



St Columba's Catholic Primary School

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Headteacher: Miss M Evans
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs V Oprey

05.01.16

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a brand new year, I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and are feeling refreshed and renewed; I know the staff certainly are!

Please find below some items of news:

Attendance:

Unfortunately our attendance seems to be slipping; we have moved down the Knowsley School League table. I am sure you will agree that we have all worked so hard to improve this. There is plenty of time for us to improve upon it, if we work together.

School gates:

As I am sure you will appreciate, when the Junior children are leaving at the end of the day, it can become quite hectic and occasionally unsafe for our children. With this in mind, we are going to trial a different exit for some of the children. As of tomorrow, **Year 5 and Year 6** children will leave the school through the **Nursery and Reception gate**. This will mean that that gate will need to be locked **before 3:10pm**. Staff are always willing to talk with parents after school, if you come to the main office and ask for them.

Punctuality:

Clearly ensuring your children arrive at school on time is vital to their learning, development and happiness at school. In a bid to improve the punctuality of some of our Junior children, we will be adding up any minutes lost in school due to lateness. The class teacher will then provide the children with the work missed over their break/dinner times.

Newspaper:

An animal sanctuary from Formby has contacted school to ask for our help. They are desperate for newspapers to keep the animals safe, clean and warm. If you have any old newspapers, could you send them into school?

£1.00 Party boxes:

Will be on sale 21st January 2016.

Holiday dates:

If you are thinking of booking a holiday for the Easter holiday, could you please note the dates below:

Friday 25th March and Monday 28th March 2016 is the Easter weekend.

Children are then in school **Tuesday 29th March to Friday the 1st April 2016** when we break up for the end of term at 2pm. Clearly any holidays taken during **Tuesday 29th March to Friday the 1st April 2016** will not be authorised and will incur a fine.

Information for Parents: *Please see Miss Lorraine for all the information below.*

Parent Advice Workshops:

School can sign post parents for benefit advice who are experiencing problems with their benefits or change of benefits.

Parenting Course: Solihull

Miss Lorraine can arrange Solihull workshops each Friday for parents experiencing any difficulties related to your child's behaviour.

Maths and English for Adults:

If we have a significant amount of interest, we can offer free Maths and English courses to our families., in our SPACE building. Could you please inform the office if you are interested?

Twitter: @stcolumbas2014

This is still our school Twitter feed. We will let you know about upcoming trips, activities etc. Parents can also use this service to ask any questions of us.

www.stcolumbasknowsley.co.uk

Please visit our website. Key information is updated regularly Our children are now writing their own blogs in order to keep you informed of the work they have been doing in class.

Child Protection:

Our Child Protection Co-ordinator is Miss M Evans. Our Deputy Child Protection Coordinator is Mrs Oprey.

Diary dates:

Date and time	Event
Monday 11th January 2016	Bullybusters in school
Tuesday 12th January 2016	Reception and Year 6 Height and Weight check
Tuesday 19th January 2016	Reception Hand Hygiene
Wednesday 27th January 2016	Year 4 class assembly
Tuesday 2nd February 2016	Year 6 trip to Maritime Museum
Tuesday 9th February 2016	Safer Internet Day
Week beginning 15th February 2016	Half Term
Monday 22nd February 2016	Children return to school.
Wednesday 2nd March 2106	Year 2 class assembly
Thursday 3rd March 2016	World Bok day
Tuesday 8th March and Wednesday 9th March 2016	Parents Evening
Friday 25th March and Monday 28th March 2016	Easter weekend
Friday 1st April 2016	End of term

Miss M Evans _____ (Headteacher)