



St. Mary of the Angels Catholic Primary School
Following Jesus in all we think, do and say

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Newsletter: 14th July 2021

Dear Parent and Carers,

SPORTS DAY

What a joy it was to see so many parents and other family members at our recent Sports Days at Paddington Recreation Ground. We were blessed with fine weather, eager and wonderfully behaved pupils, incredibly hard working staff and supportive spectators. A big thank you to Miss Cox for organising and to Mr Adams, our sports coach, and his colleagues from QPR Rising Stars who volunteered to help on both days. Thank you to all who attended and well done all who took part in the ever popular parents' races.

BUBBLE CLOSURES

As you are all aware, we had to close three bubbles in the last couple of weeks due to two people testing positive for COVID-19. We welcomed back our Year 1 and 2 pupils on Monday and our Nursery and Reception pupils will be back on Monday 19th July. We do not underestimate how disruptive and challenging bubble closures are for parents and carers, particularly when we receive notification of a positive test at 6.45am which was the case last Friday. Please be assured that the decision to close is always made in line with Department for Education guidance. On each occasion we have called the DFE helpline and the school's actions have been confirmed at the appropriate and timely.

There has been a sharp increase in the number of schools locally and across the country having to close bubbles and the numbers are rising so we need to remain cautious. Thank you to all parents and carers affected for your quick response to messages from the school and your understanding despite I am sure some exasperation with the situation.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER RETURNS

The school photographer will be returning to school tomorrow (Thursday 15th July) to take individual photos of our Year 1 and Year 2 pupils along with any other Key Stage 2 pupils who were not in school on the 7th July. We will also do sibling group photos for those that missed the opportunity on the previous visit. We will draw up a list but please do contact Mrs Murphy in the school office to let her know that your children need to have their sibling photo taken tomorrow.

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

Ten Ten's July newsletter is now available for you to read [here](#).

'MOVING UP DAY' FRIDAY 16TH JULY

We will be holding a Moving Up transition day on Friday 16th July. This is a morning/afternoon whereby pupils get a chance to meet their new class teacher, and other members of the class team and to familiarise themselves with their new classroom and classmates. We will hold the 'Moving Up' afternoon for Nursery and Reception pupils moving into Reception and Year 1 respectively on Monday 19th July. Your child will take home a 'Moving Up' booklet on the day of their transition day which will inform you of their new class and teacher. Please note that in September 2021 we will return to having a mixed year class in Key Stage 1. This means there will be a Year 1 & 2 mixed class and a Year 2 class and these classes are organised by age.

Thank you to Ella Higgs, our school's Mental Health Practitioner and Karen Waine, Inclusion Manager/SENCO who held a 'Transition Workshop' for parents and carers on Monday 12th July via zoom. We hope that all of you who took part found the session useful. Please [click here](#) to access the Wellbeing section of our school website where you will find further ideas and guidance on how to help your child.

WELCOME MEETINGS IN SEPTEMBER

The dates of our 'Welcome to Year Group' meetings will be sent home before the end of the school year so that you can put the dates in your diary. During the meeting we will provide you with information about the curriculum,

expectations for the year group, the school day etc. and answer any general questions you may have. We very much hope to hold these meetings in person and will update you in the first week of the new school year.

END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

School closes at **1.30pm on Wednesday 21st July.**

NEW SCHOOL YEAR

School reopens to pupils in Years 1 to 6 on **Wednesday 8th September.** Pupils in Nursery and Reception have been given individual start dates and times. The term dates for the academic year 2021/22 can be found [here](#).

SCHOOL LUNCHES

Following a review of the school's catering budget the cost of a school lunch will increase by 20p per day to £2.40 (£12 per week) from the start of the new school year. The increase is in response to increasing food costs in and the ongoing maintenance and replacement costs of catering equipment. The governors have committed to no further increase for the next two years. A reminder that the school no longer accepts cash or cheques so all payments must be made in advance and online at www.schoolgateway.com

Parents and carers of pupils moving to Year 3 in September are advised that they will have to pay for their child's lunches from the start of the new school year as their child will no longer benefit from the infant universal free school meal which provides all pupils in Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 with a free school lunch. However, if you have applied and are eligible for income related free school meals you will not need to pay as long as the school has received authorisation to prove you are eligible. Please contact Mrs Conway in the school office if you have any queries re eligibility. Information on eligibility can also be found [here](#).

FREE SCHOOL MEALS VOUCHERS

We have been notified by the local authority that vouchers will be made available to the value of £90 to cover the summer holiday period for parents of pupils who are eligible for income related free school meals. Vouchers will be emailed out to parents on Friday 16th July.

RECORDS OF ACHIEVEMENT

Your child's Record of Achievement/end of year report will be sent home in a sealed envelope with your child as follows:

Foundation Stage	Monday 19 th July
All other year groups	Friday 16 th July

Information about the report format and how to contact the school if you have any queries about the contents of the report will be included.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE END OF TERM

- Friday 16th July 'Moving Up' for Reception to Year 5
Year 6 Outdoor Disco (pm)
- Monday 19th July 'Moving Up' for Nursery
Leavers' Mass for Year 6 @2.00pm
- Tuesday 20th July Year 6 Production of Peter Pan 2pm
- Wednesday 21st –July School closes at 1.30pm/End of the school year

HOLIDAY CHILDCARE

Please click [here](#) for details of holiday camp provision being offered by Fit for Sport at Bayswater Children's Centre.

THANK YOU & FAREWELL

As the end of the school year approaches we will be saying thank you and farewell to three of our class teachers. Miss Stephenson and Miss Good are leaving after three years at St. Mary of the Angels to take up new teaching positions and Miss Wakley leaves us after 4 years to fulfil her wish to travel the world, an adventure she hopes to start with a visit to Australia early in 2022. We wish them much success and happiness for the future.

We will also be saying thank you and farewell to Mrs Zakhary who has been a part of our school community since 2006, first as a parent and then as a teaching assistant since 2013. Known to many of you as 'Miss Magda', she is leaving to take up a position in a Catholic school much closer to home. We wish and her family all the very best for the future and thank her for her service to the families of St. Mary of the Angels.

WELCOME

We welcome Miss Cunniffe to the staff team in September. Miss Cunniffe will be teaching in Foundation Stage.

NEXT NEWSLETTER

The last newsletter of the school year will be sent out on Tuesday 20th July and will include important information about arrangements for the start and end of the school day in September and any confirmed changes the lifting of restrictions will mean for the new school year.

AND FINALLY ...

Some really exciting news! We successfully filmed the Year 6 production of Peter Pan this afternoon with the services of 2020TV. Given all the disruption of the last few weeks, it was wonderful that all 40 of the children were in school to give what Miss Wakley and Miss Hulands says was their best performance to date! The school is paying for the professional filming of Peter Pan as our gift to our Year 6 pupils and their families. We hope that the rest of the school will get a chance to enjoy the film of the production in their bubbles next week and we look forward to the final performance of Peter Pan on Tuesday next week ... with a live audience!

Feeling Fruitful

Jesus said, "I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing."

John 15:5

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Wilson

Mrs Hough

Headteacher

Acting Deputy Headteacher