



St. Michael's Catholic Primary Academy & Nursery

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Principal Mrs. C. Williams

23 June 2014

Dear Parents,

Parents are informed that at the close of term we will be saying farewell to some of our well regarded members of staff. Mrs M Smith and Mrs M Woolfall will be completing their contracts of employment at our Academy. As the term comes to a close Mr R Lewis one of our teaching assistants will also be leaving his post within the Academy. Mr Lewis has been appointed to a new post which will commence in September.

The members of staff have all contributed much to our children and our Academy. I am sure that parents will join with staff and children in wishing the members of staff who will be leaving the service of the Academy every happiness in the future.

Here are some dates that you may wish to enter in your dairies:-

Tuesday 24 June – PTA meeting 1.30pm

Parents are invited to attend any of the PTA meetings that are held during the year. PTA members are keen to ensure that this year's Fete day (12 July) will be a great success. PTA members will appreciate any offers of help and support. Please do come along to the meeting on Tuesday if you can.

St. Michael's School 50th Anniversary September 2014

I will be pleased to meet with any parents who have ideas as to how we might appropriately celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the school's original opening. Please do contact me if you have any ideas or can offer your help and support to ensure that this occasion is marked appropriately. Please do come along to the PTA meeting on 24 June when some initial discussions about the event will take place.

We would wish to invite former students and members of staff to join us for our anniversary celebrations. Once the actual date of the celebration has been confirmed I will let you know so that those of you who may either be former pupils or who know others who may once have attended the school can ensure that the date of the event is placed in diaries and people can come together to celebrate all that has led to the school's successes over the last 50 years.

Wednesday 25 June to Friday 27 June – Year 6 residential trip to Pioneer Centre, Cleobury Mortimer

Friday 27 June – Reception class trip to Birches Valley

Bishop Cleary Catholic Multi Academy Company, a company limited by guarantee in England and Wales (company number 08578428) whose registered office address is Compton Park, Wolverhampton, WV3 9DU



Sunday 29 June or Sunday 6 July – Holy Communion Day

Our Year 3 children who are baptised Roman Catholics will receive our Blessed Lord in the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist for the first time. Time of Holy Communion Masses – 11.00am at St. Michael's Church. Please pray for the children and their families.

Thursday 3 July – Year 6 Bikeability programme

Further details to follow.

Friday 4 July – Years 5 and 6 University Visit

Pupils in Years 5 and 6 will visit Wolverhampton University for the day and will complete a variety of learning programmes that the staff of the university have arranged for our pupils to experience. Thanks to Mr M Flower, one of our parents, who has kindly arranged for our pupils to attend the university on this day.

Monday 7 July – First Holy Communion photographs will take place this morning

Monday 7 July – Year 5 pupils to visit St. Edmund's Academy

Further details to follow.

Tuesday 8 July – Open evening walk about session

Further details to follow.

Wednesday 9 July – Sports Day

You are cordially invited to join us for our annual sports day which is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 9 July. All children will be taking part in the day's events.

Nursery a.m. children/infant sports are due to begin at 9.15am and will go on throughout the morning session. Sporting events will continue after lunch at 1.00pm with Nursery p.m./junior sports and will go on throughout the afternoon.

The children will be provided with drinks throughout the day. There will therefore be no necessity for parents to purchase drinks for individual children. The children will also be given an ice cream during the lunchtime break.

In case of the weather being very warm please ensure that your child is equipped with a sun hat, sun cream and a bottle of water that is clearly labelled with their name.

In case of inclement weather conditions on 9 July an alternative day has been set for **Friday 11 July**. **Please note that this is a change of date from the alternative sports day that has previously been published.** We have been notified that the National Union of Teachers and members of support staff unions will be taking industrial action on 10 July. This means that these unions are calling out the majority of teaching and non-teaching staff of St. Michael's Academy, and events that were scheduled to take place on 10 July will have to be cancelled. Hopefully the weather will be kind to us on 9 July and sports day will go ahead on the first date that has been identified. During the day members of the PTA will be serving hot and cold drinks. The PTA will gratefully receive any donations of homemade cakes and other food items which may be sold on sports day. Thank you for your help and support.

In order to protect the safety of children, parents are asked to leave the school site once the infant sports have ended. Junior sporting events are scheduled to commence at 1.00pm

and parents are asked to arrive at school at 12.50pm once the children have returned to class and the main gates have been re-opened. Thank you.

Thursday 10 July – Catholic Primary Schools’ musical celebration

On this evening some of our pupils were due to take part in a music festival that was to be hosted at St. Edmund’s Academy. Unfortunately due to the proposed industrial action that is now scheduled to take place on 10 July the concert will either be re-scheduled or the decision will be taken to cancel the event.

Thursday 10 July – Advance notification of proposed STRIKE ACTION

We have been informed by the National Union of Teachers and support staff union Unison that they will be taking industrial action in the form of a strike on Thursday 10 July. This means that these unions are calling out the majority of the teaching staff of St. Michael’s Academy.

This action is not against St. Michael’s Catholic Primary Academy & Nursery itself but is part of regional/national industrial action organised by these unions about changes to the pension schemes of their members.

There is no requirement on unions to inform us as to which members of staff will take action. On this occasion, due to the goodwill and professionalism of those called to take industrial action, we do know in advance the scale of the action and how it will affect St. Michael’s.

Neither Bishop Cleary Board of Directors, nor St. Michael’s Academy Committee or myself as the Principal of St. Michael’s is legally allowed to close the academy ‘in sympathy’ with the strike and we would never do this. However, our main concern is for the provision for our pupils. In making assessment it is my view that appropriate provision for pupils will be severely compromised and thus it will not be possible for children to attend on this day. **St. Michael’s Catholic Primary Academy and Nursery will therefore be closed to all children on Thursday 10 July 2014.**

If the action is extended, or repeated, St. Michael’s will endeavour to protect children’s education. However, as I am sure you know, non-striking colleagues do not take classes for colleagues who are participating in strike action. Should there be any changes to the positions of unions prior to the 10 July and it is determined that the action will be withdrawn, I will inform parents of the change in position.

Friday 11 July – Alternative sports day – please see above

Saturday 12 July – St. Michael’s summer fete day

Please do come along to join us for an afternoon of fun. The PTA will be sending out further details of our main annual fundraising event. Any offers of help and support either on or before the day will be most gratefully received.

Tuesday 15 July – Year 6 Leavers’ production

During this evening our Year 6 pupils will entertain their parents and friends. Further details to follow.

Friday 18 July –Year 6 Leavers’ assembly

This afternoon the Year 6 pupils who will be leaving St. Michael’s Academy to transfer to the secondary stage of their education in September will lead our end of term assembly. Parents are invited to join with all in our school community as we say farewell to the children who will be leaving St. Michael’s Academy at the close of this term. We wish each of the children every success and happiness as they prepare to enter the next stage of their education, and trust that they will have many happy memories of the time that they spent here at St. Michael’s Academy.

School closes for the summer vacation at 3.15pm on this day. **Monday 21 July** is an identified in-service training day for the staff of our Academy and children SHOULD NOT ATTEND school on this day.

School re-opens at the start of the autumn term on **Tuesday 2 September**. **Monday 1 September** is an in-service training day for the staff of our school and pupils SHOULD NOT ATTEND school on this day.

May I take this opportunity on behalf of the staff of the school to thank you all for the help and support that you have offered to the school during the past academic year, and to wish you and the children a very happy summer vacation.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Williams
Principal

