



Diocese of Northampton
**The Good Shepherd Catholic
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PARENTS' NEWSLETTER

Pentecost Term

June 2011

Dear Parents,

As we move through the Pentecost Term there are many exciting things planned for your children as well as much to celebrate.



We now have had two successful Inspections. Both OfSTED and our Diocesan Inspectors (Section 48) gave us a grade of a **'Secure Good School with many outstanding features'**.

Please see a copy of a recent letter I received from Monsignor Kevin McGinnell, who is our Episcopal Vicar for Catholic Education. We were all pleased to read his comments. I would once again like to thank my staff and governors who have worked so hard in the lead up, and throughout both Inspections. Not to mention the support that you our parents have given us. Your children of course are the most important and they feature highly in both reports. I would like to say how proud I am of them all.

Well done everyone!

Please keep this newsletter to hand as there are many important dates on it.

'Heliwise' Visit



We hope you liked your child's class photographs and workbook of our recent helicopter visit. Please let us know if you think this was a good idea or not? The children and staff really enjoyed the experience.

Dates for the Diary:

Wednesday June 15th

**Reception Assembly (Classes 1 and 2)
2.30 p.m.**

All parents of Classes 1 and 2 are welcome to attend

Wednesday June 15th 7pm

Meeting for Parents whose children are joining the school in September 2010 (Reception Yr.) 7 p.m. in the Main Hall.

CRAZY SPORTS CHALLENGE!

Thursday June 16th 2011



Fund Raising Event for the Nuffield Liver Transplant Unit at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham



All children are allowed to wear Sports Mufti - Please contribute a minimum donation of £1 to this very good cause.

Thursday June 16th

Meeting for parents of all children taking part in the French Trip in 2012: 3.30 p.m. in the main Hall



Saturday 18th June

St. Aidan's Garden Party: 12 – 3 p.m.

This lovely community event will be held in our beautiful grounds. Do come along and support the Parish of St. Aidan's.



Tuesday June 21st

Yr. 6 visit Asda with the local Police. An opportunity to look at security / anti theft / safety

Wednesday June 22nd

Brass Recital performed by the Northampton Music Service



Wednesday June 22nd

Year 1 Assembly (Classes 3 and 4)

2.30 p.m.

All parents of children in Classes 3 and 4 are welcome to attend.

Sunday June 26th

First Holy Communion at the Cathedral of Our Lady and St. Thomas - 10.30 a.m.



Monday June 27th

Yr. 2 children visit Stimpson Avenue Primary School (Victorian School) as part of their topic on the Victorians.

Tuesday June 28th

Our Yr. 3 children visit Walsingham and Wells next the Sea



(More information from Yr. 3 staff)

Wednesday June 29th



Feast of St. Peter and St. Paul

Rev. Monsignor Tony joins us to celebrate Mass in school at 10.30 a.m.

Thursday June 30th

Mr. Burton from Thomas Becket Catholic Secondary School visits Yr. 6 children who are transferring in September

Tuesday July 5th

Fact Finder's Day at Thomas Becket Secondary School for Yr. 6

Tuesday July 5th

Today, Yr. 3 children experience what life was like during World War 2

Wednesday July 6th

Good Shepherd Sports day

Nursery, Reception and Key

Stage 1 Sports Day

10.30 a.m.

Key Stage 2 Sports Day

1.30p.m.

The reserve date if the weather is wet is

Tuesday July 19th



Thursday July 7th

End of Yr. Reports begin to go out to Parents today:

EYFS July 7th
YR1 July 7th
YR2 July 11th
YR3 July 11th
YR4 July 12th
Yr5 July 12th
YR6 July 12th

Please note that this is a new format that we have designed and are trialling. We would be grateful for your comments.

Friday July 8th

Rev. Fr. Damien Walne celebrates Mass with our Yr. 3 First Holy Communicants as well as any other children who have received the Sacraments this year at **10.30 a.m.**

Parents of these children are welcome to attend too.

Monday July 11th

Transfer Day across the town.

On this day all children move to their next class to meet their teacher for September. Children joining our **Nursery or transferring to our Reception** Year are invited to attend a session or spend the day with us. **Children in Yr. 6 visit their next Secondary School for the day.**

Tuesday July 12th

M and M Productions (Theatre Group) present 'A Little Princess' for the whole school.



(We are requesting a voluntary contribution of £3.00 per child to make this viable otherwise it will have to be cancelled)

Wednesday 13th July

Yr. 6 Retreat Day held at The Good Shepherd. This day will be led by **Becky Roseman** who is a member of the **Chaplaincy Team** at Thomas Becket.



Wednesday 13th July

The Good Shepherd Arts Festival

Children in KS1 and KS2 will perform various items for your entertainment:

The evening begins at 6.30 p.m. prompt
(More information to follow)

Thursday July 14th

Yr. 2 Retreat Day held at The Good Shepherd. This day will be led by the **SION Community**. **The theme for the day is the Sacraments.**



Thursday July 14th

Parents' Evening to discuss end of Yr. Reports: 4 – 5 p.m.

Please ring to book an appointment at the school office if you wish to discuss your child's report **once you have received it.**

Thursday July 14th

Rev. Fr. Damien Walne celebrates Mass with our Year 6 Leavers at 10.30 am

All Yr. 6 Parents are invited to attend.





Thursday July 14th

Yr. 6 Leavers' Disco: 6 – 8 p.m.

The theme for the evening is '**Mods and Rockers**'

Friday July 15th

Yr. 6 Day out at 'Drayton Manor Park'

Leaving at 8.30 a.m. and returning at 6.30 p.m. approximately. (More information from Yr 6 staff)

Friday July 15th

Karuri School fund raise: Musical Evening and supper: further information to come from Mrs. Casey



Monday July 18th

Yr. 1 Trip to Ryton Gardens

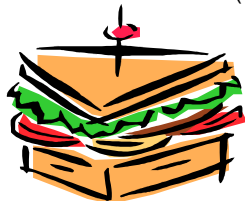
(More information from Yr. 1 staff)



Tuesday July 19th . Rev. Canon John Udris celebrates our Family Mass at **6.30 p.m**

This will be followed by a shared Buffet – all parents and children are welcome!

Please bring your contributions for the shared buffet after school (letter to follow)



Wednesday 20th July

Yr. 6 Leavers Assembly: Yr. 6 Parents are invited to attend at 10.00 a.m.

Thursday July 21st

School closes for the Summer Holidays at 3.15 p.m.

Have a happy holiday!



School Summer Fete



Saturday 11th June

Thank you for donating gifts and prizes and for so generously giving up your time by attending our School Fete on Saturday. We all had a wonderful day. Thanks to our Parents' Association, 'Friends of the Good Shepherd' for their hard work on the day. Thanks too, to all our parents, School Council members and staff who helped us. This was Joanne Bateman's first Summer Fete as Chairperson, she did a wonderful job.

Once we have a final figure for how much we raised on the day, we will put a notice up on the tree. We will also put up a list of raffle prize winners.



Well done everyone!
Charity Campaign 2011

May I express **my thanks to you all for your support during our Charity Campaign.**

The children and staff worked very hard to raise a good amount of money. A final figure is not yet available; as usual, I will let you know in due course. Some of this money has already been allocated to Charities; the rest will go towards other worthwhile causes which are decided by the children and staff.

Uniform Orders

These can be taken on Wednesdays in the School Office. Payment with all orders please.

We ask all parents to **measure their own children.** We cannot be held responsible for mistakes due to wrong measurements being taken by parents.

There will be an opportunity to buy second hand uniform at our **School Summer Fete on Saturday June 11th 2011.**

PE Kit

Please can you ensure that your child / children have the correct, named P.E. kit for both indoor and outdoor P. E. We ask that either a track suit or track suit bottoms and a warm jumper. During the summer months we ask that children wear a plain tee shirt and shorts. No jewellery may be worn. All children must be kitted out for P.E. for Health and Safety



It is vital that your child / children have their P.E. kit in school every day as some children have enrolled in After School Sports Clubs. If they do not have their P.E. kit they will not be able to take part.

Parents of Yr. 6

On **Thursday July 21st** it will be your child's last day at school. On this day I allow your children to wear their own clothes. If you have any school uniform in good condition that you cannot pass onto younger members of your family we would be happy to receive it.

The proceeds from all second hand uniform sales is put into our 'Golden Fund' and is used to buy new uniform for needy families.

Thank you!

Yr. 6 children only Walking Home Alone!



As you know I ask that all children of Primary age are collected by an adult known to both the child and the school.

However, in preparation for their move to Secondary School, as long as a Yr. 6 child has another Yr. 6 child to walk home with (**not younger children**) they may do so as long as I receive a letter in writing from the parents of both children concerned.

Should any reports of unsuitable or dangerous behaviour be reported, this privilege will be withdrawn.

Please make sure that someone is at home to be responsible for your child when they return.

If you request that your child can walk home with another Yr.6 child, the school cannot take any responsibility for their safe arrival home. This will be your responsibility entirely.

School Council Challenge

School Meals

'Our new school meals are delicious'. This is the view of the children that are enjoying meals every week.

The quality of the food is very good and the children and staff are really enjoying the meals served to them.

If your child has not tried them I would recommend them to you.

Our Governors have agreed to contribute a sum in total of £27,000 from our Devolved Formula Capital over the next five years to pay towards the cost of the refurbishment of our kitchen.

Those of you who visited the new kitchen during our last Parents' Evening thought the kitchen was vastly improved and thought the food was really nice.

The School Council have met with 'Nourish' staff and are looking at ways to encourage more

children to have a healthy meal prepared in school each day. They have come up with the idea of a loyalty card.

How does the School Council Challenge work?

- You are asked to book **one week in advance** for meals. However, you can order on the day in an emergency (Up to 10 extra school meals are cooked each day.)
- This new method of booking meals **means that you can discuss the menu with your child and be assured that your child will be given what you have ordered for them.**
- The meals cost **£2.00 a day**. (cash or cheque)
- All children will be given a **loyalty card**. Every time they eat a school meal their **card will be stamped**. Once they have filled up their card it will be **entered into a draw**. Each week the draw will take place on a **Friday**. If your child's card is pulled out they will have a chance to **win a prize**.
- **The School Council are hoping that more children will enjoy healthy school dinners in future.**

Free School Meals

If you are entitled to free school meals please call into the School Office or you can telephone the County Council on 01604 236656 or email freeschoolmeals@northamptonshire.gov.uk for more information.



Punctuality and Attendance

May I extend our **thanks to those of you who are making an effort to ensure your children arrive and are collected on time each day.**

Please collect your child on time each day too.

If your child is attending an after school club, please be sure to collect them on time from the collection point.

Late arrival of children and unauthorised absence is continually monitored by our **Educational Welfare Officer Sally Anne Chowdhury**.



Bikes / Scooters

It is not safe for children / adults to come on to the school site on a bike or a scooter. The Governors have therefore agreed that they must not enter the school site.

Homework:

Homework is an extension of the learning that takes place in school. If your child is experiencing difficulty in completing a piece of work, please talk to their class teacher. If children are not completing homework, a letter will be sent home to let you know that this is the case.

Thank you for your continued help and friendship.

Best wishes,

Anne Walker (Mrs)
Headteacher

