

SEPTEMBER 2009

Wednesday, 30 September

WELCOME BACK



I would like to welcome back all the children and parents and a special welcome to those families who are new to our school.

We also warmly welcome our new staff members to the school ~ Mr Monaghan who is our new deputy head, is taking the year 6 class; Mr McCord and Miss Grayston, who are Graduate Trainees, will be working alongside Mr Monaghan and Mrs Johnson.

TRANSFER TO SECONDARY EDUCATION 2009

Parents of year 6 children should now have received information regarding secondary transfer. A number of parents have enquired about various issues.

- You need to complete the supplementary information for St Benedict School even if it is your second or third choice.
- You need to contact St John Houghton School for a supplementary form, and return it to them, if you have put them as one of your choices.
- You do not have to fill in all of the choices.
- If you need a copy of a baptismal form please see Fr Murphy at St. Alban's who may be able to help.
- Please return the form as soon as possible either to school or straight to Derby City.
- It is also possible to complete on-line applications on www.derby.gov.uk
- Make sure you receive an acknowledgement

It is vital that all deadlines are kept to.

Inside this issue:

Welcome Back	1
Secondary Transfer	1
Reception 2010	2
Building Fund	2
Recycling	3
Children's Hygiene	3
Maths information evening	3
Walking Wednesday	3
Book Fair	3
Change of address/telephone numbers	4
Parents Evening	4
PTA Events	4
Whole school closures	4
Diary Dates/Whole School Closures	4

Special Points

- Secondary Transfer forms
- **WHOLE SCHOOL CLOSURE**
Oct 23rd

RECEPTION ADMISSION 2010

Parents whose children will be 5 between September 1st 2010 and August 31st 2011 will need to complete a Common Application Form, a similar system to Secondary transfer. Forms should be available just before half term. For admission to a Catholic School, parents will need to complete a separate supplementary form as well.

Further information will be issued as soon as the school receives it.

GOVERNORS BUILDING FUND

Firstly, on behalf of the Governors, staff and especially the children, I would like to thank the parents who have already sent in donations.

Why do the governors ask for donations?

As a Voluntary Aided School, the Governors have to find 10% of any building costs. Although the school receives a grant for major building projects from the government, the school still has to pay a 10% contribution to the total cost.

An example of this is: an invoice for £35,000 the government would pay £31,500 the school then has to find the balance of £3,500.

Why are building costs so high?

As a school we have to go out to tender for building work. This work is carried out by a firm who is employed by the majority of Catholic schools in the Diocese. The successful firm has to conform to a large number of health and safety issues as well as insurance protection.

Why can't the school budget pay the 10%?

It could, and does, as we never receive enough money from parents donations. This of course has an impact on the budget and therefore reduces resources and could effect staffing numbers.

Why is it only St Alban's School asking for donations?

It isn't, most Catholic schools ask for donations towards building work. However it is true that community schools don't as they do not have to find the 10%.

What needs to be done?

Last summer the governors received a condition survey from Derby City Council Priority 1: (most urgent) costs amounted to £69,959.46 Priority 2: £205,248.52 and Priority 3: £237,880.73

Education is free, long may this continue, but the cost of our buildings is not. We honestly need everyone's help, no matter how small. Don't moan about being asked come and discuss it.

Children's Corner

What phrase is represented here?

Seeing Seeing

vision

Double

Recycling Scheme



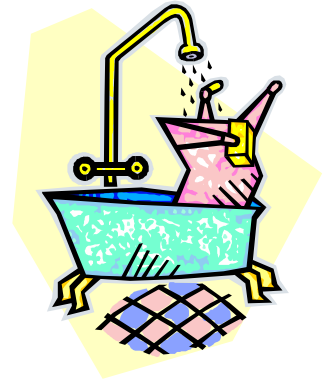
Thank you to all who supported the clothing recycling event. It raised £88.20 towards the building work at the top of the Infant Playground ~ our very own Greek amphitheatre! The next collection will be taking place on Tuesday 12th January 2010 ~ Just after Christmas!

Children's Hygiene

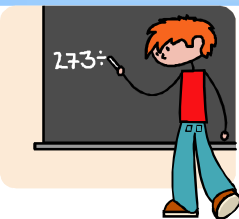
The school has purchased a significant number of Gel Disinfectants for classrooms and toilets to try and limit the spread of disease.

I would ask all parents to teach their the basic skills of hand washing. Children who have been ill should not return to school before 48 hours.

If your children is ill please ring the school on the first day of absence but also send in a letter when your child returns to school.



Maths Information Evening



We will be holding a ICT Curriculum meeting on **Wednesday 11th November 4:00 pm** in the junior hall, This meeting is intended for all parents to attend and hopefully tea and coffee will be available. Staff and some children will demonstrate different aspects of the maths curriculum as well as some interest ICT maths software.

Walking Wednesdays

The school is taking part in the Derby City "Walking to School" initiative. The idea is that children and families walk to school. Although we are taking part I realise that some parents live a substantial distance from school, and so to walk would be unrealistic. If, however, parents could park away from the school and walk from the shops or the park then that would be wonderful.



Book Fair



Mrs Hughes has spoken to Scholastic Book Fairs regarding an exhibition of books for sale. She has organised this from Tuesday 13th October to Tuesday 3rd November. We realise that some of this time covers half term, but unfortunately they are unable to collect the fair on Thursday 22nd.

If you want to see Mrs Hughes about ordering books for Christmas please contact or pop in and see her.

Changed Your Address or Phone Number?

If you have moved house or changed your telephone number, including mobiles, please let us know so that we can update our records accordingly. We have had a couple of cases where we've been trying to get hold of parents using an old number.



Parents' Evening



Parents evening will be held on Thursday 22nd October from 4—7:30 pm. Further information will be sent out nearer the time.

PTA Events

Last night the PTA met for the AGM and a new committee was formed. A number of events have been arranged, please come along and support the hard working group.

Monday 19th October	PTA meeting	4:00 in the school library
Friday 27th November	PTA Christmas Fayre	3:00 onwards in junior hall
Tuesday 8th December	Christmas Disco	6:00 in Junior Hall

Whole School Closures

The following dates have been set for whole school staff training:

Friday 23rd October 2009 Monday 4th January 2010
Friday 5th March 2010

Diary Dates

OCTOBER

Friday 2nd	Harvest liturgy ~ Miss Bigg's class	10:15
Tuesday 6th	Derby Telegraph Reception class phtograph	
Friday 9th	Class Liturgy ~ Mrs Smalley	10:15
Tuesday 13th	Book Fair Arrives	
Friday 16th	Class Liturgy ~ Mrs Tidbury	10:15
Monday 19th	PTA Meeting	4:00 pm
Wednesday 21st	Year 1 and 2 visit Tamworth Castle	all day
Thursday 22nd	Class Liturgy ~ Mr Monaghan	10:15
Thursday 22nd	Parents' Evening	4:00 pm
Thursday 22nd	Children break up for half term	
Friday 23rd	Whole School Closure	

NOVEMBER

Monday 1st	Children return to school	
Friday 6th	Class Liturgy ~ Mrs Needham	10:15
Wednesday 11th	Maths Information Meeting	4:00 pm
Friday 13th	Class Liturgy ~ Mrs Muldoon	10:15
Tuesday 17th	Children's Photographs	all day
Friday 20th	Class Liturgy ~ Mrs Wright	10:15
Friday 27th	Class Liturgy ~ Miss Ziomek	10:15
Friday 27th	PTA Christmas Fayre	3:00 pm

DECEMBER

Friday 4th	Class Liturgy ~ Mrs Johnson and Mrs Mendonca	10:15
------------	----------------------------------------------	-------