



Guardian Angels Catholic Primary School

Newsletter No. 1

Friday 6th September 2019

Guided by the teachings of the Church we pray, work, celebrate, and care for each other and other people using the gifts we have been given by God the Father, Son and Spirit.

Dates for your diary

Friday 13 th September	All Day	Roald Dahl Day - Pupils to dress up as a character from a Roald Dahl story £1 to be paid via ParentPay.
Tuesday 24 th September	3.15pm	Year 1 Phonics Screening meeting- Year 1 parents (letter with further details will be received early next week)
Wednesday 25 th September	2.00pm	Year 6 Library Visit
Thursday 26 th September	1.30pm	Parishioners afternoon tea

A Note from Mrs Milligan and Mr Spindlow

Welcome back, it has been a pleasure to see all of our children from years 1-6 returning from the summer break with smiles on their faces and settling into their new year groups so well. On behalf of all of the staff at Guardian Angels, a heartfelt thank you for the thank yous, cards and gifts received at the end of the academic year. This year we welcome Miss Beckett to Guardian Angels School as our Year 4 teacher. We wish Miss Beckett every success in her career with us here at Guardian Angels. Our children have made an excellent start the new school year and are already showing this half terms virtues of 'grateful and generous' as well as living our school mission to pray, work, celebrate and care!

This week has seen many successes; behaviour has been outstanding - all pupils have come back to school with a positive frame of mind and ready for a fresh start. The school has received two letters from our MP Liam Byrne this week. The first thanking us all for collecting food to ensure our local community does not go hungry, and the second, addressed to the Year 6 class of 2019 who left Guardian Angels in July. This letter acknowledges the children's concerns around the roads around the school. I am pleased to announce that through this and other initiatives started during the last academic year, the school are working on a number of projects with Birmingham City Council with an aim of improving safety and encouraging pupils to walk to school which launched with a 'Living Streets' assembly this afternoon. Please keep reading the newsletter each week for updates.

Next week, we look forward to welcoming our new Reception class children and families to their transition sessions. May God's blessing be upon all of them as they start their journey with us.

School Uniform

Pupils look extremely smart in their school uniform and I thank parents and carers for their commitment to the school uniform policy and for working hard to maintain our high standards. School uniform not only creates unity between all of our children, but also sets a precedence for high standards and striving for excellence. I have asked class teachers to speak to parents and carers where a few items may not be fully in line with our school policy.

Please ensure that all school uniform is clearly labelled with the child's name and class; this helps to prevent items getting lost. Remember - no extreme haircuts are permitted (including shaved patterns) and only plain stud earrings - no hooped or gemmed earrings. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

If you have any questions that cannot be answered by your child's class teacher or their phase leader, please do make an appointment with the office to see me.



Reminder: New School Times

Thank you to parents and pupils for being on time for school every day, even with our earlier start time of 8.55am. This week, we have kept the gate open for one or two minutes extra to help families adjust to the new times but from **Monday 9th September, gates will close at 8.55am.** If you arrive after this time, pupils will need to be walked in through the main entrance by an adult and signed in using the electronic system. Today is our first 2pm Friday finish and I thank all families for supporting the school and governors when changes need to be made to ensure the very best for all of our children.

Roald Dahl Day

We look forward to celebrating Roald Dahl Day on Friday 13th September. Please remember that costumes for this day can be put together using items you already have at home and that pupils do not have to dress in bought costumes. The day is to celebrate the fantastic author that is Roald Dahl and to inspire a love for reading in all of our children.

PE

Please see the timetable below for the usual PE day for your child's class this term. PE kits should be in school every day as the timetable may need to change.

Year 1- Monday and Thursday

Year 2- Thursday

Year 3- Wednesday

Year 4 B- Tuesday

Year 4 C- Thursday (Swimming kit - Friday)

Year 5- Monday

Year 6- Tuesday

Change in School Mass Day

Please be aware that our school Mass has now moved to Wednesday. Thank you to those people who have attended our Masses last year and we look forward to seeing you (and many more people) this year.

The first school Mass will be on Wednesday 18th September 2019 at 9.15am.

Reading Challenge and POW Project

It has been a delight to see so many fantastic projects and reading challenges come into school this week. The deadline for the reading challenge and for POW Projects to be brought into school is Monday 9th September.

Golden Stamps

To reward exemplary Behaviour and Attitudes, there is the opportunity for every child to earn a golden stamp each day and for further rewards through the year. For a child to earn a stamp they must:

- Attend school that day
- Arrive at school on time
- Be wearing the correct full school uniform
- Have their PE and swimming kit in school when needed
- Complete homework on time and to a good standard
- Try hard in all lessons
- Be well behaved
- Read at home every evening and have the reading record signed by an adult

Please note that stamps are not 'lost' throughout the day - they are awarded for pupils who complete all of the above list and teachers have been asked to fully implement the rules by Mrs Milligan. Other classroom rewards are used on a daily basis. More information is available in the school behaviour policy or by asking your child's class teacher.

Healthy Snack/Packed Lunch

A balanced healthy diet enables pupils to learn. If your child is having a packed lunch, please ensure that fruit and vegetables form part of their lunch boxes. Pupils in Key Stage 2 (Year 3-6) can bring a healthy snack to eat at playtime. All Key Stage 1 pupils (Reception - Year 2) receive daily free fruit in school. To encourage pupils to eat a healthy snack and lunch the majority of the week, pupils are permitted to bring a sensible 'treat' on Fridays. This could be a chocolate biscuit with their lunch or a packet of crisps for break time and please ensure lunch boxes are labelled on the outside as some pupils have the same design lunch boxes. Fizzy drinks are not permitted at any time. Please ensure that your child brings a water bottle to school each day to keep them hydrated.



A huge thank you to teachers and support staff who have worked so hard over the summer break to make sure that the classroom moves, decorating and organisation was complete and ready for our children this week. Our children are extremely lucky to have such a dedicated team.

On the 28th June 2019, all parents and other stakeholders received a letter informing of the proposed academisation of Catholic Schools in the Birmingham Archdiocese.

The Governing Bodies of our local Catholic schools have been discussing working together in the future within a Birmingham Archdiocesan academy structure. Such an arrangement is known as a Multi-Academy Company (MAC).

As part of the process of applying to become an academy, we have committed to full consultation with all stakeholders (including parents and parishioners) in order to take their views into account regarding the changes ahead.

<https://www.bdes.org.uk/academies.html>

Consultation meeting dates will be shared with parents and other stakeholders as soon as they are available.

Our first Star Pupil assembly will be on Monday 16th September at 2.45pm. Please make sure that you check the newsletter to see if your child is receiving an award. This year, to ensure the smooth running of assemblies; we are not able to change the date awards are presented. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding and we look forward to celebrating our pupils God given gifts and talents with you weekly.

Here is a quick guide to help parents identify whom to speak to when an issue has arisen at school. Please follow the escalation

First, speak to the class teacher	If the problem is not resolved, book an appointment to see the phase leader	If the problem is not resolved, book an appointment to see the head teacher or Deputy Head teacher
Reception Miss Hulme and Mrs Gazey Year 1 Miss Carr and Mrs Potter Year 2 Miss Hickey*	Miss Hickey	Mrs Milligan
Year 3 Miss Gately Year 4 C Miss Carroll* Year 4 B Miss Beckett	Miss Carroll	
Year 5 Miss Foote* and Mr Spindlow Year 6 Mr Johnson and Mrs Martin	Miss Foote	Mr Spindlow

*Where the phase leader is the class teacher, please request to see one of the other phase leaders
For complaints, please see the schools complaints policy located on the website. Paper copies are available upon request from the main office



This week we wish a very Happy Birthday to:

Sadie Y3, Thomas and Riley-Rose 4B, Jack 4C, E'shae Y5 and Sam and Martha Y6

Safeguarding tip of the week:

The Cybersmile Foundation provides free information for parents to help protect children online. They cover a number of topics such as cyber bullying, safe gaming and many more topics for parents.

www.cybersmile.org



This half term's virtues are:

Grateful:

We are grateful for the gifts God has given to us, for the gifts of other people and the blessings of each new day. We are thankful for what we have and for the people around us.



Generous:

We are generous with our gifts and use them in the service of others. We are generous with our time and give of ourselves to serve others, as God wants us to. We are generous with our actions, doing things to help other people and make a difference in the world.

What are we thankful for in our lives, and why?

Can you think of examples of how you can use some of your gifts and talents to help people?

Invitation to Mass

All are welcome to join us on Wednesday 18th September 2019 at 9:15am for our first school Mass of the academic year.



All families are invited to **Family Mass** on the first Sunday of each month at The Mother of God and Guardian Angels Church:



*Guiding Lord, give us courage to know you, to love you, to follow you always, however hard it is.
Amen.*

God Bless and we hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Mrs H Milligan (Head Teacher)

Mr A Spindlow (Deputy Head Teacher)

