

# *St. George's Catholic Primary School and Nursery*

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**29<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

Dear Parents

Thank you all so much for supporting a drive to get our children in on time this week; it was much appreciated and made a huge difference to our start to the day. Year 6 class were brilliant through their full practice SATS week and we are very proud of them. Just a short 4 day week following Bank Holiday Monday, and they'll be sitting their actual SATS. Keep them in your thoughts over the next few weeks as they tackle the last of their revision.

## **MR ROY**

Despite a brief spell in hospital, Mr Roy is feeling more like his old self and has started his treatment this week. He is keeping his spirits high and doing well; all your thoughts and prayers must have done the trick! Please continue to keep him in your thoughts over the coming months as he fights off the big C. We look forward to seeing him up and about very soon.

## **FOREST CLUB**

It's back! I hope you all looked at our twitter feed and saw how much fun Forest School was for our children this week. There are some great pictures and videos so please have a look and see what the children got up to. It's a huge effort to organise and run so a special thank you to Miss Mawtus for giving up her time to run a 2 hour club after school! Special thanks also go to Mrs Cartwright and Grace for all their help and support throughout the session.

## **MRS DAVIES LEAVING**

Mrs Davies, our previous Nursery teacher and previous SENCo leaves us today. She has decided to try her hand at something new and is branching out into a different direction. We wish her well in all she does and with all her future opportunities.

## **PARENTS' APPOINTMENTS**

Thank you to everyone who booked and attended a parents' appointment this week. It's a long day for the teachers but they all really value your time and support; it's a great opportunity to touch base and check in on progress.

It's been a difficult few years for everyone and we can really see the effects of that in education. Even though this is our first year without national lockdowns, Covid continues to disrupt education and staffing and supply has been stretched like never before. Children have continued to need to isolate and take time off; gaps in learning will be inevitable.

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

I'd like to just point out that many children will not be where they could have been following this pandemic. Our KS1 children have found their new maths scheme especially challenging so there is some fluid movement in where children are in relation to the 'average'. White Rose Maths has been in place for a number of years in KS2 and this is the first year KS1 have come across it. It is difficult and far more challenging than previous schemes but is a gold standard for supporting progress, development and problem solving. As always, we strive for the very best for our children and our sights are always on the standards that children will be able to achieve before starting secondary school. It may take a while for children to adjust but we aim for the very highest standards and will strive to achieve them.

### **MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS**

We know it's almost impossible to make sure all children's dental appointments are outside of school hours. It is impossible to ensure doctors, Speech & Language, Occupational Therapy appointments are outside of school. Therefore, we ask that if you are taking your children to these appointments, parents MUST provide the letters and appointments slips when collecting or dropping children back. If not, children may be marked as having unauthorised absence. We would also expect that if children leave for a dental appointment, they come into school first and return to school after. Unfortunately, full days will not be authorised for routine medical or dental appointments. Many thanks for your support.

### **ATTENDANCE LETTERS**

Some families will receive letters regarding their child's attendance today. These will be where attendance has fallen below 90%. At this level, the DfE class such children as being persistently absent from school and will NOT make progress, and will often fall behind. The letters are there to support parents see how many absences their children have had and how many times they have been late for school. It is essential that all children have access to a full education that will allow them to achieve at school.

***Our school target is just 95% attendance (national is 96%). Only 60 % of our children have reached our target so far this year. This figure excludes Covid related absence.***

### **DATES FOR DIARIES:**

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May: Bank Holiday Monday

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Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May: Year 6 SATS

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May: Year 6 SATS

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May: Year 6 SATS

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May: Year 6 SATS

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Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May: Robinwood Residential Year 6

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May: Robinwood Residential Year 6

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May: Robinwood Residential Year 6

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May: Year 4 - First Holy Communion

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Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May: School Nurse Drop-in @ 8.30 am

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**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May: HALF TERM**

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Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> May:	School reopens @ 8.50 am
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> June:	Nursery Presentation to new parents @ 2.30 pm
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> June:	Class Photos for Reception & Year 6
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> June:	Year 6 Transition Day to Year 7
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> June:	Nursery Sports day (am) / KS1 Sports Day (pm)
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> July:	End-of-year Reports go home
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> July:	KS2 Sports Day (pm)
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> July:	Nursery Picnic for new starters @ 1.30 pm
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July:	School Closes @ 1.00 pm / Afterschool @ 3.00 pm

## **HELP STILL NEEDED**

In Mr Roy's absence, we really do need support with the day to day running of the school. If anyone knows of someone who has some time on their hands each day, **or even a few days each week, between 3.00 pm and 6.00pm**, and would like a little paid job, please let them know. We think Mr Roy will probably be absent for the rest of this term so we can offer a post out until 20<sup>th</sup> July. Call or email if interested. **Many thanks.**

Wishing you a great Bank Holiday weekend.

See you all in May!



Mr P. Chapman  
Headteacher