

# ST MARYCHURCH C.E. PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

Telephone: Torquay (01803) 329070  
Fax: Torquay (01803) 312891  
e-mail: [admin@st-marychurch-primary.torbay.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-marychurch-primary.torbay.sch.uk)  
Website: [www.st-marychurch-primary.org.uk](http://www.st-marychurch-primary.org.uk)



Philip Mantell B Ed. M Ed. Dip Maths Ed.  
Headteacher  
St Marychurch C of E Primary & Nursery School  
Hartop Road  
St Marychurch  
Torquay  
TQ1 4QH

*'Doing our very best and caring for each other'*

## NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2009

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **1. WELCOME!**

Welcome, to our new children and their families to the school! We hope that you settle in well and feel part of our school family very quickly.

A special welcome back to Mrs. Jago after her maternity leave.

### **2. WORK AROUND THE SCHOOL DURING THE HOLIDAYS**

All of the classrooms have been re-decorated, carpeted and, where needed, floor covering replaced.

The lower junior corridor has also been completely re-decorated. The Reception class has lovely new facilities in what was the Family Learning Centre, while the former Reception class is now upgraded for the Reception/Year 1 class.

We have also had disability works completed:

- a small chair lift from Infant area to the Hall.
- an electronically lifted changing mat.
- a ramp down to the infant playground.

as well as a new ICT/Family Learning Room!

The Hall has also been up-graded. It's so good to have a learning environment here that is good enough for our children and staff.

### **3. EXTRA FACILITIES FOR FAMILIES**

As advertised last term, our After School Club is nearly up and running as it has now received Ofsted registration. We now have Breakfast and After School Clubs and are very keen to make a very useful resource for parents so please make contact with the school to find out more information.

We welcome Mr and Mrs Hobson as leaders of the after school care club.

### **4. SCHOOL MEALS**

Our new school meals provider, Eden Foodservice, is up and running. The Governors and Torbay Council have jointly funded new cooking equipment and re-decorated the kitchens.

School meals cost £1.90 a day / £9.50 per week payable in advance. Tickets are available to purchase from the Kitchen Manager each Monday in the school hall. It is possible to pay by cash or cheque. Cheques should be made payable to Eden Foodservice and must be accompanied by a cheque guarantee number, valid from and expiry dates, with the parent's name and address on the back of the cheque with the child's name – this is Eden Foodservice requirement.

Further copies of the menu are available from the school office. Please note that roast dinners will now be on a Wednesday!

## Free School Meals

Children qualify for Free School Meals if their parents receive Income Support, Child Tax Credit (but who are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and whose income, assessed by the Inland Revenue does not exceed £16,040), Income Based Job Seekers Allowance, Employment Support Allowance (Income Related), Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit or Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.

Please ask the school office for a form if you think you may be entitled – even if you don't choose to have the meals at the moment. We get part of our school budget based upon the number of children entitled to free school meals, so it is vital that we have everyone registered!

## 5. WELCOME MEETINGS

These will be held on the dates below and are a very important opportunity to develop the very important links from home to school. The meetings will include important information about targets for progress in English and Maths.

### The Meetings are as follows:

Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2) Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> September at 3.30pm

Lower Juniors (Years 3 & 4) Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> September at 3.30pm

Upper Juniors (Years 5 & 6) Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> September at 3.30pm (with Secondary Schools' admissions briefing afterwards).

### Classes for 2009/2010 are:

<b>Foundation Stage</b>	Nursery	N.	Miss. Davis
	Reception	R.AW	Mrs. A. Williams
	Reception/(Year 1)	1LM	Mrs. March & Mrs. Lockett
<b>Key Stage 1</b>	(Reception)/ Year 1	1LM	Mrs. March & Mrs. Lockett
	Year 1/2	1HJ	Mrs. Hetherington & Mrs. Jago
	Year 2	1RL	Mr. Long
<b>Key Stage 2</b>	Year 3/4	2TH	Miss. Harries
	Year 3/4	2CH	Mr. Hallett
	Year 5	2NB	Mrs. Bond (Mrs. C.Williams)
	Year 5/6	2AD	Miss. Davies
	Year 6	2AG	Mrs. German

Where classes are taught by two teachers, the pattern of the week will be explained and each teacher's role in the working week.

## 6. SCHOOL UNIFORM

Thank you to all of you for sending the children so smartly dressed and well prepared for the start of the school year. It is so important that every item of clothing is named, so if it is lost we can return it to your child.

## 7. CLUBS – Every Day Breakfast Club and After School Care

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Y5/6 Girls Football Club	Maths Booster Club Y3/4 Football Club Choir (end of September)	Year 5/6 Boys' Football Club Netball Club	TaeKwonDo	

Chess Club (to be confirmed)

## **8. PARENTING SUPPORT**

Any parents wanting to discuss any topic about learning or welfare are very welcome to talk to our Parenting Support Officer: Paul Rundle on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> September at the start of the school day.

## **9. FAMILY LEARNING**

This will start in our new Family Learning Room at 9.15am on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September. The theme is Family Literacy – helping you to help your child develop those vital literacy skills. The course is for parents of Reception/Year 1 aged children. Please ask at the school office for an application form.

## **10. CHURCH SERVICES/WORSHIP**

As well as the weekly Mass services, alternating between the Upper and Lower Juniors, we have other dates and times this term.

We are introducing an **Infants service** at Church on two occasions this term, each on a Thursday afternoon, starting at 2.00pm – services will be held on **Thursdays 15<sup>th</sup> October and 19<sup>th</sup> November**. Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> October's service will be an Infants' Harvest Service.

There will be a **Welcome Mass** at church on **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 9.15am**. All parents and children joining our school are invited, as well as any other parents who would like to come. This service is the parish church's chance to welcome you to our community and to show you that, by joining our school, you are part of the church community as well.

Our **Christmas Carol Service** will be on the last afternoon of term, **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 2.00pm**. All parents are welcome.

### **Class led worship:**

Now that our new worship programme, based on the guidelines from the Diocese of Exeter, is in place, we are now re-introducing led class worship, to which the parents and carers of children in each class are warmly invited.

These will be about 20 minutes long and will usually be at our whole school worship times on Mondays and Fridays at 2.50pm.

The dates for this term are:

<b>Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>2AG</b>
<b>Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October</b>	<b>2AD</b>
<b>Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> November</b>	<b>2NB</b>
<b>Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>2CH</b>

## **11. ATTENDANCE**

We didn't reach our 96% attendance target last year, so it is very important that we make even greater efforts this year.

The link between poor attendance and educational achievement is clear – and how this can reduce opportunities for working life. One day a week's absence over the seven primary school years equals one and a half term's absence over that period – and all of that lost learning.

Torbay has a new Attendance Improvement approach and our link officer is meeting me net week to discuss our issues.

## **12. PUNCTUALITY**

I do like to greet families at the main door, or elsewhere if I am able to do so.

Unfortunately many meetings start at 9.00am so I'm often not able to – and every Tuesday I'm at church at 9.00am

So far this term, it's been good to see so many here at 8.45am ready for our 8.55am registration.

Registers are returned to the office at 9.05am so if any child arrives after that time they must sign in at the office and are recorded as late. Children arriving after 9.15am are recorded differently and unless a good reason is given, have to be recorded as an unauthorised absence.

### **13. HEADLICE**

Please check your child's hair very regularly. If we notice cases at school we inform parents immediately so that treatment can start as quickly as possible. Please remember; there is no need for embarrassment as headlice are attracted to clean hair.

### **14. MEALTIME ASSISTANT**

We have several posts available for school lunchtime assistants please ask at the school office for an application form if you are interested. The hourly rate is £6.30, 5 hours per week.

### **15. YEAR 6 MEETING RE. SECONDARY ADMISSIONS 2010** – Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> September in the school hall ( after the Upper Junior Welcome meeting which starts at 3.30pm).

Following the Upper Junior Welcome there will be a meeting for Year 6 parents about the procedures for Year 6 transfer to secondary school in September 2010. The TIPS1 booklet about the process for 2010 is now available on the Torbay Council's website and you are also able to apply online. Hard copies of the booklet and form are also available from the school office if necessary.

### **16. RECEPTION 2010 OPEN MORNING** - Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> September 9.30 – 10.30am

We will be holding an open morning for families whose children start Primary School in the next school year, from September 2010, when they will be 4 to 5 years old (dates of birth between 01.09.05 -31.08.06). Please come along if you would like to and tell any friends you know with children of the same age.

### **17. SWINE FLU**

While there is a dip in the swine flu epidemic, it is important to keep our eye on what might happen if it has a new surge of cases this term. We need to be prepared just in case!

Attached is a fact sheet from a website called Ebug, which you might find useful. At school we will concentrate on hand-washing and using a handkerchief if sneezing, to minimise spreading of the virus.

### **18. DIGITAL CAMERAS/CAMCORDERS**

We would like to make an appeal for any working digital cameras and camcorders that you no longer need. We would be grateful for any donations. Thank you for your help.

### **19. SCHOOL EVENTS CALENDAR**

Please find attached an up to date calendar. You can also find these dates on our school website [www.st-marychurch-primary.org.uk](http://www.st-marychurch-primary.org.uk)

I am really looking forward to working with all our children, parents, staff and governors again this year. We had a really positive school year last year, culminating in excellent SATS results.

Yours sincerely,

Philip Mantell  
Headteacher

