



St. Chad's Catholic Primary School, Sedgley.
Tel: 01384 818720.
www.st-chads.dudley.sch.uk

9th January 2015

Dear Parents / Carers

Congratulations to our Gold Star Children this week who are:

Reception: Molly for her fantastic enthusiasm and progress in numbers and writing.

Y1: Marianna for her good ideas for making an igloo and good drawing in English.

Y2: Erin for being a smart and sensible member of the class and setting a good example.

Y3: Kamarl for fantastic painting of a Viking shield.

Y4: Ben for consistent improvement in mental maths each week.

Y5: Eve for working hard to catch up on her maths work and exceeding expectations.

Y6: Aoife for an impressive start to the New Year in Maths.

Happy New Year from all the staff: I hope that you all had a great Christmas and that 2015 will bring health, happiness and joy.

Welcome: I'm sure you join me in welcoming Mrs Thomas to St. Chad's. Mrs Thomas replaces Miss Barrows in Y2.

Assistant Principal: congratulations to Mrs Clews who the Academy Committee have appointed to the post of Assistant Principal. The leadership roles in school are now: Mrs Mason - Principal, Mrs Jones - Deputy Principal and Mrs Clews - Assistant Principal. We are still getting used to using the name Principal instead of Headteacher, which changed when we decided to become an Academy.

Reception 2015: the closing date for online applications is 15th January 2015. Applications are welcomed from both Catholic and none Catholic children. Although the Open days have already taken place, we are happy to show parents / carers around the school – just contact the school office.

Whole School Christmas Charity: the final total raised for CAFOD's Ebola appeal was £726.34 – a fantastic amount! Thank you for your generosity.

Y5 and Y6 Charity sale in aid of Help for Heroes £156. They want to say a huge thank you to all their customers.

Study Plans: changes have been made to the way we present curriculum information to parents and carers. This is available on the school website under Study Plans in the Children section. There you will find information for each year group for whole year plan. Due to the length of these documents we will not be sending home paper copies: anyone who has difficulties in accessing these should ask for assistance at the office.

Lost sweatshirt: could you please check that your child has the correct sweatshirt as we have a Reception class child who has mislaid his sweatshirt and it is named.

Cycle helmets: if your child has out-grown their cycle helmet and it would fit a reception class child, we would appreciate it being donated to school.

Free School Meals: this is the time of the year when many people review their finances so can I remind you that parents don't have to pay for school lunches if they receive certain benefits. (Further details from the free school meals team on 01384 814988 or via www.dudley.gov.uk.) As well as not paying for their school meals, from January a child who receives Free School Meals is also entitled to a free carton of milk. (This is not Universal Infant Free School Meals). For every child whose parent has successfully applied for Free School Meals, the school receives £1300 which supports the school budget, particularly in staffing. We also pay for every child from Y1 to Y5 to receive a Letterbox book pack six times a year and we are able to support school visits etc. using this money. So even if your child is in Reception, Y1 or Y2, and is therefore already getting a free meal, you are encouraged to apply. Apply on line at <http://www.dudley.gov.uk/resident/your-council/benefits/free-school-meals/>

School Fund: Just a reminder that this term's school fund is now due at £6.50 or £19.50 for the academic year.

Dates for your diary: will be sent home next week.

After School Activity Clubs for the next half term: *please note these clubs run from 3.30-4.30pm and children are to be collected from the main school playground.*

MONDAY: Netball Y5-Y6

TUESDAY: Football with Ace Coaching Y1-Y3

WEDNESDAY: Gymnastics Y1-Y4 **NOW FULL**

THURSDAY: Streetdance with Ace Coaching Y1-Y4

Have good week.

S. M. Mason