



St Maria Goretti Newsletter

12th February 2016

Spring 3

Dear Parents and Carers,

What an uplifting week to end our half-term!

Firstly, as we begin the season of Lent, our children were exemplary in their behaviour and singing during the mass on Ash Wednesday. Our parents and parishioners were especially complimentary and we are all grateful for their positive feedback. All comments contribute to the school's evaluation of RE and Catholic life.

Throughout the day, many children were telling me about their sacrifices during the season of Lent, but we also encourage them to pray and attend mass more often during this liturgical season. Three of our pupils will be baptised at St Maria Goretti Parish church, which is wonderfully uplifting for us all.

Earlier this week I met with Mrs Cooper and Mrs Riddell, who is on a part-time secondment as deputy head teacher, in the absence of Mrs Perkin who is on maternity leave. It is testimony to the excellence of these leaders that staff can transfer between schools to maintain strong leadership and support, whilst providing staff with opportunities to gain experience of leadership in a different setting. Mrs Riddell is also assistant head teacher and RE leader at St Gregory's and is working with Mrs Long, RE leader, who does an excellent job in her contribution to the school. Similarly, Mr Dave Baylay, (also from St Gregory's), Mrs Brook and Mrs Bedson our family support team - work closely to provide support for children and families. Staff are a school's best resource and we are so fortunate to have such a dedicated team who can work so flexibly and with such devotion to the children and families on our school. All go above and beyond the requirements of their roles and responsibilities.

Finally, our 'Cultural Diversity week' has been enjoyed by all. Year 2 pupils visited The Bauhinia as part of cultural diversity week and Chinese new year and enjoyed Chinese cuisine, The City Catering Team led a food-tasting session, bringing-in Spanish, French and Italian food which they had made especially for the children. A special thank you to our Muslim pupils from St Gregory's who came to talk to our children about their faith, which is also part of our RE scheme of work. The children brought some Indian food to share, kindly made by their parents. This was the first experience for many of our pupils and they learnt lots about other countries and traditions, as well as our own British heritage.

It was a delight to see the children asking questions and seeing their enjoyment and curiosity through learning.

Have a lovely half-term week.

Mrs M Yates

Executive Head teacher



ST MARIA GORETTI CATHOLIC ACADEMY PART OF THE ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC COLLEGIATE.

BIG CONGRATULATIONS TO YEAR 5 WHO ARE LAST WEEK'S WEEKLY ATTENDANCE WINNERS WITH 98.6% - FANTASTIC! WOW!



CONGRATULATIONS TO YEAR 4 BEST ATTENDANCE FROM

9TH SEPT 2015 TO 5TH FEBRUARY 2016 WITH 98.4%



It is essential that you ensure your child gets to school on time.

The school doors open at 8.45 and close at 8.55

Registration is taken at 8.55am prompt

School finishes each day at 3.15pm



THE OVERALL SCHOOL ATTENDANCE FIGURE IS

97.1%

Day	Date	Month	Time	Information.
Wednesday	24th	February	7pm	Confirmation of Year 5 and 6 pupils who are baptised Catholic and have received the Sacrament of Holy Communion :
Sunday	22nd	May	10am	Holy Communion for pupils in Year 3 and above who are baptised Catholic : If you and your children are not baptised Catholic and are interested in becoming a Catholic, Please speak with Mrs Long.
Monday	22nd	February	8.55am	Start of second half term — Children Back in school

SNOW, GRIT AND ICE

It is **VERY RARE** for the school to close due to bad weather conditions

Information can be found on the school website and all parents will receive a text message if the school is to close for any reason.

NEW SCHOOL WEBSITE

We have now launched our new website.

Please go to <http://www.stmariagoretti.org.uk>



MY BABY TIME

We are now running

My Baby Time

in school 9:45—10:45

Thursdays

£1.50 per family

