

St Mary Queen of Martyrs

Voluntary Catholic Academy

Newsletter

November 2015

Contact Information
Nidderdale
Hull, HU7 4BS
Tel: 01482 825625
E-mail: admin@st-
maryqom.hull.sch.uk
web: www.stmaryqom.co.uk



Sad News

We are sorry to inform you that Graham Paterson (who was previously a Foundation governor) died on Sunday, 1st November. Graham fought a long, tiresome battle with brain cancer.

He was a fervent supporter of our school and will be remembered with great respect and admiration. The school staff are very saddened to hear of his death and we would like you to keep his dear wife Kerry (who is a valued member of our staff team) and their children Ross and Cassie in your thoughts and prayers. Graham's funeral will take place on Friday, 13th November at 1.00pm at St Mary Queen of Martyrs Church.

Breakfast Exercise News

We have introduced early morning games and exercise after breakfast. We alternate the days so that all pupils get a chance to be involved with the exercise. The workout appears to be very popular and it is good 'brain gym' before the morning lessons!

Breakfast Club charge

You will be receiving a letter soon to inform you that breakfast club charge will be increasing to £1.50 from January 2015.

We have been running breakfast club at a loss for some months now and the Finance governors have decided on this small increase.

I hope you agree that breakfast club is still good value for money and that you will still be able to avail of it.

Christmas Performances

The F1 & F2 children will be performing together, but to avoid overcrowding in the hall, we would like the F1 & F2 parents to attend on the specified day.

Foundation: F1 parents Monday, 7th December at 1.30pm

Foundation: F2 parents Tuesday, 8th December at 1.30pm

Again, the Year 1 & 2 children will be performing together, but to avoid overcrowding in the hall, we ask you to attend on the specified day.

Year 1 & 2 : Year 1 parents on Thursday, December 10th at 1.30pm

Year 1 & 2: Year 2 parents on Friday, December 11th at 1.30pm

Year 5 & 6 Christmas Carol service: Wednesday 16th at 9.30am and 1.30pm

You will be able to take photographs of your own children, but for safeguarding reasons videos are not permitted.

Year 3 & 4: The Year 3 & 4 children will be performing at Easter, but we would like to invite parents to a Christmas craft bonanza on Wednesday, 9th December.

Christmas Liturgy

Parents are very welcome to attend the Christmas end of term mass on Thursday 17th at 9.15am and the Christmas liturgy at 2.00pm on Friday, December 18th.

Christmas Fever: Children can come to school on Thursday, 17th wearing Christmas clothes. Our suggestions are Christmas jumpers or Christmas dresses. The FOS are organising Christmas presents and Santa Claus will be visiting the classrooms.

CAFOD and Christmas

During Advent we will be supporting the Catholic charity CAFOD. As a Catholic school our mission is to help those much less fortunate than ourselves and the pupils are working as a class team to buy World Gifts. Pupils do not need to send Christmas cards to each other, but instead give the money that they would spend on cards to the charity CAFOD. If pupils feel strongly about giving a card to their friends, we do allow them to buy one card for the class. We thank you in advance for your support with this.

Dates for your Diary

November

- 10th Toy & Book sale at 1.30-3.00pm
- 11th Music service Woodwind concert at 10.30am
- 17th Year 6 Parent Curriculum Information at 3.15pm
- 18th Grandparents' Day—KS1 at 1.30pm
- 19th Year 5 Parents' information evening at 3.10pm
- 20th Mr Spink's class sharing assembly
- 20th Diana Johnson (HULL MP) to visit at 1pm
- 23rd 'Drop in' meeting at 3.05-4.05 to view children's books & progress.
- 24th Year 2 parent information meeting at 3.10pm
- 25th Grandparent's Day - Key Stage 2 at 1.30pm
- 30th Nov/1st December Review of SMQOM Academy by the Diocese

December

- 3rd Year 1 Parents' information evening
- 7th F1 Christmas play 1.30pm for parents
- 8th F52 Christmas play 1.30pm for parents.
- 9th Year 3 & 4 Christmas craft bonanza (parents welcome)
- 10th Year 1 & 2 Christmas play rehearsal 9.30am -Year 1 1.30pm Christmas play for parents
- 11th Year 1 & 2 Christmas play Year 2 parents at 1.30pm
- 11th Year 5 & 6 Christmas activities—parents welcome
- 15th Santa's secret workshop -Key Stage 1
- 16th Phase 3 Christmas choir at 9.30am & 1.30 for parents. Year 2 pupils to see The Snowman at Hull new Theatre @1.30pm
- 17th Whole school mass Christmas dinner & Christmas parties
- 18th Christmas liturgy at 2.00pm
Break up for Christmas holidays

January 5th Pupils back to school



St. Cuthbert's
Roman Catholic Academy Trust

Newsletter

November 2015

Payment for clubs & Music

It is important that the clubs that we offer are paid for in full.

Breakfast club is £1.00

Friday Football club is £1.00

Please check if you have paid your music fees and clubs.

Thank you

Up to date Information

Emergency contact is vital. If you have moved house, changed your phone number or changed your emergency contact number, please inform the office immediately.

FOS (Friends of the school)

Thank you to the FOS for all their support during the year.

Absent pupils

If your child is absent from school, please ring school to inform us otherwise it may be marked as an unauthorised absence.

Punctuality & Attendance Counts

Please ensure that your children are on the playground by **8.45am** as they need to be in school at 8.50 when registration starts at 8.55am. We are very aware that it is the same pupils who are always late for school. From January late pupils will be targeted by our Attendance Officer and follow up strategies will be in place.

New Curriculum

Please note the dates in the diary for the **Parent Information** meeting on Year group expectations. We will be able to explain what the children need to know by the end of the year and will give you tips and strategies about how you can support us at home to prepare them for their class work. Parents who have attended these meetings in previous years have found them very useful.

Free School Meals

If you are entitled to FSM but your child does not stay for lunch or if they are entitled to a free meal under Universal free school meals, we still need you to complete the claiming form. This is because we receive extra funding for FSM pupils. Please contact school office.

Engagement with parents

We are trying to engage with parents more and invite you into school so you know the requirements of the new curriculum for each year group.

We are also having an optional 'Drop In' meeting on Monday, 23rd November at 3.15pm. You will be able to view your children's books and celebrate the wonderful work that they have been doing since September. There will be time to talk briefly to the teacher about any concerns. We would be delighted if you want to make any additional appointments to discuss progress or any other issues.

Statements of Belief

The Statements of Belief will be on the RE tab on our new website. The Statements are shared with the pupils every Monday in assembly and they are revisited during the week. The statements reflect how we should live our lives according to the gospel values.

New Governors

We welcome Astrid Longhorn as our new parent governor. Astrid succeeds Neil Hare who died last July. (RIP)

We also welcome Stephen Schrimshaw as our new community governor. Stephen succeeds Graham Paterson. (RIP)

We wish both our new governors luck in their very important positions on the Local Management Board of SMQOM.

Travelling Crib

Please talk to your child about the events leading up to Christ's birth when they take the travelling crib home. Please encourage them to write a comment in the book and you are welcome to insert photographs or comments.

Homework

We are trying hard to improve the standard of homework. We ask you to ensure that homework is done to the highest expectations and for you to check to make certain that it meets with your

A huge thank you!

May I take this opportunity to thank you for all your support throughout the term. The curriculum days have been extremely well attended.

PA Graham

Advent

We will be saving up to buy world gifts for the less fortunate children globally.