

# ST GEORGE'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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The Mount  
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Headteacher: Mr Mark Braund

4 September 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a smashing summer with family and friends. It has been super seeing the children and staff and hearing about their holidays. It promises to be another busy and enjoyable year at St George's Catholic School. It was very sad to say goodbye to our wonderful Year Six pupils in July. They had a smashing send off with the Summer Concert, Leaver's Mass, Assembly and Rounders/Nerf Games after school on the last day! It was such a lovely atmosphere. I am really pleased to welcome our new Reception Class to St George's. We wish the new children 7 wonderful years at the school and lots of memories to make and treasure!

Rachel Godfrey

I am delighted to inform you all that Rachel Godfrey is expecting her second child later this year and will be starting her maternity leave after October half-term. We wish Rachel all the very best during her pregnancy and when her baby arrives. Mrs Melanie Moore has been appointed to cover Mrs Godfrey's maternity leave. Mrs Moore is a very experienced teacher and has spent several years teaching Year One pupils.

## Contact Details for Parents and Carers

We are going to hand out updated contact detail forms for all parents to complete in the next few days. It is vital that these forms are updated and handed back to the School Office.

## School Budgets and Costings

I wrote to all parents in July explaining the challenging financial situations that schools are finding themselves in. I explained in the letter that the Governing Body have decided to start asking for a £10 per term voluntary contribution per child for swimming. A letter will be sent out in the next few weeks asking for a voluntary contribution. Thank you for your understanding regarding the financial challenges, I really appreciated the kind and supportive comments.

## Premises Improvements

I am delighted that the school toilets have been replaced and modernised during the holidays. Mrs Gordge and Mrs Bradshaw now have a bigger office to work in and we have also replaced the wooden gate at the end of the school field. The gate will automatically open before the end of the school day to allow parents and carers onto the premises. There will be a buzzer system in use throughout the day for anyone using the gate.

## New School Year Meeting

Just a reminder that I will be meeting with parents and carers on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September at 3pm. Please do try and attend. Class teachers will be meeting with parents and carers at 3:35.

## New School Year Mass

We will be celebrating the start of the New School Year with a Mass at St George's church on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September at 10:00. Parents and Carers are welcome to join us. Reception Class will not be attending this first mass of the school year.

## School Uniform

Please remember to refer to our School Uniform Policy (on our website) when purchasing clothing. We have decided to continue to stock uniform at school for the time being but are still looking at making this an online ordering system.

## Starting School Applications

For the first time this year the Local Authority **will not be** sending out letters to children due to start school or children due to transfer school giving them information about how to apply for a school place.

Parents can apply on line at <http://www.somerset.gov.uk/education-learning-and-schools/choosing-a-school/> or phone Somerset Direct for a paper copy of the application 0300 123 2224.

Parent information is now available on the School Admissions Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Somersetschooladmissions/>

The closing date for First Admissions (includes infant to junior and first to middle) is 15/01/2019.

## Parking

Parking around schools is an issue for many schools across the country and our aim will always be for our children to arrive and leave safely. Please remember this if ever Mr Davies, myself or other people mention this to you. Could I ask all parents and carers to be mindful of their speed around school and considerate when dropping off and collecting. We have a one-way system and this needs to be followed. It is vital that when dropping off in the morning that the central part of the KS1 playground is kept clear to keep the flow of traffic moving.

At the end of the school day please make sure that all spaces in the KS1 playground are utilised to allow all cars to have a space. We ask parents and carers to stay in their cars when waiting to park on the playground as staff will stay with all children until cars are safely parked. Back logs occur when cars are left unattended and this can cause much frustration to others. I have been outside at times when cars have been left unattended outside the Catholic houses and this can cause a back log all the way down The Mount.

We have relocated some unused bike racks to accommodate bicycles and scooters. If you are interested in car sharing, do speak to the office.

## Lunches, snacks, drinks and allergies

Bishop Fox's are our caterers who provide hot meals every day. Every child in Reception, Class 1 and 2 is entitled to a free school meal. Children in KS2 are able to purchase a hot lunch for £2.40. These need to be ordered by the Wednesday the previous week. Please speak to the office if you're interested. Every child in Reception, Classes 1 and 2 is also provided with a healthy snack (a piece of fruit or vegetable) each day. Children in KS2 are welcome to bring in their own healthy snack for breaktime. Children under 5 are entitled to Free School Milk. Parents can purchase subsidised milk through Cool Milk for children 5 and over. **It is most important the school is informed of any allergies your child may have.**

## Walking to school

Although there are signs restricting access to the rectory grounds Monsignor Bernard has kindly offered to allow parents to walk through the rectory grounds at the beginning and end of school days.

## Calendar Dates

A list of dates for this term is overleaf.

Mark Braund  
Headteacher

## **AUTUMN 1**

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September - School Closed INSET Day

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September - Start of the New School Year

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September - Start of New School Year Mass 10.00 in church

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September - 'Meet the Parents' - 3pm with Mr Braund and with Class Teachers after

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September - Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September - Year 6 trip to Pinkery Outdoor Education Centre

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October - Harvest Festival Service in School, 9.30 am

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> October - Harvest Mass at Church, 9.30 am

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October - School photographs

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> October - Parents' Evening 5.30 pm - 7.30 pm

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October - Parents' Evening 3.30 pm - 5.30 pm

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> October - Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> November - SCHOOL CLOSED (Half term)

## **AUTUMN 2**

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November - All Saints Day (falls this year during half-term)

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November - SCHOOL OPEN (Autumn Term 2)

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November - Mufti day

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November - Christmas Bazaar, 2.30 pm onwards

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December - KS2 Penitential Service in Church 10.15 am (Years 4, 5, 6)

Wednesday December 12<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> - Nativity Play (6pm performance)

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Dinner Day and Christmas Jumper Day

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December - Carol Concert, 9.15 am at St George's Church

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December - End of Term Mass in School

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> December - Monday 7<sup>th</sup> Jan - SCHOOL CLOSED (Christmas holidays)