



St. James The Great



ROMAN CATHOLIC (VA) PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

No 3

October 2009

With half term upon us we extend good wishes to you all for an enjoyable week which with luck will be an "Indian summer". Please note the following by way of information:-

1. Harvest Assembly/Collection for Nightwatch

Our annual harvest assembly will take place at 2.45 pm on Thursday 22nd October. This will be led by Year 3, supported by Year 2, and all are welcome to attend.

2. Collection of non-perishable foodstuffs

Our collection this year will go to 'Nightwatch' the charity that supports the homeless in the local area. You are invited to send into school tomorrow, Thursday 22nd October, tins and packets of non-perishable foodstuffs which will be presented at the assembly (apologies for the date confusion on our previous notification). Please be as generous as you can for this worthy cause that has greatly appreciated our previous donations.

CYCLING PROFICIENCY

A few places remain on the forthcoming Cycling Proficiency Training Course which is open to Year 5 and Year 6 pupils. Any children who would like to participate in this training should request an application form at the main office if possible before half term.

STAFFING MATTERS

Unusually we have some staff changes to notify at this time of year. Farewell to:-

1. **Mrs Mary Berkeley-Agyepong** to whom we extend sincere congratulations on her appointment to the Deputy Headship of St Mary's Junior School, Carshalton. Mary has been a member of our teaching staff for just over 15 years during which time she has made an enormous contribution to the life of the school and will be greatly missed. She takes up her new appointment at the beginning of next term and we will take the opportunity to wish her a formal farewell at the last assembly of the term. We will undoubtedly keep in touch and wish her every success in her new post.
2. **Mrs Geraldine Daly** (LSA Year 3) will be moving on to a new appointment after the half term. She has been with us for five years during which time she has made innumerable contributions to the school and will be greatly missed. We wish her every success in the future and know that we will hear from her from time to time.
3. **Mrs Anna Rodrigues**, our Nursery teacher, has unfortunately for personal reasons resigned her post and will be leaving us after half term. Whilst she has only been with us a short time we would record our thanks to her for getting our Nursery class underway this year and we too wish her well for the future.



The school holds an Intermediate International Schools Award.
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Welcome to: **Miss Philippa Skehens** who joins our staff immediately after half term as our Nursery teacher. We extend her a warm welcome and hope she will have a happy association with our school.

HALF TERM: SCHOOL CLOSSES AT NORMAL TIME ON THURSDAY 22ND OCTOBER.

PLEASE NOTE – SCHOOL IS CLOSED ON FRIDAY 23RD OCTOBER and reopens on Monday 2nd November.

MENU on return to school after half term we will be on Menu Week One.

FRIENDS ASSOCIATION – GRAND FIREWORK DISPLAY

This takes place on Friday 6th November and a separate flyer has been issued. Advance ticket purchases include a jumbo sausage roll and soup. Please note tickets purchased on entry are the same price but do not include food. Please support this event if you can.

EASTER 2011

As previously notified our dates for this holiday period are likely to be significantly out of step with other schools. In approving the dates the school Governors were very conscious of the difficulties this could cause some parents. Accordingly plans are being made to offer day care during this break and further information will be issued nearer the time.

CROYDON ADVERTISER RECEPTION CLASS SCHOOL PHOTOS

We have been advised by our local Newspaper that the pictures they took of our Reception classes will be published in this week's paper.

PARKING: I have been approached recently by some irate local residents whose driveways have been blocked at the start and end of the school day. I realise parking is difficult at these times but I would request you leave yourself enough time to park a little further away and avoid inconveniencing local residents who clearly have a justifiable complaint when their driveways are impeded.

SCHOOL CAR PARK: We would remind parents that driving onto the site is not permitted between 8.00 am and 5.30 pm for reasons of safety.

SCOOTERS, BIKES ETC. We would remind parents that riding of bicycles and scooters on site is not permitted for obvious health and safety reasons. Where these are bought to school riders must dismount at the main gate and walk the bicycle or scooter into school and likewise should not get onto the bike or scooter until they are outside the main gate.

PUNCTUALITY: There has been an increase in the number of pupils regularly arriving late. Not only is this disruptive for them and their class but is also bad training. Such lates are recorded on our registration system and will accordingly form part of their attendance statistics at the end of the year. Please make every endeavour to ensure your children treat punctuality as a serious matter.

ABSENCE NOTES: Schools face very strict requirements in regard to the recording of pupil absence. We would ask you to notify us as soon as possible by telephone any unforeseen absences that occur. These should then be followed up with a written note when the child returns. Reporting slips are available on the carousel in Reception to make absence reporting easier.

SCHOOL UNIFORM: Parents support for our uniform policy is much appreciated. There has, however, been an increase in the number of children claiming to have lost their ties or to have left them at home. We would ask you to ensure your child comes to school each day in full school uniform.

