

St Mary's RC Primary School, Swinton

Summer Newsletter - July 2014

Another successful year comes to an end. The children have worked extremely hard in achieving their targets and demonstrated high levels of behaviour. We are very proud of them for all their achievements this year. St Mary's school is blessed with wonderful pupils, hard-working, dedicated staff and supportive parents.

Our end of year assessments show the majority of pupils making expected progress and many making more than the expected progress. Once again both KS1 and KS 2 SATs results are very good.

KS 2 SATs results:

Reading - Level 4+ 100% Level 5 54%
Writing - Level 4+ 100% Level 5 54%
SPAG - Level 4+ 100% Level 5 69% (spelling, grammar and punctuation)
Maths - Level 4+ 100% Level 5 54% Level 6 12%
(Level 4+ is average, Level 5 is above average, Level 6 above L5, well above average).

Congratulations to all Year 6 pupils and all the staff in working hard to achieve these results. KS1 & EYFS results also show the hard work from both pupils and staff. The school has successfully achieved the Silver Artsmark Award. Congratulations to Miss Davies and Miss Norcross and the staff for all their hard work in achieving this award. We were also successfully shortlisted for the final four places for the MEN Schools Award for the best new school website, but sadly did not win the award. This was still a great achievement for our school.

A range of trips and exciting activities have taken place this half term with Year 6 having a most enjoyable time at Robinwood Outdoor Activity Centre. Year 5 thoroughly enjoyed Watersports at Salford Quays. Years 1 and 2 went to Martin Mere and Years 3&4 to Blackpool Zoo, as well as a trip to The National Football Museum. Year 5 & 6 produced a fantastic performance of Go for Goal. They demonstrated their talents and thoroughly enjoyed their performance. Well done!!

We will be celebrating the Year 6 children leaving St Mary's and moving on to high school with a special Leaver's Mass, buffet and presentation this week, I would like to wish Year 6 best of luck for the future. You have been a credit to St Mary's and contributed so much to our school community. God bless.

Congratulations to children in Year 3 on completing their Sacramental Programme this year.

Holiday Homework To write a description of their favourite holiday place they have visited or would like to visit.

Staffing - September 2014

We say farewell to Mrs Watson as she commences her maternity leave. We wish her good luck and a safe delivery in August. Mrs Croston will be Acting Deputy in Mrs

Watson's absence. Mrs Watson will be returning to school towards the end of the next academic year. We also pass on our best wishes to Miss Davies who will be celebrating her wedding ceremony during the Summer holidays. We wish her and her husband to be good luck for the future.

EYFS Nursery - Mrs M Taylor and Mrs L Oakes
Reception – Miss Davies (Mrs Murphy from September) and Miss L Crawshaw
Year 1 - Miss L Jamieson
Year 2K - Mrs S Kinman (pupils from Y1C)
Year 2C - Mrs L Croston (pupils from Y1D)
Year 3 - Mr M Chadwick
Year 4 - Miss Norcross
Year 5 - Mr Loynd
Year 6 - Mr Johnson
Intervention and PPA teachers: Mrs V Chandler from September and Mrs A Royle from December.

School dinners will remain at a cost of £1.80 for pupils in Nursery and Years 3 -6. Payment can be made via Parent Pay. From September pupils in Reception class, Year 1 and 2 will receive a Free School Meal.

Safeguarding and the safety of pupils remains a high priority at St Mary's. Our new updates safeguarding policy is available on the school website.

Please note the following information regarding the safety of pupils at all times. The personal use of cameras and cameras on mobile phones are not allowed on school premises unless the school has permitted the use of these during school productions. Parents will be informed if they are able to photograph their children performing on the condition that it is for their own personal use and not for social networking sites. Members of staff are available to supervise the KS1 &2 pupils on the school playground from 8:45am. Nursery doors open at 8:45am and Reception at 8:55am. Please ensure your child is supervised at all times prior to the opening times. The same supervision also applies at the end of the school day.

School uniform– the following details regarding school uniform, hair styles, jewellery are as follows and also available on the school website. If pupils are having their ears pierced during the Summer holidays, this needs to be done at the very start of the Summer holidays as earrings are not allowed in school. If your child comes to school wearing earrings from September you will be asked to come to school and remove the earrings. Earrings covered in plasters will not be allowed. All items of uniform must be labelled. Any incorrect pieces of clothing, footwear and wearing of jewellery and nail polish will not be permitted. Please can you also ensure your child has a spare hair bobble in their bag in case their bobble snaps.

Children in Reception, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 wear school uniform. Uniform is not compulsory in the nursery although some parents like their children to wear it. The children wear Royal Blue sweatshirts or cardigans, preferably with the school logo, white or blue shirt/blouse/polo shirt and grey skirt or trousers. Jackets, sweatshirts, cardigans, polo shirts, PE t-shirts and shorts can be purchased from the

PTA order form, via the PTA link on the school website. In the summer blue check school dresses may be worn, white polo shirts with the school logo or plain white or blue polo shirts.

All items of clothing should be clearly marked with your child's name.

Children should wear sensible school shoes that are suitable for all day wear. Shoes with deep grooves in the sole are to be discouraged as they bring dirt into school.

Trainers are not permitted. If for whatever reason school shoes are not available, children on a temporary basis can (with the Headteacher's permission) wear an alternative pair of shoes for outdoor use and pumps indoors.

Appropriate clothing and footwear should be provided for the various sporting and P.E. activities e.g. football boots and not trainers. P.E. clothing and plimsolls should be kept in a P.E. bag.

The required items for P.E. are white T-shirt, blue shorts, black pumps. The bag and its contents should be clearly marked with the child's name. Many of these items can be purchased through the PTA.

Extreme hairstyles, haircuts and coloured hair are not allowed. Children with long hair should wear it tied back for safety and hygiene reasons. No form of jewellery is allowed in school for safety reasons. If your child wishes to have their ears pierced it must be at the beginning of the 6 weeks summer holidays so that they can be removed for school time. Nail varnish is not permitted.

Attendance and punctuality – attendance figures have improved again this year at 96.15% in relation to last year's figure of 95.3%. Thank you for recognising the importance of good attendance at St. Mary's school. Any absences not reported will be chased up. If we are unable to contact any parents the Education Welfare Officer will be informed.

Holiday/ absence reminder – there has been an increase in the number of sickness related absences at the very start and end of the term. If your child is absent from school at these times and you have taken a holiday, please provide proof of travel dates and times to ensure your child's absence is authorised. Without this the attendance will be classed as unauthorised. Sadly we have taken messages regarding sickness but this has sometimes not been the case as some families have still been on holiday. Any unavoidable changes to flight times etc from the travel companies can also be presented to the office. All absences must be reported to the school office before or at the start of the school day.

Data collection sheets – please update your data collection sheets. It is the parent's responsibility to inform the school of any changes regarding contact details.

Many thanks for your continued support over this academic year. I wish you all a pleasant, restful and relaxing summer holiday with your delightful children who are a credit to you all.

God bless

Mrs D. Raynor and staff.

School closes Friday 18th July and reopens Wednesday 3rd September at 8 55am.