



# St. Patrick's Catholic Primary School

## NEWSLETTER

### St Patrick's 50th Anniversary

On **Sunday 11th September** Fr Edgar invites you all to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Church. The mass will be celebrated by the Bishop and there will be a party in the school hall afterwards. Please try your best to support our school community at this event as the school choir will be performing. Mass will start at **10am.**



### Prayer Card Winners

We are very pleased to announce that the committee chose 3 designs from children at St Patrick's to be published on the prayer cards for the 50th anniversary celebration. We would like to congratulate **Abbie (Y3), Cheryl (Y4) and Noel (Y5)** as their designs have been published.

### Congratulations Assembly

The next congratulations assembly will be held on **Friday 16th September at 9am.** Please note the change of time from last year. The assembly will be led by Y6 & Reception but all families are invited to join us.

### Reception News

A huge welcome to all of the children in Reception who have started their journey in education at St Patrick's this week. Miss Johnson is very proud of all the children and would like to congratulate them on how well they have settled in.



A few reminders...please take the time to read these.

### Sports Clubs

Our after school Sports clubs will begin again week commencing **Monday 12th September 2016.**

Letters have been handed out to the classes concerned.

#### Boys and Girls Football

Monday 3.20pm – 4.20pm  
Years 4, 5 & 6



#### Fencing

Tuesday 3.20pm - 4.20pm  
Years 2 & 3



### Earrings

Please note that children are not permitted to wear earrings for swimming, P.E. lessons or after school sporting activities. Plasters cannot be used to cover earrings. This is for the safety of all children participating in activities, not just those wearing items of jewellery. Please make sure that your children do not come to school in earrings on PE days as they will not be able to participate and teachers cannot remove them for the child. If they do not take part in PE then they can not take part in after school activities either.



### Year 3 Swimming

Swimming lessons will re-commence for Y3 pupils on **Monday 19th September.** Please remember to send your child in with their kit every week. Please also note that children will not be allowed to go swimming if they can not take their earrings out.



## Penalty Notices for Leave in term time

Dear Parents/Carers

Recent court cases regarding 'leave during term time' and penalty notices has caused confusion for some parents/carers. Staffordshire County Council has issued the following letter outlining the current position regarding leave and penalty notices.

A number of children did not return to school on Tuesday 6th September due to problems with flights. Such absences will be classed as unauthorised leave during term time.

Should you wish to take your child out of school, you do need to complete a form (available on-line or from the office). Please complete the form giving at least 2 weeks' notice of your intention.

Should you have any queries please contact the school office.



Dear parents

Attendance at school is extremely important and being regularly absent will affect your child's ability to learn and do well.

You may be aware of a recent court case which focused national attention on the fining of parents for taking their children on holidays in school term time.

As a result of this, the county council are reviewing the rules around unauthorised absence and issuing penalty notices to parents.

Whilst the review is ongoing, head teachers will continue to review all requests for leave in term time and report all unauthorised absences to the county council.

As a temporary measure when a child has more than 10 days or more unauthorised absence over two half terms in a row, then a penalty notice may be issued to the parents/carers of that child.

If you have any questions with regards to this, please contact your Local Support Team. Contact details can be found online at [www.staffordshire.gov.uk/LST](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/LST)

## Music Lessons

Music lessons will commence with Mr Scarrott & Mr Galley next week. Please ensure that your children bring their instruments into school on the correct day.

If your child is interested in starting to learn a musical instrument and would like a trial then please contact the school office.



**God of wisdom and might,**  
we praise you for  
the wonder of our being,  
for mind, body and spirit.  
Be with our children  
as they begin a new school year.  
Bless them and their teachers  
and staff. Give them strength and  
grace as their bodies grow;  
wisdom and knowledge to their minds  
as they search for understanding;  
and peace and zeal to their hearts.  
We ask this through  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## Diary dates

Please see the attached letter for this year's important school dates.



## New School Year

### Uniform:

Please make sure that all items of your children's uniform, PE kit and lunchboxes are labelled clearly with your child's name. It becomes extremely difficult to identify jumpers and ties after PE if items aren't labelled.



### Contact Details:

Can we please remind you to update the school office on any changes to your address or phone / mobile numbers. It is really important that our records are kept up to date in case of any emergencies.