



St. James The Great



ROMAN CATHOLIC (VA) PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

No 6

March 2007

Please note that in order to get information to parents as quickly as possible in future urgent messages will be placed at the top of the first page of our website on www.stjamesthegreat.org. This will prove useful in the event of any future bouts of inclement weather. We will endeavour to get telephones manned or at least a message available as soon as possible. We would, however, recommend the website as the first port of call. We hope you will find this helpful although we do appreciate not everyone has access to the internet.

LENTEN MASS: We are very appreciative of the time given by the priests to celebrate Mass at the school each Monday morning during the current Lenten period. There are four Mondays left and we would encourage all to consider joining us at 8.15 am in the Music Room. These celebrations have proved a very reflective way to start the school week and everyone is welcome.

INFORMATION LETTER TO PARENTS: We would ask you to check with your children whether any letters have been sent home. We are receiving an increasing number of requests from parents for copies of correspondence sent home. Whilst this may seem a small matter it creates a number of issues, not least administrative time and copying costs. There is now an issue for the school in managing photocopying costs which have risen considerably over the year to an unsustainable level. Please help us by keeping such requests to an absolute minimum. Some schools have taken the view that they will levy charges for such duplicate copies. Our school charging policy is kept under review and it would be a shame if this became a formal necessity.

SCHOOL COACH: I am pleased to report that our coach is now back with us and after a minor hiccup is in full working order again.

DATE CHANGE – CATHOLIC SCHOOLS’ CROSS COUNTRY: This event is held at the John Fisher playing fields and unfortunately the original date scheduled fell on their Founders Day. The event will, therefore, now take place on 28th March, please amend your date list accordingly. Apologies for any inconvenience but this is outside our control.

FRIENDS ASSOCIATION: Thanks for the hard work undertaken by committee members who were able to turn out on a recent Sunday morning to sort the Association’s storage garage. This mundane, hard but necessary task will help as regards organisation of future events. Well done to the team.

NEXT EVENT: FASHION SHOW: Please remember our Friends Association have organised this event on Monday 12th March at 7.15 for 7.30 pm.



A Voluntary Aided School in the Trusteeship of the Archdiocese of Southwark.
Linked with Schools in the Bao'an District of China.

WINDSOR ROAD · THORNTON HEATH · SURREY CR7 8HJ

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My thanks to everyone who was able to support the recent 60s, 70s, 80s night. This was well supported with over 150 people in attendance. A good night was had by all.

HEALTHY SCHOOLS: We are about to go for re-accreditation of our Healthy Schools Award and would welcome parents' views in regard to how they feel our revised school dinner menu, availability of fruit to children and general policies in this area are contributing to their children's health. If you would like to contribute to this please put any comments in writing to Miss Berry via the school office or your child's book bag.

CHARITY ITEMS: I am pleased to confirm that a cheque has been forwarded to Afrikids in the sum of £300 representing collections taken at the end of our Christmas concerts last term. Thank you. This money goes direct so will have an immediate impact on the children. A further cheque has been forwarded to the Royal London Hospital Air Ambulance Service in the sum of £200 following the collection at the end of the Carol Service.

As you come through to the Reception area you will note a number of certificates on the internal window to Mrs Spinks' office. Do take a look if you get a chance as these reflect your continued generosity to but a few of the charity causes you have supported over recent years. I counted a total of £1,995, in addition there have been other charities we have supported who are not represented in this way.

COULSDON AND PURLEY MUSIC FESTIVAL: Well done to all who participated in this Festival last Saturday in what was a very close competition in the Junior Choir section. The winning Choir scored 85 points with our Choir achieving 83 points. This is the first time we have entered the competition so congratulations are due to the Choir and Mrs Williams. Thanks also to Mr Brown for giving up his time to provide accompaniment for the Choir and to other staff who lent their support. Good luck to all in the Croydon Festival in a few weeks time.

CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY – LENTEN COLLECTION: We have registered our disappointment at the substitution of the current larger green box for the smaller house shaped boxes previously issued for the Lenten Catholic Children's Society collection. If you are willing for your children to support this year's collection please return the box nearer the end of term filled to whatever level you feel appropriate. Thank you for any support you can give.

DATA CHECKING SHEETS/MOBILE PHONE NUMBERS: Many thanks to those who have so promptly returned the recently issued data checking sheets. If you still have yours to return please do so as soon as possible. It is noticeable that a significant number of people have changed their mobile phone numbers since we last updated our records. We would ask you in the event of a change of number to advise the school immediately to enable us to have contact numbers as up to date as possible as this has proved to be the most important emergency number.

MONEY IN ENVELOPES PLEASE: I am sure parents appreciate that with 480 children in the school payments are regularly received on a daily basis in the school office. Reconciling payments is dependent upon monies coming into the office in envelopes clearly marked with the child's name, class and purpose of the payment. Please avoid sending loose money into the office via children.

DATES TO REMEMBER THIS TERM

STATIONS OF THE CROSS – FRIDAY 23RD MARCH 2007. This takes place at 7 pm at St Andrew's Church, Brook Road, Thornton Heath and all junior children are expected to attend. All families are welcome to this service which it is anticipated will finish at approximately 7.40 pm.

EASTER RESIDENTIAL VISIT TO FOREST OF DEAN FOR YEARS 4 AND 5: We wish the 69 children in this party an enjoyable week departing St James the Great Monday 26th March returning Friday 30th March.

EASTER LITURGY – 9.45 AM THURSDAY 5TH APRIL: Please feel free to join us for this service which is led by Year 3.

LAST CALL FOR THE HOME ENERGY SURVEY FORMS – if any remain outstanding please send these into school by the end of the week.

ADVERTISEMENT: Please find attached details of a new children's shoe shop opening in Sanderstead. Vouchers for our school to the value of £1.50 will be given on any purchase made.