

St. George's Catholic Primary School and Nursery

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Dear Parents



We approach the end of the week where we have been mourning the passing of Queen Elizabeth II as a nation, and we've remembered her in many different ways over the week. Staff and children have been adding their messages into the book of condolences so please do come in to add your comments next week. We'll leave the book in the school entrance.

As we know, a state funeral will be held on Monday 19th September and school will be closed. We welcome children back on Tuesday 20th.

SCHOOL CLUBS

We have some school clubs starting this term and details will be sent out to the appropriate year groups. Staff will be running clubs throughout the year so if there isn't a club for your child's year group this term, there will be plenty more opportunities throughout the year.

PARENT HELPERS

We are always delighted to have parent helpers in our school; it supports the valuable links between home and school, providing great benefit to the children. Parents helpers can be a huge support to help children gain confidence in reading and support reading development. If you have a free morning or afternoon, and would like to come in and help in a class, please speak to your child's class teacher. Your support is invaluable and always greatly received and welcomed.

DOUGAL AND BARNEY

We were absolutely delighted to welcome Dougal back into school as our therapy dog. He is a delight and so loving and gentle with the children. Not only that, but his little brother, Barney, came in too to meet the children and hear them read. Barney is only 13 weeks old but the most chilled and loving pup we've ever met. He is already able to sit, lie down and roll over on command; my 11-year-old will only just about sit (dog that is, not child)!

Dougal and Barney are brought into school by their mum, Melanie, who is also one of our parents. Many of you may have seen her as she is now in her lovely new bright orange uniform and the dogs have matching leads and logos.

Therapy dogs are allowed on school grounds but please keep other dogs off the playground. Thank you.

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

NAMES ON UNIFORM

PLEASE can all children have their names in all parts of their school uniform. Already, we have developed a stock of brand-new jumpers and cardigans without names which may not find their way back to their owners!

ONLINE PAYMENTS

We are hoping to get the online payment system up and running at some point this half term. It has become a much more complicated system to set up but we know it will make a big difference to parents.

In the meantime, can we please ask that ANY money sent into school is in an envelope with your child's name on (including Breakfast & After School Clubs). When staff get passed unlabelled money at busy times of the day, mistakes can happen so clearly labelled envelopes prevents any misunderstandings.

COOKIE & CAKE

Please ensure that children have their own cookie & cake money as Mrs Jones does all school banking on Friday morning and can't pass money to children in their class. Thank you.

FUTURE DATE FOR THE CALENDAR

In case you haven't got it down yet, please make a note of **THURSDAY 17TH NOVEMBER** for your children's school photos. We will ensure that children will not be in their PE kits that day so have a clean uniform and hairbrush to hand!

PUNCTUALITY

We had a great first week back in school and the children have been fantastic; ready to learn, smartly dressed and beautifully well mannered, as always. However, this week back has already seen many families slipping back into bad habits and arriving late for school.

We can't stress enough the importance of punctuality for your children. Not only do those children arriving late get a poor start to the day, but the rest of the class are disturbed and distracted by late comers. It is essential that all children arrive on the school grounds **BEFORE 9.00am (8.55am for Year 1)**. Unfortunately, we will be forced to issue parent penalty fines for those children that arrive persistently late.

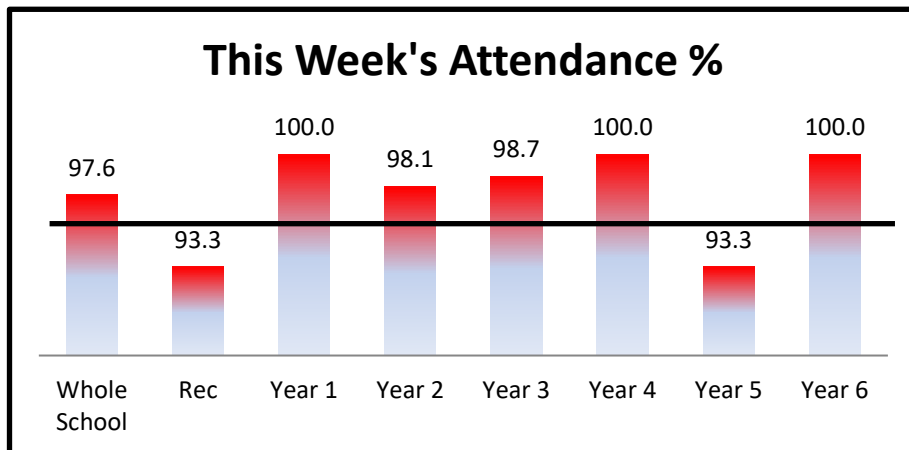
Can we also please ask that parents are at school when the doors are open at the end of the day. Staff have many commitments after school and need to be available for meetings, clubs or courses. Your cooperation would be greatly appreciated.

STAFF CAR PARK

We know that the roads round the school are very congested when dropping off and picking up. Can I please ask again that **no parents use the staff car park**. We now have **37 members of staff** who come and go at different times of the day and we have **very limited parking**. Recently, parents' cars have prevented staff getting in and out of the carpark so your cooperation would really be appreciated. Thank you.

ATTENDANCE

This week's attendance can be seen below. **The school target is 96% - as represented by the black line.** WOW – 3 classes this week with 100%. Congratulations to Year 1, Year 4 and Year 6!



Have a great weekend.

Mr P. Chapman
Headteacher