



St John's Catholic Primary School

Breck Road, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancashire FY6 7HT
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Headteacher: Mrs G Hodgson

September 2017

Dear Parents,

Our School Mission Statement

St John's Catholic Primary School has Jesus and his teachings at its heart, enabling our faith to deepen in a community where minds are challenged and thoughts are grown; where children are loved and valued as individuals, and where the talents of all are nurtured and celebrated within a safe, happy and caring environment.

It's great to be back! Thanks to Mr Wood, Mr McLellan and Mrs Wolstencroft for getting the school to such a spick and span condition. Thank you to parents for supporting our uniform policy (including school shoes, no excessive hairstyles, ie shaved lines, etc, and no jewellery apart from a watch). It is lovely for us to be back with all the children, and we extend an extra special welcome to our new Reception children and new children and families who join us this school year. We look forward to a long and happy partnership.

Where it is believed that a child is suffering from, or is at risk of significant harm, we will follow the procedures set out in the document produced by Lancashire Safeguarding Children Board (2015) and follow the action chart in the appendices within the St John's Catholic Primary School Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy (*published on our website*).

HEALTH AND SAFETY REMINDERS... PLEASE CAN PARENTS FOLLOW:

- **No dogs** in the playground – some children are scared of them!
- **No use of the adventure playground** before/after school – we don't want any accidents!
- **No ball games** in the playground before/after school – we don't want any accidents!
- **No scootering/biking** in the playground before/after school – we don't want any accidents!
- **No parking in the staff car park** – children cross through this area
- **Smoking is banned** in the school's premises and grounds, applying to both tobacco cigarettes and e-cigarettes

Morning routine... The playground is supervised from 8:45am therefore please do not leave children unattended in the playground before 8:45am. The outer hall door and KS2 door will open at 8.50am to allow children to be dropped off early and to come into school instead of waiting for the 8.55am lining up bell. The hall door will be opened at 8:40am if raining hard. A member of staff will be available at each door to record any parental messages to pass onto the relevant classteacher. Or you could write a message for the teacher in the reading record book, or send in an envelope in the school bag. Parents must not enter school via these outer doors – if needing access, please enter via the school front door. Thank you.

Please give letters, replies, dinner money, trip money, etc, in named envelopes to your children for them to put in the red boxes in their class. The red box is then sent to the office along with the register at 9.05am. **Please check bags every day for any letters/memos.** Thank you.

DATES FOR THE DIARY...

A list of key dates has been sent home. These are also published on the school website and on the school app calendar.

SEPTEMBER 2017

14 God's Blessing on the new school year – all invited to church
15 Y4 Parents – Meet the Teacher 9am
18 Y6 Parents – Meet the Teacher 9am
19 Y3 Parents – Meet the Teacher 9am
20 Y2 Parents – Meet the Teacher 9am
21 Y5 Parents – Meet the Teacher 9am
21 Y6 to mass 9.30am – all invited to church
21 Cardinal Allen roadshow 3.30pm for Y4,5,6 parents
22 Y1 Parents – Meet the Teacher 9am
28 Y5 to mass 9.30am – all invited to church
29 Non-uniform £1 DofE charity for young, disadvantaged people

OCTOBER 2017

4 Rec Parents – Final Induction Meeting 2.45pm
5 Open morning for prospective parents 9.30-11.30am
9 Individual & Family photos
9 Open afternoon for prospective parents 1.15-3.15pm
12 Y4 to mass 9.30am – all invited to church
21 Y3 to mass 9.30am – all invited to church
19 Book Fair – each day after school for 1 week

23 One World Week
23 Open afternoon 1.30pm
24 Harvest Festival 2pm in church. All welcome.
25 Hope Foundation Day
27 Non-uniform £1 for the Hope Foundation and Cafod charities.
27 Close school for half term 3:30pm

NOVEMBER 2017

7 Start school
21 Parents' evening 4-7pm
23 Parents' evening 4-7pm
30 St Andrew's Day – blue house own clothes

DECEMBER 2017

11 KS1 nativity play 9.30am in church
11 KS1 nativity play 2pm in church
12 KS1 nativity play 6pm in church
14 Christmas Lunch, Xmas jumpers
15 Christmas Jumper Day £1 charity
19 Y3, 4 Christmas Party
20 Rec/Y1/Y2 Christmas Party
21 Y5, 6 Christmas party
22 Carol Service 10:30am in church. All welcome
22 Close school 1:30pm

MEET THE TEACHER is an opportunity to meet your child's class teacher and find out some information about the new class and routines. Look on the calendar for the date of your meeting.

CALENDAR DATES and NEWS ITEMS are published on our **school app** which may be installed, free of charge, onto any phone: Android phones/mobile devices from the Google Playstore, Windows phones from the Phone Store and iPhones/iPads from the Appstore (search "st john's catholic primary school"). Dates for the diary and other information are also available on the school website - www.st-john-rc12.lancsngfl.ac.uk

If you have previously ticked particular categories in the App, don't forget to change your preferences to your child(ren)'s new year groups.

MILK, FRUIT AND WATER

Children in KS1 may have milk if they wish (order via the Cool Milk website - free for under 5's), and are also provided with their daily fruit. Children in KS2 may bring fruit into school as a morning snack. The Fairtrade tuck shop is on Fridays - selling cereal bars at a cost of 50p each. Therefore, on Fridays, all children may choose to buy a cereal bar or bring in a cereal bar from home, as well as having fruit if they wish. All children are encouraged to bring a bottle of water (not juice) to school for drinking water throughout the day.

FOOD ALLERGIES are on the rise and can cause a severe, systemic, potentially fatal allergic reaction called anaphylaxis in allergic pupils. Anaphylaxis is an extreme, often life-threatening allergic reaction to an antigen (e.g. peanuts, bee stings etc.) to which the body has become hypertensive.

In the interests of the increasing number of children in our school with nut allergies, please do not include products which contain nuts, peanut butter, Nutella, etc, in your child's packed lunch.

I hope you understand the need for this potentially life-saving measure.

ABSENCE PROCEDURES

If your child is absent, please contact us as soon as possible on each day of absence with the proper reason for the absence so we can complete our registers correctly (a legal requirement). Either telephone, or call into the front office to report the absence. We will text if your child is absent from school, if we have not heard from you. Every half-day absence from school has to be classified by the school as either AUTHORISED or UNAUTHORISED. This is why information about the cause of any absence is always required.

Permission to take photographs/videos at school performances is granted by the parents present. Inform Mrs Hodgson or the teacher in charge of the event if you do not give permission.

Permission is not given for photographs/videos to be placed on any Social Networking Sites.

Our **SCHOOL NURSE** is Jane Fryer. School Nurses promote the health and wellbeing of all school-age children. They work closely within the school community and deliver health related topics to the children within the school setting. They are also able to provide individual advice to you and your child on variety of issues and are able to refer to appropriate agencies if required. Jane can be contacted at Poulton Health Centre on 01253- 951535.

APPLICATIONS FOR SCHOOL PLACES AT ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL IN SEP 2018

Applications should be made online to the local education authority for the area in which the child is resident, ie Lancashire or Blackpool, by 15th January, accessed via the Lancashire or Blackpool County Council websites. A further form is also needed, a red supplementary form, available from Ms Desborough or Mrs McKell in the school office. This red form should be completed and returned directly to the school. If Lancashire parents need help or support on the new system, please ring the Customer Access Service on 0300 123 6707.

We have an **OPEN MORNING** on Thursday 5th October between 9.30am and 11.30am and an **OPEN AFTERNOON** on Monday 9th October between 1.15pm and 3.15pm for parents of children due to start Reception Class in September 2018 (no need to make an appointment). This is an opportunity to look around our school on this morning. If this date is not suitable, please ring school to arrange another time.

For parents of children in Year 6: you apply for their high schools online to Lancashire or Blackpool, depending on your address. Applications are now open; the deadline for applications to secondary schools is 31 October 2017. To apply online for a school place, you register with your e-mail address. *Cardinal Allen Catholic High School Open Evening: Thursday 28th September;*
St Mary's Catholic Academy Open Evening: Monday 2nd October.

We look forward to a very busy, exciting school year together and thank you, in advance, for all your support. This term, Mrs Ward is the Acting Deputy Headteacher whilst the governors go through the rigorous Deputy Headteacher recruitment process and we welcome Miss Appleyard and Miss Mercer onto our team. Please join us in church on Thursday 14th September at 3pm for God's Blessing on the New School Year, led by Fr Peter, our new parish priest. Look out for future information about St John's Catholic Primary School's 150th year celebration: 1868-2018!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs G Hodgson