



# St Maria Goretti Newsletter

7th April 2017 — Spring Term



Dear parents and carers,

Congratulations to our pupils who recently performed at the dance festival at the Victoria Hall and Godspell at St Thomas More. We have had many positive comments about the quality of the performances and I am very thankful to the staff for their hard work with the children.

We are very disappointed that our bid for funding to create a new school entrance and safer meeting areas was not successful. This space is needed for various meetings which take place almost daily. We will re-submit in the future.

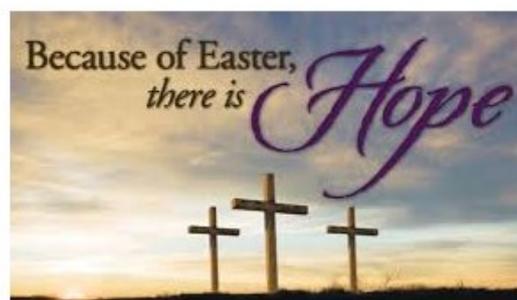
You will have heard the outcome of the Supreme Court which ruled in favour of supporting the Department for Education and school which does not permit parents taking pupils out of school during term time. The school's policy that no holidays will be authorised during term time remains and this is fully implemented in our academies. We have examples where children have been taken off-roll as a result of extended absence.

Next term we will be re-launching the school newsletter to produce a more creative and interesting format. The new format will include contributions from all members of our school and parish community. If you have any ideas and suggestions, we would welcome your input. Watch this space!

Finally, we say a fond farewell to Mrs Sue Gibbons, who is leaving St Maria Goretti today, after many years of service to the school. Mrs. Gibbons is known to many pupils- past and present- and she will be missed by everyone. We wish her every happiness for the future.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and Holy Easter.

Mrs M Yates  
Executive Headteacher



**BIG CONGRATULATIONS TO YEAR 3 WHO ARE LAST WEEK'S  
WEEKLY ATTENDANCE WINNERS WITH 99.3% - FANTASTIC! WOW!**



**CONGRATULATIONS TO YEAR 4 FOR BEST ATTENDANCE FROM  
7TH SEPTEMBER 2016 TO 31ST MARCH 2017**

**WITH 98.1%**



**THE OVERALL SCHOOL  
ATTENDANCE FIGURE IS 96.7%**



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

**The school doors open at 8.45am and close at 8.55am**

**Registration is taken at 8.55am prompt**

**School finishes each day at 3.15pm**



**Please do not send cash into school**

**as we will no longer accept it.**

ParentPay will be used to communicate to parents via text message. Please register with ParentPay if you have not already done so.



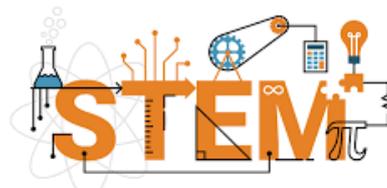
My Baby Time

Sessions run in school  
9:45–10:45 Thursdays  
£3.00 per family



A MESSAGE FROM  
THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Thank you to all staff and to outside agencies who have contributed towards a fantastic STEM week in school. The children have been successful in their exploration and experimentation of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.



HAPPY EASTER



Easter Break 7th April to 21st April 2017

Children need to be back in school on 24th April 2017



## ACADEMY COMMITTEE REPORT APRIL 2017

At the meeting in March the main item on the agenda was the termly report for each school by the Executive Headteacher. It was an opportunity for the Academy Representatives to question the senior staff on all aspects of school life and the progress being made to achieve the various objectives, which have been established in the School Development Plans.

An important aspect of this scrutiny is ensuring that the clerk at the meeting captures all the questions and answers. This provides external agencies such as OFSTED with the evidence that the school management is being held to account. I am pleased to report that almost two dozen questions and answers are recorded in the minutes.

In addition to this many other questions have been raised and answered at the Finance & Resources and Achievement & Standards Committees.

A further way in which the staff is held to account is via link visits by Representatives to speak to subject leaders about their particular specialism.

At the March meeting we received reports from Link Representatives on RE, Special Needs, Safeguarding, Early Years, Humanities, Art and Design & Technology, Computing and Pupil Premium. By the end of the academic year all subject areas in the curriculum will have been covered.

The popularity of St Gregory's and St Maria Goretti was in evidence when the Admissions Committee considered the applications for admission to Reception for September 2017. Once again, at both schools, there were twice the applicants for the available places.

There is much talk in the national press at the moment about school funding. With careful budgeting we believe that there is sufficient income at both schools to deliver the curriculum this year and next. Beyond that, it is difficult to predict what the situation will be. We need to wait for the outcome of Government consultation on the National Funding Formula.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome **Jamie Copeland** to the Academy Committee. Jamie, who is a local business owner, has two children attending St Gregory's and was the successful candidate in the recent Parent Ballot.

Ray Chadwick

Chair of Academy Committee—3<sup>rd</sup> April 2017

