

Newsletter



Autumn Term: Issue 2
21st September 2018

We work together, we play together, we laugh together, we pray together.

Forthcoming dates

25 Sept coffee morning
28 Sept Y6 cake sale
5 Oct Rosa Pich talk 2.15
8 Oct Parent Governor Election day
10 Oct Reception and Year 6 class mass 2.15
18 Oct Parent Social
22 Oct Half term week
29 Oct Back to school
6 Nov Coffee Morning
8 Nov Year 6 Assembly 9.15
9 Nov Y5 cake sale
20 Nov Year 5 and 2 class mass
23 Nov Year 2 Assembly 9.15
26 Nov Parent Forum
27 & 28 Nov Parent Teacher Meetings
13 & 14 Dec Nativity Plays 2pm
19 Dec Carol Service 6.30pm
20 Dec Christmas Lunch
21 Dec Break up at 2.30

Please note that class trips are not added here, please check your child's bag daily for letters from the teacher.

Dear Parents,

Thank you very much for joining us on Wednesday for our annual 'Meet the teachers' event. It was lovely to see so many of you and to hear your positive comments about the work we do here.

Please do consider submitting a nomination for Parent Governor, the nominations are due by next Thursday, 27th September. The role is very important and we will appreciate your interest and support.

Best wishes, Mrs Griffiths, Headteacher

Uniform

Please ensure that your child has the correct winter uniform. There will be a second hand sale on Tuesday at the coffee morning, and any outstanding items must be purchased next weekend. Uniform checks will be undertaken during the week of 1st October.

Hair

Please ensure that hair is cut short at the back and sides, or tied back. Hair should be out of the eyes, or worn with a clip. This is to prevent the spread of lice and to ensure that children are able to work without having hair in their face and eyes.

Jewellery

We have a no jewellery policy in school. This includes all earrings, bracelets and chains. A small and simple watch may be worn once your child can tell the time. Fancy sports watches and fitness trackers are not appropriate for school.

Get thinking!

If you could live on the moon forever, would you go?

What do you think? Take a moment to discuss this at home, or with your friends. Don't worry about whether your answer is right or wrong. It is the process of thinking, and trying to explain your ideas that is important.

Class Saints

This year, the school has adopted different Saints for each of the classes. The classes will celebrate on their Saints' day and Father Edward will visit the classrooms to talk about how the children can be inspired by their Saint. The Class Saints are as follows:

Reception: St Philip Neri
Year 1: St Therese of Lisieux
Year 2: St Margaret of Scotland
Year 3: St Aloysius Gonzaga
Year 4: St Thomas More
Year 5: St Cecilia
Year 6: Blessed John Henry Newman

Clubs

The club timetable is now available on the school website. Please liaise directly with the club leader for information. Please remember that children should be collected on time and that their behaviour during clubs is expected to be as good as during lessons with their classteacher.

Home-school-child agreement

This should be signed and returned to the school office as a record of our shared agreements for working together.

Parents Association News

Well we've only been back a few weeks but the PA has been as busy as ever. The iPads we raised money for last year will be arriving any day and we have arranged for years 5 and 6 to each have a session of debating with a company who will be coming in to school next month.

We warmly invite you to a social evening on Thursday 18th October from 7-9pm. This is an annual event to which all parents are invited but we extend a particularly warm welcome to new parents. It's a chance to meet new faces in your year and catch up with old friends. More from your Reps about this in due course.

In the meantime next Tuesday, 25th, is our first second hand uniform sale of the year. This is a perfect opportunity to pick up a bargain or two, especially if the winter uniform is looking a little small. If you've attended a uniform sale recently you'll know that we serve (and sell) our very own Oratory tea, accompanied by delicious home made cakes and biscuits. On Tuesday we will be sampling some coffee so I would appreciate any coffee aficionados to come along and give me your opinion. There will be Oratory coffee soon; watch this space.

One more date for your diary is Friday 5th October. Rosa Pich will be coming to talk to parents from 2.15 to 3.15pm. She is a remarkable woman with an extraordinary story, who will inspire many of us with her courage, strength and love. We are very lucky to have this opportunity to hear her speak so please come along. For more information contact arantxa.martinez.f@gmail.com

And finally I have put the Oratory Primary School Association of Parents and Friends on Amazon Smile so whenever you shop with Amazon the PA gets a little bit of money. If you are an Amazon customer please set this up on your account as it won't cost you anything but it'll give a bit extra to the school. This is the link:

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1155838-0>

I hope everyone is settling in. Please don't hesitate to contact your Rep, or me, if you have any questions about the PA or any suggestions- we love to hear them!

Have a lovely weekend

Alex Yates
PA Chair

Parent Forum

The Parent Forum met on Monday afternoon and the minutes of the meeting can now be accessed on the 'Parent Involvement' section of the website; please take a look. Many items were discussed, including:

- Clubs
- The Newman Fund
- Homework
- Parent Workshops
- Lunchtimes

Newman Fund

Half of our families have filled in their Newman fund forms to let us know whether they will be able to support the fund this year. Many thanks for this, it helps us with our future financial planning. Spare forms can be requested at the office.

Attendance

When your child is unwell, you need to telephone the school, and follow up with a letter on their return. We are required to keep letters for our register. All absences for special circumstances, such as family weddings, must be requested in advance by sending a letter to Mrs Griffiths, otherwise they will automatically be marked as unauthorised in the school register.

School Website

The school website is your first port of call for information. Please check it for curriculum updates and school policies.

School lunch

Some parents of children in the infant classes have taken a free school meal for their child, but still send them with a packed lunch from home. Please let us know if you would rather your child stopped having school lunch. The 'free' lunch is not free to the school, and if uneaten, is an unnecessary expense and waste of food. We will now no longer be sending uneaten school lunches home, as they make a mess.

Twitter

The school now has a twitter account which you can follow @Oratory_Primary. Posts will share positive news and show good learning. We will be sending permission forms before posting any pictures of children.



Orchestra

Orchestra will now rehearse every Wednesday at lunchtime in the hall. If you can play an instrument at grade 1 or above, please join us.