



St. Patrick's R.C. Primary School

Westbury Street, Thornaby, Stockton-on-Tees TS17 6NE

Telephone: 01642 676724 • Fax: 01642 679454

E-mail: stpatricksrcpri@sbcschools.org.uk

Website: www.stpatricksthornaby.org.uk/stpatrick

Head Teacher: Mr M Ryan BA (Hons) NPQH



Newsletter

School Budgets – Cuts to Schools

I am sure that many of you are aware that there are national concerns over the funding schools will receive and many schools are deeply concerned that they cannot operate as they are, unless things drastically change. Sadly, St. Patrick's will be greatly affected by the changes to the funding we receive and the costs that we still have to pay. Quite simply put, it is likely that schools nationally will face a funding crisis in the future. For many years at St Patrick's, we have been able to be very generous in what we offer but due to constraints put upon us, I will have to drastically review what we can keep providing to the children. Currently we offer within school: Speech and Language therapists, additional sports coaches, music specialist teachers, creativity in music and computing experts, play therapy, additional class support, free after school clubs, vastly subsidised trips and visits for children, subsidised residential visits to Carlton, skiing and Holland. Sadly, I will have to make changes to some of the services we offer. I have already begun to work on the budget with our School Business Manager and we do face some difficult decisions. Fortunately, because of good budget management and excellent support from the Governors we still remain in a very secure financial position, but we will have to make some decisions for the future.

I will always have the simple philosophy to offer as much as we can with as little cost to parents as possible.

Uniform Changes

Thank you for your support with the recent changes to the school uniform for Year 6 children next academic year. **The changes to the uniform will only really affect Year 6 children.** Please see the previous newsletter for details.

School gates/opening times

We seem to have large queues forming on a morning to get into school - well before the gates open at 8.40 am. I could see it as a positive that the children are so eager to get to school, but some of the children are not with their parents. School begins at 8.55 am so please could you make sure that the children arrive at a time between 8.40 am and 8.55 am and they are not left unsupervised near a road.

Roseberry View gates opens slightly earlier to allow children to come in to the Nursery.

Parking near school

I know it is very difficult to park close to school and I thank the many parents who sensibly park a short distance away and walk in to school.

Can I please remind the parents who park along Lanehouse Road that it is not acceptable to block a person's driveway, even if it is for a few minutes? The values that we need to teach our children are the values of being considerate to others. I would also like to politely remind everyone that it is dangerous to mount the pavement, especially when children are walking to school. I know the road is narrow, but the double yellow lines are there for a reason and I would ask that we all respect our neighbours and put the safety of children walking to school above all else.

Playground Safety

Cycles must **not** be ridden in the playground, for health and safety reasons. Children must dismount before entering through the pedestrian gates on Lanehouse Road.

PLEASE TURN OVER



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School Holiday Dates (including 5 PD Days)

Governors have met and agreed to school holiday dates for the next academic year and they are:

Half Term 1

School opens on Monday 4th September 2017

School closes after school on Friday 20th October 2017

Half Term 2

School Opens Monday 30th October 2017

School closes after school on Friday 22nd December 2017

Half Term 3

School opens Monday 8th January 2018

School closes after school on Friday 9th February 2018

Half Term 4

School opens Monday 19th February 2018

School closes after school on Thursday 29th March 2018

Half Term 5

School opens Monday 16th April 2018

School closes after school on 25th May 2018

Half Term 6

School opens Thursday 7th June 2018

School closes after school on Friday 20th July 2018

Easter Holidays

School will close for the Easter holidays at the end of the school day this Friday (7th April) for two weeks.

School re-opens on Monday, 24th April 2017.

Easter is the greatest feast of the year for the Christian Church. Staff and children have prepared for it throughout lent through - prayer, almsgiving and liturgies in classes and with the whole school. These have been spiritual and uplifting experiences for all involved.

Wishing you and your families a very Happy and Holy Easter. Thank you in particular for all of your generosity and support you give, especially to charities. Your kindness is simply overwhelming.

God Bless.

Mr Ryan

4th April 2017



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