

St. George's Catholic Primary School and Nursery

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Dear Parents

Doesn't the blue sky and sun shining make such a difference to us all after what seems like a very long winter! It is fantastic to see the children enjoying the weather and making great use of the 'bog-free' field – long may it last but a little warmer wouldn't harm!

TREE PLANTING STARS

HUGE thanks to Councillor Frank Sharp and his team for the amazing work they've done around our school in the last two weeks. Since the planting was started in February, they have planted in excess of 1000 new trees and hedging plants...and there is more to come. We'll soon have a beautiful mixed hedge surrounding the school and new forest areas and all sides of the field. It's a delight to walk around the grounds and see them all beginning to bud. We can't wait to see what it all looks like in a few years to come.

We still have some mature standard trees to be planted along the path to the Baptist church, but they have now been put back until November when they'll stand a better chance of surviving.

Thank you Frank, our volunteers, the Woodland Trust, Miss Mawtus and the children of our school for doing such a wonderful job!

BLASTING OFF INTO SPACE

What a wonderful success it was last week when all our children from Year 1 to 6 experienced a magical 3D journey around our solar system. The children's faces were a picture; some of them pointing in the air and asking their friends if they could see things that they could. Some of the children in Year 6 came out slightly dizzy after their journey around space – it was such a realistic journey and everyone, including staff, had a fantastic time.

Thank you so much to all, the parents who did send in a donation to help the school meet the cost. Just less than half of our children sent in a donation so it has left a large bill for the school, which we were already subsidising. We fully appreciate that were in a very difficult financial situation at the moment, but costs of coaches and petrol have skyrocketed so these types of experiences are a fantastic alternative that we would love to continue to offer.

MR HUNTINGTON

Many of you may be aware that Mr Huntington hasn't been around the school this month; I'm sure you've noticed the gates aren't as promptly opened as they once were!!!

Mr Huntington would like me to let you know that he is absent from work, and will be for the foreseeable future with a suspected cancer in his lung. He's had a number of appointments over the last few weeks and is waiting to see the oncologist next week, with a view to undergoing treatment the following week.

To learn with kindness, respect and friendship through God's love

Many of you will know that he is part of the furniture at St George's – not far off 40 years spent here and has seen children grow, and return with their own children, and even grandchildren! He is an extremely positive person and never has time off school. Please keep him and his family in your thoughts and prayers at this time. He is keeping very positive and told me last night that he feels much better at the moment and just wants to start his treatment. I'm sure he will feel your warmth and support.

RABBIT RUN

Another brilliant successful Rabbit Run took place yesterday and the weather held out through the morning so the children could really enjoy it. Thank you to the members of the PTA who offered their time to come and decorate the school for the children, and for sourcing and wrapping up the gifts for the children - their support is so very much valued.

The biggest thank you belongs to all parents and children who were able to raise some sponsor money towards the big day. I'm delighted and so proud to announce that we raised just over £2,200 from the Rabbit Run towards new resources for the school. Without your support, we'd be in a much worse position and have less opportunity to provide the resources we desperately need in this challenging time. THANK YOU!

EASTER BINGO & PTA

Huge thanks to the PTA for all their time and efforts in organising the Easter Bingo and helping support the Rabbit Run. The bingo was a great night for all those who attended and there was a real sense of fun throughout the evening. Thanks so much to everyone who bought tickets and a special thanks to all those who helped set up and clear away afterwards. It was lovely to speak to so many parents who were happy to offer help when it's needed - I felt humbled by everyone's kindness.

With Bingo, Bingo Raffle, own clothes day funds and The Easter Raffle, the PTA raided a wonderful £750! With this and some fundraising from Christmas, the PTA will be able to provide 10 new Chrome Books for our NEW intervention and group work room. Huge thanks to everyone for your fantastic efforts!

SWIMMING NEXT TERM

Year 4 are just coming to an end of their term of swimming so Year 3 will be starting just after the Easter holidays. Swimming takes place on a Wednesday afternoon, at the end of the day, and children return to school for 3.30pm. Just a reminder, as this class hasn't been swimming with school before, can parents please ensure the following:

- Girls must wear a swimming costume
- Boys must wear swimming trunks, NOT shorts
- All children need to wear a swimming cap
- Earrings are NOT allowed to be worn – studs will need to be removed

If it suits parents, children can be collected from the pool at 3.15 before they walk back over to school but parents must inform school prior to them going for their lesson.

SUMMER UNIFORM

When we return after Easter, the children will be in their SUMMER uniform. A reminder of what all children should be wearing is below:

GIRLS:

Simple red gingham dress (**NOT striped**)

White socks

BLACK sturdy shoes (**NOT slip-ons**)

To learn with kindness, respect and friendship through God's love

BOYS:

White polo shirt
Grey shorts
Grey socks
BLACK sturdy shoes

A little reminder that girls' hair reaching shoulder length should always be tied back or plaited. Girls will be given a hair bobble if they come to school without one.

SPARE UNIFORM

If parents have any spare, unwanted uniform (good quality) we would be delighted to collect it so we can recycle and reuse to any families needing support. If it could be sent into school after the Easter break, washed and ironed, we'll be setting up our on-line shop so other parents can make use of it, rather than it going to waste. Thank you.

EASTER BREAK

Just a reminder that we are finishing for the Easter break today at 1.00pm; After School Club will be operating from 1.00 to 3.00 pm.

School will reopen on Tuesday 19th April at 8.50am, following Bank Holiday Monday.

Wishing you all a wonderful, warm and peaceful Easter.



Mr P. Chapman
Headteacher