



***Worship Together - Aspire Together- Excel Together***

**Head Teacher’s Message** – A special warm welcome back to all pupils, staff and parents after the summer holidays. I hope you all had a relaxing, safe and restful holiday. After a very successful academic year, we are looking forward to continuing to grow from strength to strength and ensure all pupils excel in their learning.

**Welcome New Staff** – we welcome Ms Sutherland – Year 1 teacher and Ms Clark Year 5 teacher who joined our team this September.

**Our School Core Value**  - Our core value this half term is Faith

*”Behind every child who believes in themselves is a parent who believes in them first”*

**Catholic Life –** The school community celebrated the beginning of the school year with a mass at English Martyrs’ church. The children read very well, sang beautifully and were very observant throughout. We will celebrate All Saints day on Thursday 1st November with mass at the church starting at 9.30am. Parents are welcome to join us.

**School Start and Finish Times –** Please make sure your child arrives at school on time, and is collected on time each day. Gate Opens - 8.40am, (Whole School Inc Nursery). Collection Times – Reception, Years 1 & 2 – 3.00pm. Years 3-6 – 3.15pm. The Education Welfare Officer will be informed if children are persistently arriving late or being collected late. It is the parent’s responsibility to communicate with any After School Club and to introduce to the teacher anyone new who has permission to collect your child. If you are collecting your child from Building 2 please do not cross the white line and wait for the teacher to dismiss your child.

**Attendance** – Our attendance target is 97%. Please remember *“Every Day Matters, Every Minute counts”* arriving late can disrupt the classes and your child may have missed out on some learning

**Meet the Teacher meetings** – Teachers have sent out invitation letters to parents to attend a brief meeting with their child’s new class teacher. This is a great opportunity to meet the teacher, see your child’s classroom and to find out more about their child’s learning for this school year. It will give you a chance to ask questions and find ways to help and support your child’s learning at home.

Phonics workshop for parents in Reception was held on 27th September. It was lovely to see many parents attending. Please practice with your child, there is a wonderful website called Top Marks that is really fun and educational. A Link has been provided <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/5-7-years/letters-and-sounds>.

**Swimming** - Swimming has begun for Year 3 and 4 pupils. Swimming is a very important life skill; therefore, your child should attend their swimming lessons every week. Swimming bags and hats (compulsory). Year 3 swimming started Monday 10th September and will continue every Monday. Year 4 began on 11th September and will continue every Tuesday.

**After School Clubs** – After school club letters have been given out to parents and we had an overwhelming response. If your child is attending a club, it is very important that they are collected ON TIME, and attend regularly, places are limited and there is a long waiting list. If your child is collected late more than once or they do not attend, they run the risk of losing their place. Pupils who were not selected this term will be given the opportunity to be in a club starting January

**Birthdays** – Just a reminder that as a healthy school we will not allow sweets or cakes to be given out for a child’s birthday, instead, if you would like you can provide some fruit or donate a story book for your child’s class.

**Term Dates 2018-2019 –** The new term dates are now available to view on our school website under Our Parents – Term dates. Please keep an eye on our events diary for planned activities, class assemblies etc. All Inset days have been planned and can be viewed on this page. Please do try to avoid wherever possible taking pupils out of school during term time, this is very disruptive towards their learning, Approval must always be sought from the Head Teacher on school term time leave.

**Parent Contact Details –** Please make sure the school office has your most up to date contact details, email, home, work and mobile numbers. This is very important. We do send texts and emails to parents and in cases of emergencies. We need the correct contact details. If your child suffers from any allergies please also inform the school office in writing.

**School Uniform-** It is lovely to see all the children return to school looking smart in their school uniform. Please ensure you adhere to the school rules regarding uniform. Children should be wearing black shoes, no trainers and a plain black/navy coat. To maintain our high standards we ask that all pupils have a school bag and girls only wear small stud earrings. No bracelets are to be worn. Hairstyles should be kept neat and tidy and off girls’ faces, no shaved patterns on boys. No coloured beads in their hair. P.E. kit is a plain white t-shirt and plain black or navy blue shorts or tracksuit bottoms. Please do not send your child into school with their nails painted. **Make sure uniform is labelled clearly, and please speak to your child as looking after their uniform while in school is their responsibility.**

Please have a look at the dates for Sept 2018 and planned events

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| 4th Sept | Pupils Return to school | 5th Sept | Fire Drill – Health and Safety test |
| 7th Sept | Whole School Mass | 11th Sept | Meet the Teacher Year 1 |
| 12th Sept | Meet the Teacher Year 2 | 13th Sept | Meet the Teacher Year 3 |
| 13th Sept | Class 6T Imperial War Museum trip | 14th Sept | Class 6M Imperial War Museum trip |
| 14th Sept | Meet the Teacher Year 4 | 14th Sept | Meet the Teacher Year 5 |
| 19th Sept | Meet the Teacher Year 6 | 21st Sept | NSPCC Visit to school – pupil assembly |
| 25th Sept | Year 3 Road Safety | 26th Sept | Year 4 British Museum Trip |
| 26th Sept | Year 2 and Yr 5 Fire Safety | 26th Sept | Phonics workshop for parents |
| 27th Sept | Year 4 British Museum Trip | 27th Sept | Phonics workshop for parents |

**Our Newsletter can be downloaded and viewed on our website.**

**Wishing you all a happy, safe and enjoyable weekend.**

**Best wishes**

**Mrs Appah**