



St. James The Great



ROMAN CATHOLIC (VA) PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



No 9

July 2009

Another academic year comes to an end and we can say it has been a good year with many highlights which have been recorded in Newsletters throughout the year. Whilst the staff make many of these things possible they are without doubt greatly enhanced by the tremendous support given by you, the parents, in all kinds of ways. I would extend all of our thanks to you for this support which is much appreciated.

The arrival of the summer break is naturally welcomed, not only for the time it allows to 'recharge batteries' but also because it allows a solid period of time to prepare for the new academic year and for more major building issues to be dealt with. We have some works going on during the break period and I have listed these elsewhere in the Newsletter for your information. These reflect the Governors' determination to maintain the working environment for staff and pupils to the highest level possible. We have much to be grateful for from this voluntary group and I would extend thanks to them for the behind the scenes work they do.

Having said the summer is welcome, there is always a downside at this time of year when we often see staff changes taking place. This year is no exception but we are especially sad to be seeing the departure of three long-serving staff members who between them have a total of 47 years' service at the school. All three will be a great loss to the school: Mrs Sharron Shakespeare who ran our very successful Nursery class for so many years. We are, however, pleased she retains contact with us as a parent and hopefully through the after school care we are hoping to offer in the new school year. We wish her well in all her future endeavours. Mrs Sue Forward leaves us having made an enormous contribution to the life of the school over many years. Not only has she made a significant impact on a large number of children's early years at St James the Great, her involvement in the musical life of the school from recorders to the music and dance festivals will leave a large gap to fill. As I have said to her she will be welcome back at anytime. As she moves to the challenges of a new post at Wolsey Infant School, we wish her every success and happiness in the future. As you know Mrs Claire Murphy moves on to Headship, again in another Croydon School, Keston Primary School. I cannot say in this context we are sorry as this is an excellent and well-deserved promotion. Nonetheless we are very sorry for ourselves. St James the Great is losing an excellent teacher and an outstanding Deputy and colleague. We will always be grateful for the contribution she has made to the life of our school and wish her every success and happiness in her new role.

We are also sorry to see two other staff move on. Whilst they have been with us for much less time they have already made a significant impact on the life of the school. We wish both Miss Daria Hass who moves to a new teaching post in Kensington and Miss Jean Gardner who moves to Oakwood School in Purley every happiness and success in their new posts.



The school holds an Intermediate International Schools Award.
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Individually we are always sorry to see staff leave but this is to be expected. We pride ourselves on having a strong staff team and this has been reflected in the internal appointments made by the Governors and notified in the last school Newsletter. We also look forward to welcoming new members to the staff also reported in the last Newsletter. We move into the summer break secure in the knowledge that we are well prepared for the new school year with a revitalised strong team to take us forward.

FAREWELL YEAR 6

We, as always, celebrate Year 6's move to secondary school through a Leavers' Mass, Assembly and Barbecue/Disco. At all three events they once again rose to the occasion and have rounded off their time at St James the Great in style. We wish them all well as they move on to:-

Bishop Thomas Grant

Esther Ajisafe
Justin Charles
Reece Creary
Elliot Davis
Elsa Demba-Martins
Riccardo Donato
Matthew Dowd
Maria Grech
Nathania Harrison
Emma Jones
Abena Kusi
Ewan Leathem
Darnell Leid-Green
Carlo Lobo
Sophie Madine
Brian Matovu
Jade Menezes-Fernandes
Michael Page
Oliver Perales
Gordon Pindi
Adam Richmond
Matthew Richmond
Annie Savage
Artur Strozynski
Ryan Sullivan
Ami Warren
Jonathan Yamoah

Coloma Convent

Irene Afriye
Francesca De Ruyter
Lizzie McBride
Uyi Ojo-Osagie
Christah Shunmoogum
Kirsty Shunmoogum
Angelica Udeagbala

St Joseph's College

Antonio Adu-Asante

St Philomena's

Aba Amoah
Sharon Anand Rajmohan
Jade Asagba
Amira Awofadeju
Orla Kelly
Jessica Larkin
Aoife McKeon
Selina Modarresi
Marianna Partridge
Rachel Phillips

Croydon High

Larissa Kennedy

Harris Academy

Stefano Capone

The John Fisher School

Kevin Anton
Sathiyadhasan
Anthony Bodunrin
Shaun McGrath

The London Oratory

Jonathan Lewin

The Warwick School

Andre Sinclair

Tolworth Girls

Samar Noun

Virgo Fidelis

Onique Boreland
Aaliyah Brown

Wilson's

Emanuel Dinssa
Daniel Fernandes
Nicolas Fernandes

Overseas

Divina Mensa-Kuma
Divine Mensa-Kuma

Thanks to Year 6 parents and our Friends Association for making the Barbecue and Disco possible. All the help was much appreciated.

FRIENDS ASSOCIATION FAMILY DISCO

Thank you to all who supported this event – over 200 in the end. A great night was had by all even though the weather meant the event had to come indoors. Well done again to the Friends Association.

SCHOOL MEALS - REMINDER

In spite of the LA rise for meals to £2 per meal we are retaining ours at £1.60. We can do this while the take up remains high without compromising quality or quantity. The daily salad bar continues to be a great favourite among the children. Mrs Sheila Williams, our Catering Manageress, and her team provide a great service to the children and the school. Please take up

the meal option for your children as often as possible. Any comments or suggestions regarding catering are always welcomed.

ICE CREAM SALES – AFTER SCHOOL

These continue to prove very popular. Thanks to the team of parents and our Friends Association for maintaining this provision.

SPECIAL NEEDS SUPPORT/SCHOOL MEALS SUPERVISORS

We maintain a list of people interested in these roles – without obligation. If you feel you may be interested in such work just drop a note to the school office and your name will be forwarded to Mrs Pillay and Mrs Mowbray respectively. As vacancies arise they would then contact you to see if you are still interested. Why not consider registering in the new school year?

FINALLY

A personal thank you to all members of the staff team for making it such a successful year. I hope, like you all, they will enjoy a well deserved summer break.

SUMMER HOLIDAY WORKS

During the summer break the following works will be taking place in school. All being well we will return to a spic and span building as the works are completed and our cleaning team work hard over the break.

- Year 2 carpets
- Reception and Year 1 toilets refurbishment
- Junior classrooms and Inclusion Room installation of blinds.
- Re-flooring of Junior and Admin corridors.
- Refurbishment of Reception and Head's Offices.
- Lower painting of hall.
- High level cleaning/deep clean.

BOOK FAIR

Thank you to Mrs Pollock and Mrs Sullivan for the superb organisation of our Book Fair which raised a total of £1,110 in books for the school. Thank you for your support of the Book Fair.

YEAR 6 BOOK DONATIONS

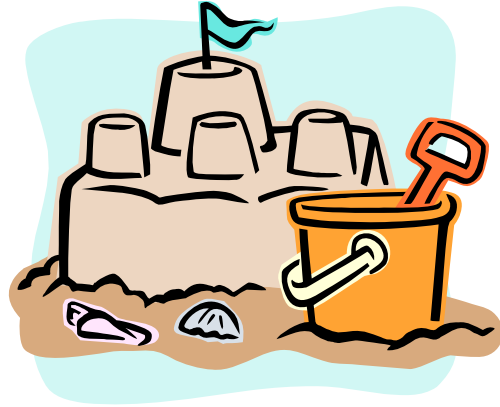
Thank you to Year 6 for their book donations which this year were greatly boosted by the Book Fair's 2 for 1 offer. Book plates will be put in these books to mark the children's time with us. This support greatly helps our school's book provision so many thanks to you all.

SCHOOL CLOSURES AT 2 PM ON FRIDAY 17TH JULY, PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CHILDREN ARE COLLECTED PROMPTLY. WE RE-OPEN ON THURSDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER 2009 FOR YEARS 1-6. Nursery children's start dates have been notified separately. Reception children start on Monday 7th September and will be part-time for the first week. They will go full time on Monday 14th September and will stay for school dinners from 14th to 25th September. Please note there was an error in the last Newsletter regarding our re-opening – the correct date is the one above. Apologies for any confusion.

ST JAMES THE GREAT AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

We have had a very positive response to the proposals to set up an After School Club based here at St James the Great. As a result of this we are looking to employ a Play Worker for this Club. Experience of working with children or an NVQ Level 1 or 2 qualification would be preferred but not essential. Employment would be for term time only, Monday to Friday, 3.15-6.15 pm. (This post could be filled by two part-timers and this would be considered.) Please contact Mrs Sharron Shakespeare on 07931 200097 for further information.

On behalf of myself and the staff I would express sincere appreciation for the numerous gifts that have been received. It is not always possible to say an individual thank you and I would ask you, therefore, to accept this as a mark of our appreciation.



*Best wishes for an enjoyable summer break.
We look forward to a bumper batch of
postcards.*

