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## 4<sup>th</sup> September 2013

Dear Parents,

Welcome back. I hope you all had a wonderful summer break and are now looking forward to the new school year. It is always so lovely to welcome back the children and they certainly look very smart in their new uniforms. We will soon have sweatshirts for sale for £9 if you would like one with the new school logo. We will also have school book bags at a cost of £4 should your child need a replacement. We will send further details as soon as the order arrives.

Celebration assemblies will begin this Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September starting at 9.05. All parents are welcome to attend and to stay for a cup of tea afterwards. Please make your way to the hall after dropping off your child.

Our first whole school Mass of this year will be next Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September at 9.15 in the church. Please come along and support your child. You will be very welcome. Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September is our first Family Mass of the new school year. Sunday Mass starts at 9.30. Again you and your family will be most welcome.

Some clubs will start next week – Wednesday F2 – Yr 4 sports club, Thursday Movie Night F2 – Yr6 and Friday Yr 2 – Yr 6 sports club. Other clubs will start the following week. More details about all clubs will follow.

The Eight O'Clock Club is going strong. We have one space available at the club. Children can arrive from 8 am for breakfast. The daily rate for the club is £3.00 payable in advance for the week. Please contact the office for further details.

Whole school attendance for last year was 93.6% - a considerable drop from the previous year. Well done to all those who achieved 95% and above for the year. Unfortunately there were a number of children whose attendance fell well below 95% and this had an impact on the overall figure. Please note;

95% attendance is good.

90% attendance is equivalent to missing one afternoon off school each week.

or 4 weeks off school each year

or 28 weeks over the time spent in primary school.

No holidays will be authorised during term time. All parents should have received a copy of the letter advising about fines for term time holidays as well as a copy of school dates for this year. Please do not book holidays in term time. There may be times when your child is ill and cannot attend school. If your child is not well enough to come to school, please contact the office with a reason for the absence. This helps us to keep the registers in order and stops the need to send a truancy call message.

I would remind you that dogs should not be brought beyond the school gate please, even if they are on a lead. Your co-operation in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

For this half term, PE lessons will be as follows:

F2	Monday
Yr1/2	Thursday
Yr 3	Thursday
Yr 4	Friday
Yr 5/6	Friday
	1.16.7.1.1.1.4

PE kit consists of a plain white t shirt, plain black shorts and black pumps – no football kits. Please ensure your child has kit in school for the designated day. All items of clothing should be clearly marked with your child's name please. It is almost impossible to find a particular child's blue jumper in a sea of blue jumpers so labelling will help us to reunite children with lost uniform and kit.

Upcoming dates for your diary:-

Sept 13 <sup>th</sup>	Family Mass
Oct 13 <sup>th</sup>	Family Mass
14 <sup>th</sup> & 15 <sup>th</sup>	Parents evenings
w/b 21 <sup>st</sup>	Half Term
Nov 8 <sup>th</sup>	Race Night
15 <sup>th</sup>	Children in Need
17 <sup>th</sup>	Family Mass
w/b 25 <sup>th</sup>	Swimming 1.30 – 2.30 Yr 5/6
Dec w/b 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Christmas Shopping Week
5 <sup>th</sup>	Retreat
7 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Craft Day
10 <sup>th</sup> & 11 <sup>th</sup>	KS1 Performance
11 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Bingo
13 <sup>th</sup>	Late Night Movie
15 <sup>th</sup>	Family Mass
17 <sup>th</sup>	Carol Concert
19 <sup>th</sup>	School Disco & End of term

We had a good year last year with a favourable Ofsted report and encouraging results across the school. This term we are expecting our RE inspection and will hopefully receive a similar report to the main Ofsted. All this is achieved through teamwork between staff, children, parents and Governors. Thank you for the efforts that you put into our team. I look forward to working with you all this year.

I hope to see many of you at Celebration Assembly and at Mass. Yours sincerely,

Mrs C Fenna Headteacher