



St Dominic's Catholic Primary School

Called to be A People of Hope

We Learn and Love in Faith

This term we celebrate...Service and Humility

Whole School Attendance:

96.1

May Day

Dear Parents

It is great to have some warmer days and see the sun shining!

Last week class 1 and class 2 very much enjoyed their Forest School Day at Copsegrove Farm and had great fun cooking and exploring in the woods. The other classes also have their own days booked for the summer term, with class 4 going on Friday 25th May and class 3 on Friday 22nd June. So far every Friday has been different! This week we will have a lovely Mary Day with Mass in the school Hall, a short reflection with children and Father Bill, followed by the whole school going to our top field for an afternoon of celebration with games and refreshments. Families are welcome to come, bring a simple picnic and spend time with the children on the field having fun.

This week we have had a photographer in school to take photographs to go on to our new website and also for our marketing leaflet that is currently in the process of being produced. We have been mindful of not including any child whose parents did not give permission for this at the start of the year. I am looking forward very much to seeing the results which will capture aspects of our school life to give others a glimpse of what we offer.

This week Year 2 children have been undertaking some of their KS1 SATs tests and they have coped very well and very much enjoyed the challenge. Next week, we wish our Year 6 Children – Dominic, Kacper, Charlie, Joe, Oliver, Ruben and Sebastian - every success as they take their own SATs tests in Reading, Mathematics and Grammar and Spelling. I am sure that all their hard work over the year will be rewarded; we get the results of the tests in July and these are sent to parents with their child's report. Miss Mansell will also be giving her own Teacher Assessments of learning, which will have been moderated with other local schools and with me. These children have the opportunity to come to school for breakfast on test days with Miss Mansell, and is aimed to be a relaxing and positive way to start their day.

Teacher Appointments: I am delighted to announce that we have appointed two new teachers for next academic year. The governors and I interviewed five teachers yesterday and were very impressed by the calibre of candidates we had to select from. We have appointed **Mrs Sarah Mason** to the team, who is currently covering Class 1 for the Summer term, and also **Miss Eilish Fletcher** who will be new to our school community. As this news is hot off the press, further information will be shared later in the term on which classes the teachers will be teaching next year.

EYFS Parent Information Opportunity: Mrs Mason has invited all parents into school next Tuesday, 15th May from 9am to 10am to stay and play with their child and also learn more about how home and school can work together to support learning. She will be delighted to share with you some of the work the children have been doing this term and it will be a great way to get to know you all a little better. Please come along if you can, younger siblings are welcome too.

Football Opportunities: I am delighted to say that from Friday 18th May, I have managed to secure for those children who would like to take part, football opportunities during enrichment. Initially this will be offered for children in KS2. However on the Fridays when there are other events planned for them, the children in KS1 will have the opportunity to get involved too! We are aiming to build up our own Woodchester Football teams for Boys and Girls going forward so that we can get some competitive games in place with other local schools. If as a parent, you would like to come along to assist on a Friday afternoon, we would be delighted to see you. We would need any helpers to undergo a DBS check.

KS1 Cluster Sports: The children in class 1 and class 2 will again be taking part in Cluster sports on Wednesday 20th June. This is where children from schools in our Cotswold View Cluster (Amberley, Avening, Brimscombe, Horsley, Leighterton and Thrupp) come together for a fun day of sports. This year reception and year 1 will be at Leighterton and year 2 will be at Brimscombe. Miss Sollars and Miss Mason will be running one of the activities for all children to take part in and I am sure that the children will love it! More information to follow.

After School Play Opportunity: I understand that parents would like the opportunity for their children to relax and play after school, especially now that we are having some very nice weather! I am very supportive of this and I am in the process of seeking Governor approval for this at the Full Governor meeting on Monday 14th May. To enable us to provide this opportunity, all parents that wish to use the field area and trim trail with their children after school from **3.15 until 4 pm**, will need to be aware that the children play and remain on the school site at their own risk, and under parental supervision. There will be no staff member supervising. The school cannot be held responsible for any accidents that occur. I am also currently checking this with the Health and Safety team at the Local Authority so that I can fully inform Governors of the position. I hope to be able to confirm when this can start by next week.

Feast of Pentecost: Next week we gather to mark the Feast of **Pentecost**, when the children will celebrate Mass in church at 9:15am, all welcome. This will be followed by a Duck Hunt in the school grounds to get the children into the spirit of the PTA Annual Duck Race on Saturday. Whilst all this is going on the children will enjoy a celebratory iced bun and parents are welcomed back into school for Coffee and to watch the fun. If they wish, the children can then purchase their duck for a race the following day. I am sure it will be extra special this year as it will mark the Royal Wedding on the same day.

Mountain Biking: I am pleased to inform you that this will begin again from next Friday afternoon, with the group that had one lesson last year. Miss Mansell will remind the children who was in this group. Please bring your child's mountain bike in for then, along with a cycling hat and gloves if they have them.

Meal prices: With reluctance the County Council have increased the meal price to £2.36 from April; apologies for not communicating this earlier. This is due to increases in national living wage, food, materials and transport over the last 12 months.



Bookmarks for the Library: One of our parents has kindly made these lovely bookmarks in readiness for the opening of the new library. These will go on sale next week, £2 a bookmark. Please come to the office if you wish to purchase any, thank you. All proceeds to the library.

Class photos, Y6 leavers and sports photos: The date for these has now changed to this coming Tuesday afternoon, 15th May. We are having the 'vista' style for the class photos, where the children stand in small, informal groups and then these photos are 'knitted' together to form a whole class photo. Please ensure your child is super smart that day and hope for some sunshine!

Lunch on 18th May: Caterlink are offering a different menu in celebration of the forthcoming wedding. Please see attached menu for options.

Nailsworth Duck Race: This year's Duck Race is also celebrating the royal wedding as they both take place on the same day, Saturday 19th May. There are slightly fewer races this year to ensure everyone can fit in some duck fun in time to watch the wedding event. There are plenty of races all for children this year with fabulous children's prizes. Craft activities, balloons and cakes will be on sale. Please check out the prize list and race schedule, and ducks can be bought after school. Many hands make light work, help is always needed on the day. Helpers List sheets are in the foyer to add your name if you are able. Thank you for supporting this year's Duck Race!

Rogation Mass: A reminder that this is on Monday 21st May, 6pm, Barton End Farm, all welcome, including well behaved pets! Bring and share picnic afterwards, this is normally a lovely occasion, please come along if you can.

Text messages: You will have noticed that text messages are now coming from a different number each time they are sent. Teachers2Parents have advised us that this is a more secure method, but I can appreciate that this might be more frustrating for parents. One way of getting round this is to download Teachers2Parents app, which was communicated with the last newsletter. Any messages to you will come via this as first choice and will be sent via a message if it cannot get through that way. I hope that makes sense but please contact the office if not.

Well-being Week: (21st -25th May) During this week we will combine teaching children how they can help take responsibility for ensuring their own physical and mental well-being.

best wishes

Jacqui Sollars

A time to reflect... **on Mary**

The Regina Caeli

Queen of heaven, rejoice, alleluia!

for he whom you were worthy to bear, alleluia!

has risen as he said, alleluia!

Pray for us to God, alleluia!

Let us pray;

O God, who through the resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
did vouchsafe to give joy to the world;

grant, we beseech you, that through his Mother, the Virgin Mary,
we may obtain the joys of everlasting life.

Through the same Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Dates for your diary...

Sat 19th May–Nailsworth Festival & Duck Race

Monday 21st May- Rogation Mass at Barton
End Farm at 6pm. All welcome with well
behaved pets.

21st -25th May – wellbeing week

Fri 25th May – last day of term

Tue 5th June – back to school

Name: -----

I would like to share my views or make a suggestion on...