

STMS newsletter 24

3rd April 2017

Dear Parents

This week is of course our final week before the Easter holiday. We are often in school during Holy Week, but sadly we won't be this year. However, given the significance of this week in our faith, we will be taking children through the events of Holy Week in a series of acts of whole school worship, led by individual classes and with a focus on telling the story through mime, music and dance.

Our Foundation Stage children started the process today with a short but very informative overview of Holy Week. The remaining liturgies will be at 9:00 am each morning except on Friday when it will be at 2:30pm. Parents and friends are very welcome to join us.

On Friday morning at 9:00am, we will have our end of term Celebration Assembly, where we reward the efforts of the term in various ways. Please feel free to join us for this also.

After Easter, children can wear Summer Uniform. Please make sure you read the guidance on uniform below to ensure you are complying with school policy. There are many summer dresses on the market which do not conform to our policy. They must be Navy Gingham and I always say, the simpler the design the better. We are very proud of the way our children present themselves and I thank you for helping to make our uniform truly UNIFORM!

I also have one exciting announcement that will be tinged with some sadness. I am very proud to announce that Mr Crozier has been appointed as Deputy Headteacher of St Peter's Catholic Primary School in Waterlooville. As many of you are aware, finding suitable people to fill senior leadership posts in Catholic Schools is becoming incredibly difficult but here at St Thomas More's we are incredibly fortunate to have several very talented Catholic teachers whom we are proud to offer the opportunity to develop strong leadership qualities that can benefit our Catholic community of schools as a whole. Mr Crozier will be a great loss to our school, but at the same time it is wonderful to know that he won't be far away and that he will be helping to grow and develop our nearest neighbouring Catholic school. I for one look forward to a close working relationship with St Peters and with all Catholic schools in the Portsmouth area, especially with the advent of Multi Academy Trusts. I am sure you will want to join with me in wishing Mr Crozier all the very best for what I am quite certain will be a very promising career.



QUIZ NIGHT

St. Thomas More's Quiz night on Friday 7th April at 7.00pm in the School Hall – quiz starts at 7.30pm. There are very limited tickets still available from the school office until Wednesday 5th April. Looking forward to a fantastic evening!

Flute Lessons

There are now a number of limited spaces available for KS2 children to learn to play the flute. Lessons will commence after Easter on Friday afternoons, the cost is £45 per term (£5 per lesson)

UNIFORM

Girls' summer dresses should be French navy gingham; they should not be culottes or have a white t-shirt style top. Boys are allowed to wear grey tailored short trousers.

In the interests of safety children should not wear jewellery to school. (Exceptions – Medical Alert bracelets/necklaces. Small stud earrings are permitted only if the child can independently remove them for PE lessons and put them back in afterwards. If a child is not able to do so then small stud earrings may only be worn for six weeks after piercing, but must be covered, before school, by paper tape on P.E. days. This includes Non-School Uniform days. A watch may be worn but will need to be removed for P.E. lessons.)

No Make-up including nail varnish

Long hair should be tied back with **very plain navy blue or white hair bands, bobbles or clips**. Extreme hairstyles and colouring are discouraged.

Easter Raffle

Every class has an Easter Egg to win! Tickets are 20p each and are available from the class teachers. All proceeds will go to our Lenten CAFOD appeal. Thank you for your support!

Parent Governor Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a parent governor position. We have had interest in this position already, however, if you feel that you would like to apply for this, please ask for an application pack from the school office. The closing date for completed applications is by noon on Friday 28th April 2017

Woodwork / Handy man for Year R

Year R have a few little jobs that they need doing and were wondering if a parent / carer / grandparent may be able to help them out! If you are able, please contact any member of the Year R team.
Thank you

CHURCH NEWS

St. Joseph's Church, Havant

St. Joseph's Hall Committee is looking for new members. If you are interested in becoming more integrated in the community then why not join the hall committee. Duties and activities are varied and really gets you out there and involved within the church and local area.

Our next meeting is in the St. Josephs Hall on the 24th May at 7.30pm, feel free to pop along or alternatively contact John Banville on 07775680946 for more information.

First Holy Communion Programme at St. Michael's and All Angels Church continues as follows:-

- 13th May – "Do this in Memory of Me" (Parent meeting)
- 10th June – Rehearsal at 10.00am
- **Sunday 11th June – First Holy Communion**
- 1st July – "To Love and to Serve" (No parent meeting)

ITEMS FOR YOUR DIARY

| Date | Time | Event |
|---------------------------------|-------------|---|
| Wednesday 5 th April | 09:00 | Remembering the Last Supper: led by Delphinus Class |
| Thursday 6 th April | 09:00 | Reflecting on the Agony in the Garden: led by Aquila Class |
| Friday 7 th April | 14.30 | The Crucifixion & Veneration of the Cross: led by Orion and Lyra Class |
| Friday 7 th April | 15:15 | Last day before Easter Holidays |
| Friday 7 th April | 19:00 | Quiz Night in the School Hall |
| Monday 24 th April | 08:45 | Back to School for 1 st Day of Summer Term |
| Tuesday 25 th April | 14.00 | Year R – ‘Bug Club’ – in School Hall |
| Friday 26 th May | 15:15 | Last day before Summer Half Term |
| Monday 5 th June | 08:45 | Back to School after Summer Half Term |
| Sunday 11 th June | 10:00 | First Holy Communion at St. Michael’s and All Angels Church, Leigh Park |
| Thursday 22 nd June | 10:00 | St. Thomas More’s Feast Day |
| Thursday 29 th June | 14:00 | Ss. Peter & Paul Feast Day (Holy Day of Obligation) |
| Monday 3 rd July | 10:00 | Phoenix Class Mass |
| Tuesday 4 th July | 10:00 | Delphinus Class Mass |
| Wednesday 5 th July | 10:00 | Columba Class Mass |
| Thursday 20 th July | 14:00 | Leavers Mass for Year 6 |
| Tuesday 25 th July | 15:15 | Last day of Summer Term |