



St. James The Great



ROMAN CATHOLIC (VA) PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

No 5

March 2008

This Newsletter is being penned just over a week before the end of term as I will be away on the Year 4 and 5 residential visit to the Isle of Wight next week. Last year's trip does not seem that long ago and it does not seem possible that we are almost two thirds of the way through the year. However, on a look around the school it is clear that much has already gone on this year. Most visible, for example, is the new playground equipment and minibus. Behind the scenes, much work continues in preparation for our anticipated Ofsted inspection. The break ahead, therefore, will be welcomed and on behalf of the staff I would extend our very best wishes to all families for

A Happy and Holy Easter



Thanks are due to the vast majority of families who have worked domestic arrangements around our out of step holiday dates keeping requests for leave of absence to a minimum.

SUMMER UNIFORM

Please note it is anticipated that children will return to school in summer uniform after the Easter break. If, however, we face very inclement weather this may be delayed if desired until the end of April. From 1st May all must be in summer uniform.

HAIRCUTS – DRESS CODE

There have been a few cases recently of boys' haircuts clearly being in breach of the school dress code in regard to the required even length of cut. As we move into the summer term we would request parents to ensure clear instructions are given to hairdressers to avoid conflict with the school, embarrassment for the children and the need for sanctions to be actioned.

YEAR 4 AND 5 RESIDENTIAL VISIT

We wish the children and staff on next week's visit to Little Canada on the Isle of Wight an enjoyable week. Hopefully the weather will be kind to them.



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EASTER LITURGY – LENTEN MASS

With next week being Holy Week and the final week of Lent please note:-

1. **Tuesday 18th March at 8.30 am**

Final Lenten Mass in the Music Room. It would be nice to see a final surge of numbers for this celebration.

2. **Thursday 20th March**

Easter Liturgy in the school hall at 9.45 am. All are welcome as previously notified.

We would thank Fr Tom, Fr Chima and Fr Reason for providing opportunities for our Years 4, 5 and 6 children to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the school's Penitential week.

PARENTS' ICT CLUB

The above Club will be starting on Friday 11th April at 9.30 am. There is no need to pre-register but please wait for Mrs Cefai at Reception.

CROYDON DANCE AND MUSIC FESTIVALS

Well done to the Infant and Junior Dance Festival groups who performed last night. It was an excellent evening, greatly enhanced by these two groups. We look forward to next week's Infant and Junior Choir Festivals which take place at the Fairfield Halls on Tuesday and Wednesday. **PLEASE NOTE WE HAVE A FEW TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR BOTH EVENINGS.** Please enquire at the office if you still require tickets.

ST MATTHEW'S PASSION CHOIR GROUP

A group of our children took part in a performance of St Matthew's Passion last Saturday evening and received much praise for their contribution to what is a very difficult musical piece. Many thanks to Mrs Williams for preparing and supporting this group which proved to be a marvellous experience for the children.

ICT SURVEY FORMS

Thank you for the above survey forms that have already been returned. Please return any outstanding forms by the end of term. If these have been mislaid further copies can be obtained from the school office.

OFFICE STAFFING

With Mrs Marchant on next week's residential visit the office will be "light staffed". Other staff have been drafted in but it may not be "business as usual" so please bear with us – "normal service will be resumed after the break".

SECONDARY TRANSFER

I am pleased to be able to report that whilst there are a significant number of children across Croydon who did not receive a secondary place offer on offer day all St James the Great children did have a school offered. A high percentage also received their first preference. I am aware that a few parents are proceeding with appeals to higher ranked schools and we will do our best to support this process.

PRIMARY NURSERY AND RECEPTION OFFERS 2008

Offers for places in Nursery and Reception classes this year will go out on Thursday 20th March 2008. Whilst this coincides with the Easter break messages left on the school answer phone will be responded to during the break.

Enjoy the Easter Break