

St Kentigern's Catholic Primary School Newsletter

September 2006

Dear Parents,

A new school year brings a new look to the school entrance and we welcome our new Reception children. We also have some new members of staff. Mrs Monk joins the staff team as teacher of Year 4, Miss Smith is the new Year 5 teacher, Miss O'Donnell takes up position as a Teaching Assistant in Year 5 and we welcome our new Site Supervisor Mr Fiorello and Miss Rosinska our cleaner.

Over the summer the builders have transformed the entrance and we now have dedicated areas including a medical room, photocopying room, and refurbished offices for the Head teacher and Office Manager. These changes comply with the Disability Discrimination Act and all steps have been removed to allow equal access for all. There is also a security hatch for visitors to speak to the Secretary prior to entering the building. The Reception classroom has been developed

with a door allowing access to the soft crumb play area.

I am very pleased with all the alterations as they will benefit all the children in school.

I look forward to your continued support throughout this new year and hope that we can develop our home, school and parish partnership using the Gospel values as our guide and support.

Yours sincerely

PTFA News

What is the PTFA? (Parents, Teachers, Friends Association)

The PTFA is a group of Parents, Teachers and Friends of the school and parish community. This group meets once a month to organise functions for the children and families and to discuss where best to spend the money that is raised. Their activities include selling raffle tickets, shopping for discos, preparing the First Holy Communion breakfast, making tea & coffee after Mass on a Sunday and generally being a willing pair of hands to help at events. All parents are automatic members of the PTFA. If you feel that you would like to be part of this team please do come along to the **AGM on Tuesday 10th October in school at 8pm** or speak to Tim Lonsdale or Andy Birch if you think you could help. Cheese and wine will be served. All welcome.

Fabulous Food



Monday's New Look school dinner at only £1.50 a day.

ALTAR SERVERS

Several children who received their First Holy Communion in April volunteered to be altar servers. Training is done by the older servers at the Masses at the weekend. All you need to do is to come to Mass and go to the Sacristy where you will be helped. Just introduce yourself to one of the servers or adults and listen carefully to what they tell you. You must arrive at least 10 minutes before the

Mass starts and be willing to make a firm commitment each weekend. You will also be asked to serve at funerals during the week and serve for the parish. Weekend Mass times are; Saturday 6pm and Sunday 10.30am. Fr John thanks all servers who served during the school holidays and helped at funerals and weddings.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Order forms for school uniform are available from the Office. School makes a profit from every single item sold and we thank all parents for supporting us by buying uniform from school. Please remember to mark each item with your child's name so as to avoid confusion and distress should anything be mislaid.

BAGS 2 SCHOOL

Thank you for all your unwanted items of clothing, curtains, shoes etc that were sent to school last term as part of this scheme.

The PTFA received a cheque for **£200**.

The next collection date is Thursday 5th October. At 9am. Bags will be distributed in the near future.

It's a good opportunity to have a "clear out" before Christmas!

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

All children will be photographed individually and in family groups on Monday 11th September and proofs will be sent home. This will give you the opportunity to make orders for grandparents, aunts and uncles. A perfect Christmas present!

If you would like a family group with pre-school children, please arrive at the Hall no later than 8.45am. Please make sure the children look smart in their new uniform for the photo.

SCHOOL/PARISH LINKS

St Kentigern's School and Parish work together to build up God's Kingdom in our local community. The parish supports the school and the children regularly attend the weekday Mass. Each class has a Class Mass and a Class Assembly every term. We welcome parents and friends of the family to support the children by attending. Please see dates below in "*Dates for your Diary*".

The parish community welcomes those who want to learn more about the Catholic faith. Each Tuesday there is a meeting of the RCIA Group. This group supports those searching for faith. If you know anyone who would like to come along, please speak to Fr John. This informal meeting lasts for 1 hour and many parents have gone through the programme and are able to support better their children's spiritual development.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES

Each year we run two programmes for the Sacraments of the Eucharist and Confirmation. Children in Year 3 will receive their First Holy Communion next year around April and children in Year 6 will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation a few weeks after. Letters will be sent out in the next few weeks. Please give great consideration to joining either programme. It requires a commitment to attend Mass each Sunday, a promise to come to every meeting and the willingness to be a disciple of Jesus. If your child missed any previous programmes, please ask at the office for a letter. More details will be available in the next newsletter.

PRINTER CARTRIDGES

This recycling scheme allows us to claim money back for empty printer cartridges (**HP, EPSON, CANON & LEXMARK**). Please keep sending in any used toner/cartridges.

PERSIL STARS

Please collect the token from the boxes and send them in to school. They help us to buy much needed arts and craft resources. .

NESTLE CEREAL

Please keep sending in the Box Tops.

They can be found on packets of Shreddies, Fibre 1, Clusters and other Nestle cereals which provide a healthy start for the day for the family. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT.**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 8th September 10.15am

New term Mass in Church

(Our Lady's Birthday)

Monday 11th September 8.45am onwards

School photographs in the Hall

Friday 15th September 1.45pm

Year 5 swimming at St George's

Tuesday September 19th 3.35pm

Meet the Teacher, an opportunity for parents to visit school and pick up time-tables etc.

Friday 22nd September 10.10am

Year 3 Class Assembly in the Hall

Tuesday 26th September 10.15am

Year 1 Class Mass in Church

Friday 29th September 10.10am

Year 2 Class Assembly in the Hall

Tuesday 3rd October

"Spellbinder" Theatre Productions in school.

Wednesday 4th October 10.15am

Year 6 Class Mass in Church

Thursday 5th October

Bags 2 School. Collection at 9am

Friday 6th October 10.10am

Year 5 Class Assembly in the Hall

Tuesday 10th October 8pm

PTFA AGM/Cheese and Wine in School.

Friday 13th October 11am

Harvest Festival in Church

Tuesday 17th October 10.15am

Year 4 Class Mass in Church

Tuesday 18th October 7pm

First Meeting for Year 3 children and parents for the First Holy Communion Programme

Friday 20th October 3.30pm

School closes for half term

Friday 20th October 6.30pm

PTFA Spooky Disco in the Hall.

This event is our first of the year and, in the past, has proved to be very successful.