2 (St Therese of Liseux).** Parents, friends and parishioners are most welcome to attend.

**Swimming lessons**

Y5 will start two weeks of swimming lessons on **Tuesday 18th Sept**. This year we are using our local community Swimming baths in Balsall Heath. On swimming day, please ensure children bring into school a waterproof coat and their full, labelled swimming kit.

**Homework**

Reading continues to be a vitally important area that we are all trying to improve this year. Children will have received their first reading book of the year and will have an opportunity to select a book from our school library. We ask that you regularly help and encourage your child with their reading. Weekly homework will be given out either as homework booklets, worksheets or on-line. We ask that you support your child’s learning by checking book bags every day and ensuring homework tasks have been completed. Thank you.

**Topic Theme Day**

We are holding a Topic Theme Day on Fri 28th Sept. During the day, the children will be learning about their History or Geography Topic this term. Your child’s class teacher will give them special instructions about the day, including whether they need to dress up or bring anything into school.

**Polite Notice**

At the start of a new academic year, we are all getting back into routines. We politely ask parents to support us with following, to ensure the safeguarding of all children:

* Stand behind the yellow cones in the KS2 playground and away from the path which classes walk along. This will ensure that children are safely dismissed at the end of the day.
* Wait until the class teacher has dismissed the whole class before you approach them to talk about your child.
* Pass on any messages in the morning via a note to the class teacher or via the office (do not enter the school building).
* Keep the entrance foyer clear in the morning to allow children to enter into school safely.
* All children should be encouraged to walk down the school path by themselves. (Only Reception children should have parental accompaniment). There is currently a lot of congestion on the path in the morning and outside the main door. Parents should only come down the path if they need to visit the school office.

**We thank you for your co-operation with the above.**

**Free School Meals - IMPORTANT**

Please complete the Free School Meals Application Form which was sent via email as soon as possible. If you are entitled to Free School Meals (even if you are sending a packed lunch into school with your child) we urge you to complete the paperwork and provide evidence at the school office. This is because a £1,320 grant is awarded to schools for each child eligible for free school meals.

**Nasal Flu Vaccination**

Pupil Nasal Flu Vaccination will take place on 28th Nov for pupils in Rec-Y5. If you wish for your child to receive the vaccination please return consent forms by **28th Sept**. For more details go to: <http://www.bhamcommunity.nhs.uk/about-us/news/archive-news/flu-busters/>

**Open Morning**

We are holding our school ‘**Open Morning’ on 8th Nov**, to give prospective parents an opportunity to visit our school. We will be open from 9.30-11.30am, with the Head Teachers’ address beginning at 9.45am.

**Attendance**

Our attendance target for this year is 97%. Last year we had a dip in our attendance total for the year with 95.8%. This year it is important that we strive as a whole school community to achieve our target. We recognise and celebrate class attendance by displaying which classes have achieved 97% attendance each month. We also reward children who achieve 100% for the Autumn Term. Our first Attendance Focus Week will be **Monday 24th Sept to Friday 28th Sept**.

**Attendance for the last 2 weeks: Week 4th-7th Sept – Well done to Year 1 – 99.5%. Week 10th-14th Sept - Well done to Year 1 – 100%**

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| **Class** | **Reception** | **Year 1** | **Year 2** | | **Year 3** | **Year 4** | **Year 5** | | **Year 6** |
| **% Attendance** | **N/A** | **99.8%** | **98%** | | **99.3%** | **91%** | **96.5%** | | **97.3%** |
| **Lates** | **N/A** | **0** | **0** | | **2** | **2** | **2** | | **3** |
| **Whole School Attendance so far this year** | | | | **97%** | | **School Target** | | **97%** | |

**The Golden Book –** The following children have been chosen for exceptional work and behaviour. Well done to everyone!

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Reception: Miss Pratty & Miss Morgan** | **N/A** |
| **Year 1: Miss Millar & Miss McKeown** | **Aydin & Khadija** |
| **Year 2: Miss Geoghegan & Mrs Hodges** | **Yanet, Aayan & Mariyah** |
| **Year 3: Miss Hodgkinson & Mrs Ali** | **Mohiudeen & Nimra** |
| **Year 4: Mr Hawker & Mrs Ali** | **Seraj & Jack** |
| **Year 5: Mrs Gray & Mrs Mackay** | **Spencer, Javeria & Oscar** |
| **Year 6: Mr Ullah & Miss Hill** | **Khaleb & Abbas** |
| **Mrs Jena: Deputy Head Teacher** | **Amera & Yusuf** |
| **Mrs Elliott: Head Teacher** | **Alf & Year 6 – Whole Class** |

**Dates for your Diary**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Event** | **Time** |
| **Tuesday 18th Sept** | **Y5 Swimming (2 Weeks) All kit needed** | **am** |
| **Tuesday 18th Sept** | **Y1 Parents Meeting - All Parents Welcome** | **3.15pm** |
| **Monday 24th Sept** | **Attendance Focus Week** |  |
| **Wednesday 26th Sept** | **REC/KS1 Reading Meeting – A representative for each child to attend** | **2.30pm** |
| **Friday 28th Sept** | **Topic Theme Day** | **All Day** |

**Mobile Phones**

We allow Y6 pupils to bring in mobile phones if they are travelling to and from school on their own. However, they must leave them at the school office when they get to school and collect them at the end of the day. No other electronical devices should be bought in to school.

**Secondary School Open Evenings**

Please make a note of the following Open Evenings which will be taking place this term:

**Bishop Challoner School: 19th Sept - 6.00pm**

**St Thomas Aquinas School: 20th Sept - 6.30pm**

**Queensbridge School: 24th Sept - 6.00pm, 25th Sept - 9.30am & 26th Sept - 9.30am**

**Selly Park Girls School: 18th Sept - 5.30pm**

**Secondary Transfer packs – IMPORTANT**

Y6 pupils will have received their Secondary Transfer letters and information pack before the holidays. The Local authority asks all parents to apply for their child’s Y7 school place online at <http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions> between 3rd Sept and 31st Oct.

**School Fund**

Thank you to all the families who have already sent into school their £5.00 family school fund donation. These funds will help towards purchasing much needed play equipment. Thank you.

**CAFOD Brighten Up Day**

Sadly, due to poverty and injustice, this harvest will not be bright for millions of children and young people around the world who will miss out on food, clean water and even on going to school. For this reason, we are holding a ‘Brighten Up Day’ on Friday 5th October to raise money for CAFOD**. On that day, we ask children to come into school dressed as brightly as possible in return for a £1.00 donation**.Our donations will go towards helping make the world a brighter place for communities living in extreme poverty. Thank you.

**Lunchtime Supervisors Vacancy**

The Governors of SS John and Monica School are seeking to appoint a Lunchtime Supervisor. This position is open to all suitable applicants and is for one hour per day.  If you would like more information and wish to apply pick up a pack from the school office. The closing date is 21st Sept.

**Mission Statement**



**Mrs M.Elliott - Headteacher**

**At SS John & Monica’s, we learn through the example of**

**Respect, Understand and Value each other.**