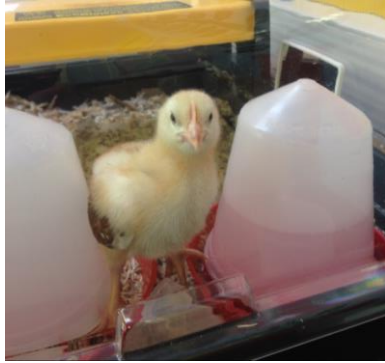


# English Martyrs Catholic Primary School

*"where everyone is special"*

**Newsletter 13: 17<sup>th</sup> July 2014**



**MARMALADE**

**THE NEW YEAR 5 CLASS MEMBER**

Thankyou

## **School Fete: £3094 raised**

A big thankyou to all those who helped to make the school fete such a special day for the school and parish community. The addition of the gazebos and home-made bunting were lovely finishing touches which demonstrates the care and attention that individuals gave. A special thankyou to Bernadette Thompson and Caroline Deery for organising the whole event so smoothly.

## **SWIMMING 2014/2015**

TRADITIONALLY DURING YEAR 3 THE CHILDREN ARE PREPARED AND RECEIVE TWO OF THE CHURCHES INITIATION SACRAMENTS. IN ADDITION EACH WEEK THE CLASS ATTEND SWIMMING LESSONS (1.5 HOURS EVERY WEEK). THIS HAS PLACED AN INCREASING BURDEN ON THE DELIVERY OF THE YEAR 3 CURRICULUM. THEREFORE AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE CURRENT YEAR 3 PARENTS, SWIMMING WILL BE TAKING PLACE IN YEAR 4 FOR THE NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR AND IN FUTURE YEARS.

## **STAFFING UPDATE**

A Fond Farewell to Mr Carter who was employed for the Summer Term at the school. He has made a significant impact on the children in our school, not only on their academic attainment and progress but also on ensuring that they have an enjoyable final summer term. Mr Carter will be working at St. Oswald's in September.

Miss Isham will continue to be employed at the school for a further year.

Mrs Beresford is retiring at the end of the school year. She has been a dinner lady for over twenty years and will be greatly missed. Her husband has retired and they are moving onto pastures new. We wish her and her family every blessing for the future. Mrs Beresford has kindly offered to be on a list of bank staff for dinner time in case of emergencies.

Mrs Knightbridge, Mrs Kerr and Mrs Huelin are leaving their Teaching Assistant posts at the end of the year due to the redundancy measures. Mrs Knightbridge, who was also a former parent has worked at the school for over twenty years. Their contribution to school life and the children in their care has made a real difference to the outcomes of those that they have worked with.

## Changes for September

In September there are a small number of changes being made to improve the play experiences of the children.

Breaks in the morning are to be divided. The first break is for all the Foundation children, year 1 and year 2. Then another break for years 3 to 6.

Unfortunately on our return to school we are often not blessed with many good days of weather to be on the field. Changing breaks will ensure that there is more space for the children to play and enjoy the equipment.

## PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS

The play equipment on the small playground is enjoyed by all the children. There is a significant amount of older children on the boat, train and fire engine including year 6, it is not just enjoyed by the younger ones. The school has purchased an outdoor chess table for the prayer garden which will be used in September, to enable children who attend the chess club to practice their skills. On the field the table tennis tables are extremely popular and used by all the children. The children have been told that as long as they treat the equipment with respect they are able to use it. The Trim Trail is also used by the older children as well as the younger ones. Recently the school has purchased additional football goals for each class, which are on a Rota. The goals have only been introduced this week and once again if they can play sensibly and treat each other with respect, they can be continued to be used. The table tennis tables are extremely popular and each key stage 2 class will be receiving table tennis training and coaching, we are hoping this will lead to a tournament by half term.



### School Communications

Please remember to check your emails daily as the school is using this as a regular form of communication. If your email changes from the one you have given to the school, please inform the school as soon as possible as you will miss key information.

### Dinner Money

From September the cost of dinner has increased to £2.05 a day, £10.25 for the week.

### Green Fingers

A big thank you to Mrs Crowley, Mrs Thompson, Mrs Spilletts and Mrs Sands who have tidied up the school site making it look more appealing. A special thank you to Mrs Sands who every day waters the flowers at the front of the school adding a welcome bit of colour for others to enjoy.

# UIFSM (Universal Infant Free School Meals)

As parents will be aware through the media that all children in foundation, year 1 and year 2 from September 2014 are eligible to receive a free school meal. Although this is free to the children it has cost the school a contribution of £6,000, which was not expected at the start of the financial year. The school kitchen will become a satellite kitchen, which is a very welcome improvement in the school. Although the school kitchen is not a main cooking kitchen, they will cook some parts of the meal themselves and be able to use ovens to complete part of the cooking process. Please inform the school office before the end of the term if your child is in year 1 or year 2 in September and indicate whether you are taking up the free school meal provision. Please note parents will have to commit for packed lunches or school meals for a half term, it can not be changed on a weekly or daily basis.

## PUPIL PREMIUM

Pupil premium is the funding the Government has given for the last few years based on the number of free school meals claimed over the last six years. The money allocated directly matches the number of pupils whose parents have claimed for free school meals. It is important that all the children in foundation, year 1 and year 2 in September whose parents are eligible for free school meals still claim. Although their child will be given a free meal anyway if requested, the school will not be given the pupil premium allocation. Pupil Premium funding is used explicitly to raise the educational outcomes for those children in receipt of free school meals. Please speak to the office or Mrs Deery directly if you need any help or clarification about this.

## DIARY DATES

### July

- 16<sup>th</sup> KS2 Music Competition 9:30pm (FYI - school event only)
- 17<sup>th</sup> Leavers' Mass (Y6)
- 18<sup>th</sup> 2:15 Whole School Awards Assembly in Church (including individual year 6 trophies)
- 18<sup>th</sup> Last day of term

### September

- 2<sup>nd</sup> (Tuesday) Pupils return to school
- 26<sup>th</sup> Teacher Training Day

### October

**27<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> HALF TERM**

### DATES IN ADVANCE

- 16<sup>th</sup> December 2014: Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 (current years 2 to 5) ALADDIN pantomime at the Belgrade in Coventry
- 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> May 2015: Year 5 (current year 4) Beaumanor Hall Residential (more information to follow)-Leicestershire