

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL</b> <b>NEWSLETTER – NOVEMBER 2008</b></p>
--

**Dear Parents/Guardians,**

This term is flying by and Christmas will be upon us before we know it. I hope the children will have told you about the special visit we had on Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> November. The Royal Navy brought one of their Lynx Helicopters to visit us and it was thrilling to see it land on the playing field – the children (and staff!) were so excited. The four man crew, who included my nephew Flt. Lt. Joe Keane (I am a very proud aunt), spent a long time with the children answering any questions – please keep a look out for the report in the Mercury.

I thought it would be useful to remind you of our planned Christmas celebrations:

Key Stage 1 (Classes R, 1 and 2) will be doing their Nativity Play, 'The Lucky Owl' on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> December at 2 pm in St. John's Church.

Key Stage 2 (Classes 3, 4, 5 and 6) are changing the format this year and will be performing a musical play 'Miracle Child' on the last day of term (19<sup>th</sup> December) instead of the 'Carols Around the Tree', at 2 pm in the school hall. Carols will be sung and prayers will be said at St. John's Church on 15<sup>th</sup> December at 2.30 pm and at St. Thomas' Church on 16<sup>th</sup> December at 2.30 pm. Please come and join in with our singing and meet our new priests, Father Duncan and Father Ivan.

**School Christmas Lunch:** 17<sup>th</sup> December 2008 – Christmas lunch **must be booked and paid for in advance.**

**Class Parties:** on the afternoon of Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> December 2008 (children can wear their own clothes and should bring a paper plate of party food with their name on for the afternoon – lunch will be as normal).

**PTFA Christmas Fayre, Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2008, 6 pm – 8 pm**

We will be having our Christmas Fair in school on Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> December. There will be mulled wine, mince pies and Father Christmas will be visiting! There will be a **non-uniform day on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> December** when children in Classes 3, 4, 5 and 6 should bring in a bottle and children in Classes R, 1 and 2 should bring in a toy for the children's tombola. More details will follow from the PTFA. There will be a PTFA meeting in the school hall at 3.15 pm on Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> December – new ideas and members welcome!

**Book Fair - Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December – Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December**

Books from the Scholastic Book Fair will be on sale in the school hall from 3 pm until 3.45 pm – commission received from the sale of these books will be used to purchase books for our own library. Please do come and have a browse, there are some lovely books which will make good Christmas presents! Thank you for your support.

### **Stranger Danger**

Occasionally we receive reports from the authority about incidents concerning children's safety out of school. We have been notified of two incidents where boys from Dover Boys Grammar School have been approached by a male whilst waiting for their school bus in Walmer. We have spoken to the children in school and further e-mails have suggested that this situation is not a dangerous one. However, it might be worth reminding your child about 'stranger danger' and also to remind you to keep us informed if your child walks to school unaccompanied in order that we can check their safe arrival each day. Thank you.

### **Parking**

Could I respectfully remind you not to park in the cul de sacs opposite the school which are resident only parking – we have had telephone calls from irate residents who are blocked in at the end of the school day and cannot get out. Please also be considerate to our Road Crossing Patrol lady when parking, and do not stop to drop children off on the zigzag lines. Please remember that you can park in the Church Car Park at the beginning and end of each day. We will be having regular checks by the local police and community wardens who will take numbers and deal with any parking offences. Thank you for your support.

### **Head Lice**

Unfortunately, the problem of headlice continues! Please check your child's hair regularly and the recommended treatment is to condition and comb through every time you wash your child's hair. This should help to eliminate the lice and eggs once and for all. I have noticed that there are a lot of parents keeping children off school for a whole day because of head lice . If you notice lice in your child's hair please treat and then bring your child into school afterwards – it really is not necessary to keep the children at home for the whole day and it is very important for them not to miss school wherever possible.

### **Sainsbury's Voucher Scheme**

Thank you so much to all of you who sent in your Sainsbury's vouchers this year – we have just taken delivery of our order, which includes two sets of new mini soccer goals for football (much to Mr. Renihan's delight!), wiggly tunnels, netballs and a weatherproof storage unit. It is fantastic to be able to get all this equipment because of your generosity, thank you on behalf of us all.

I look forward to seeing you all at our Christmas Celebrations.

Yours sincerely,

**Annie Keane**  
**Headteacher**