

**A**s we near the end of term I would like to note with thanks to all concerned some recent events which whilst contributing to the busyness of the summer term in many respects make it one of the most enjoyable terms of the year. The programme got off to a marvellous start with the Summer Fete on which we have already reported. Subsequently we have held our own sports day in addition to hosting the Croydon Catholic Primary Schools' Sports. Both of these ran exceptionally smoothly thanks to the contributions and work of all staff and, in particular, Mrs Berkeley-Agyepong, our PE Co-ordinator, whose organisation of these events is second to none. The events are greatly enhanced by the work of the Friends Association and I would like to thank them all for their hard work. It is very reassuring when visitors depart saying "I don't know how you do it" and I always respond by saying that we are blessed with great team spirit that includes pupils, parents and staff – so a big thank you to everyone.

We then hosted the St Andrew's Parish Centenary Family Mass and Picnic which whilst not granted such fine weather went off very well and seemed to be enjoyed by all. I have received a letter of thanks from the Centenary Organising Committee who also expressed thanks for the support received from staff and our Friends Association. I would like to encourage you to lend your support to our Friends Association by purchasing tickets for the following event which takes place this coming Saturday if you have not already done so.

**FRIENDS ASSOCIATION FAMILY DISCO – SATURDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> JULY**

**IF YOU HAVE NOT YET REQUESTED TICKETS FOR THIS COMING SATURDAY'S EVENT, PLEASE GET YOUR ORDER INTO THE SCHOOL OFFICE BY TOMORROW TO SECURE YOUR FOOD ORDER.**

We are now into Concert mode and I will report on this in our final Newsletter of the academic year to be issued next week. I would in the meantime provide the following end of term notes.

**WELL DONE AND THANKS TO:**

Miss Berry who worked hard preparing for our Healthy Schools Assessment Day on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July. I am pleased to confirm that St James the Great School has now been recognised as an "Advanced Healthy School", which exceeded all our expectations. The Assessment Team could not speak highly enough of Miss Berry's presentation and of the children with particular recognition of the School Council. I have now been advised for the second time that it is, of course, they who run our school!!

**CHARTER MARK**

We are due for an interim assessment after our first year of holding this award and this will take place on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July. Jo Strong, the Assessor, will be in school all day and will take the opportunity to "catch" parents at the start and possibly the end of the day. I am confident you will do us proud.

## STAFF ALLOCATIONS

I am pleased to be in a position to confirm next year's staffing allocations to classes as follows:-

Class	Teacher	Classroom Support Staff
6.2	Mrs Berkeley-Agyepong	Mrs Reynolds
6.1	Mrs Scott Cree	
5.2	Mrs Cefai	Mrs Faik
5.1	Mrs Minards	
4.2	Miss O'Brien	Mrs Lawless
4.1	Miss Berry	
3.2	Mrs Day	Mrs Melody (0.6)
3.1	Miss Balzan	Mrs Daly (0.4)
2.2	Mrs Murphy	Mrs McGuire (0.5)
2.1	Miss Hughes	Mrs Wentworth (0.5)
1.2	Mrs Mascarenhas	Mrs Pollock
1.1	Mr Allen	Mrs Douch
R2	Mrs Forward	Mrs Tracey
R1	Mrs Lawlor	Mrs Grabiec
Nursery	Mrs Shakespeare Miss Church	Miss Campbell Mrs Chambers
SENCO/EMAG	Mrs Pillay	
Teaching Support	Mr Brown Miss Zbarawska	

We will be pleased to welcome back to the class teaching staff Mrs Leah Mascarenhas, who has agreed to help us out at least for the forthcoming year. In addition we welcome a new member to the teaching staff team, Miss Laura O'Brien.

This time of year sadly sees the loss of staff, Miss Elizabeth Pedder who will be travelling over the year and Miss Alison Walne who is relocating to Lincolnshire. They will both be greatly missed and we wish them every success for the future.

## SCHOOL MEALS NEW DEVELOPMENTS

The revised Menu we have recently trialled has gone very well and it is proposed to continue with this Menu for the first half term of the new academic year and a further copy is attached to this Newsletter. In line with efforts to improve school menus we will be introducing a self-service refrigerated salad bar. This will be supervised but children will be able to help themselves. School meal children will have automatic access to the salad bar and the facility will be available to packed lunch children by purchasing a salad bar token from the school office for 40p per token.

We attempt to keep costs to a minimum and have held the price of school meals at £1.30 for two years but taking account of the developments above and cost increases over this time meals will have to rise to £1.40 from September. Tokens purchased this term will be honoured at the £1.30 price. Parents may be interested to note that the new price is still 10p per meal cheaper than for Croydon schools in general. For administrative purposes it is helpful if parents purchase tokens in batches of five wherever possible.

We very much hope that the improvements to the meals service will encourage parents to allow their children to use this provision as regularly as possible as it is totally dependent on take up.

## PARENTS ICT CLUB

This Club takes place on Friday mornings between 9.30 and 10.30 am, during which time participants have the opportunity to work through a self paced ICT Course. This Course covers ICT basics and how to use the main Microsoft Office programmes. All parents are welcome as are friends of the school. If you would like to take part please send a note addressed to Mrs Cefai with a name and contact which can be either your child or a telephone number.

## **CETs COURSES**

Two CETs Courses have been run in school this term and appear to have been useful and welcomed by those who have taken part. It is proposed to run a further Course aimed at parents in Years 3 and 4 running from Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September to 7<sup>th</sup> November. The focus will be “Keeping up with Literacy”. If you think you may be interested in this Course please send a note including the name and class of your child to Mrs Lawlor, if possible by the end of term. We will be unable to provide crèche facilities for this Course.

## **THANK YOU**

Mrs Lawlor would like to extend her thanks and the thanks of all the staff to the significant number of volunteer parent reading helpers. Their support is greatly appreciated. Thank you again, see you next year!

## **CONGRATULATIONS**

Well done to all of our children who have taken part in recent sporting events including the Croydon Catholic Schools’ Swimming Gala, Croydon Catholic Schools’ Sports, Croydon Sports, Catholic Schools’ Football and Netball Tournaments, Croydon Football and Netball Leagues to name but a few. Thank you to all participants for their efforts.

## **CYCLING PROFICIENCY**

Well done to the following children who recently passed their Cycling Proficiency Course, with a special mention to Ryan Goldsmith for most improved student.

Matthew Csepregi, Conor Doyle, Kyriacos Banitsiotis, Livio Modarresi, Owen Flannery, Jamie Hickey, Kerry Gumley, Catherine Campbell, Caitlin Turner, Cassiopeia Berkeley-Agyepong, Serio Ohene-Djan, Craig Elliott, Raven Monfries, Michaela Byrne, Kelly Spillane, Jack Bashford, Ciara Jones, Arianna Lucia, Lucy Rogers, Shannen Parfitt, Lauren Da Silva, Kimberly D’Gama, Melissa Edgerton, Sean Lopeman, Jordan James, Charlie Prince, Connor Parry and Conor Willis.

## **MILK ORDERS**

Please remember milk orders must be received by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July in order to secure milk for your child from the start of next term.

## **SCHOOL UNIFORM**

I would like to thank the vast majority of parents who work very hard to maintain our school uniform requirements. The wearing of summer uniform can continue through to the October half term or children may come back in winter uniform. Please remember the requirements in regard to haircuts.

## **BOOK FAIR**

Your support of the recent Book Fair is much appreciated. The school has received £1,140 in books by way of commission and this greatly helps our book resources. Thank you to Mrs Faik and Mrs Lawless who once again did sterling work in organising the Fair. I know they look forward to the next one at Christmas!

## **SCHOOL BOOK SHOP**

Our Book Shop opens for its final session on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July. In addition to our excellent range of books we will also be selling notebooks, pencils, erasers and other stationery items.

## **EVENTS TO THE END OF TERM**

1. Leavers’ Mass – Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July, 7.30 pm at St Bartholomew’s (all welcome)
2. Leavers’ Assembly – Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July at 9.45 am (all welcome)
3. Final Assembly – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July at 9.45 am (all welcome)

**PLEASE REMEMBER SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 2 PM ON FRIDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> JULY. PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CHILD IS COLLECTED PROMPTLY.**