



*Faith; We live it, love it and learn it.*



**Friday 19th July**



## **MASS TIMES THIS WEEK AT ST GEORGE AND ST TERESA**

**21st July— 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

<b>Saturday</b>	5.30pm
<b>Sunday</b>	8.45am (Children's Liturgy)
	10.30am

Dear Parents/Carers,

And so another school year finishes. As ever, it's been a hectic finish to our year but also a chance to take stock and celebrate so much progress and so many achievements. Father John was joined by Deacon Stephen as Year 6 led our whole-school Mass on Thursday morning. It was lovely to see the hall packed out and the children praying and singing so well. Afterwards, there was a special assembly for Year 6 where we recognised how much they had grown from the tiny mustard seeds that started school all those years ago.



A big thanks to everyone who volunteered and contributed towards our summer fayre. The weather held and it was a tremendous success in terms of fun had and money raised.



Along with rest of the nation, St G&T went to the polls on July 4th. The manifesto videos from Year 6 were fantastic, giving our electorate plenty to think about before casting their votes.

Last week, Year 6 put on two show-stopping performances of 'Murder at Magpie Manor', entertaining everyone with their gripping whodunit.



Also last week, 55 children travelled down to London as our choir performed at the world-famous Royal Albert Hall. They joined a group of other children to put on a show worthy of the world-renowned venue. Well done, choir!



**We wish you a restful, safe and happy summer holidays.**

Best wishes,

Mrs Flanagan and Mr Hainie

*L. Flanagan and S Hainie*



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## **Information about next year**

### **Gates—new system from September 4th**

Over the summer holidays, we will be modernising our gate system. For you the main change will be to the gate furthest from Mill Lane. This will be on a magnetic lock that will open at 7.30 am for access to Dragons. There will be a new fence between the path and the car park with another gate just beyond the Dragons entrance. This new gate will not open until 8.40 am each morning. The other pedestrian access gate will remain as is and this will be manually opened at 8.40 am also. The main gate into the school for children will open at 8.45 am. This is five minutes later than it currently opens.

Access into school during the day will be via the new magnetic lock gate and an intercom with the school office.

All pedestrian gates will be opened at 3.20 pm in the afternoon to allow collection of the children by adults at the end of the school day.

### **Parent Information Sessions**

Parent information sessions have been held over the last couple of weeks about next year. Copies of the presentations have been shared with you by email.

### **Communication between home and school**

The children in years Reception—6 will receive homework/reading records where you can record what the children have done at home and add any messages you want their teacher to see. Taking on board parental feedback, we have opted for cheaper, more generic versions this year. We will ask for a voluntary contribution of £1.50 to cover the costs of these. This will be set up on ParentPay in September.

## **INSET Dates for Next Academic Year**

Monday September 2nd 2024

Tuesday September 3rd 2024 **(First day back for children—September 4th)**

Friday October 25th 2024

Monday February 24th 2025

Monday April 28th 2025

Monday July 21st 2025



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This half term, we have been focussing on the virtues learned finding God in all things; and wise in the ways we use our learning for the common good.

Our Catholic Social Teaching focus this half-term is **solidarity and the common good**.

A special summer holiday edition of the Wednesday Word available at <https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/summer-holiday-booklet?pid=MTA101634&v=146.2>



Well done to the children from Years 5 and 6 who led at 8.45 Masses. Celebrating the Mass together is always such a wonderful occasion.



Rom and Daisy, ex-pupils of St G&T, visited school last Thursday to tell the children about what they do at the Parish Youth SVP and share ideas about how they would like to work with the Mini-Vinnies next year. We are very excited at the prospect of working collaboratively!





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## Message from Father John



Dear Friends,

The word "holiday" is an example of how our language changes but never loses touch with its origins. Our understanding of the word holiday today means a break from the routine of work and responsibilities and a chance to visit new places, to relax, to experience a change of scenery and to rest. I am sure most of us are looking forward to getting away for a length of time, at home or abroad and I hope that you all have a good one - whatever the weather!

For Christians the word "holiday" is linked to "holy day". A holy day is a day of special celebration which marks the days of Easter or Christmas or when we remember the Saints who have gone before us. When I attended school we used to have the holy days as a day off. We went to Mass and enjoyed our free day. I recall friends who attended non-Catholic schools who said, "I wish I was a Catholic, then I could have the day off!" It felt really special to be able to have those special days and great to be a Catholic.

A holy day is a day made holy by the event to be celebrated. It was and is a day when we could celebrate and enjoy a feast - just as we enjoy a feast at Christmas and on our special days.

I expect some of you enjoyed a family feast on the day of First Holy Communion or Confirmation but would you remember that occasion every year? It would be a nice way to remember what we received and why it was such a special occasion.

Another word which we have used before leaving for the summer holiday is "goodbye". "Goodbye" we say when we are parting company with our friends and family. It means "God be with you" - can you see it in the word? Go-od be wi 'ye. Yes I know the "with" has been left out. The word goodbye is a special word - it comes from the heart especially if we do not expect to see the other person for a while or even not at all. I will leave you to think about how and when we use the word "goodbye" and how so often it ends in tears.

On Thursday we celebrated our end of term Year 6 leavers Mass and assembly and on Friday it was a day to say "goodbye".

I wish you all a very happy holiday and may God be with you.

Every Blessing,

Fr John



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A big thank you to Mrs Geddes who came into school this week to explain more about the Summer Reading Challenge to the children!

Get Creative for Marvellous Makers, this year's Summer Reading Challenge is **open!**

Knowle library invite children aged 4-12 to join us and read six books across the school summer holidays and collect stickers and rewards along the way.

Drop in to Knowle Library with your child and sign up (just bring address ID if you're not already a library member). If children meet the challenge, they will earn themselves a certificate, a medal and a free family swim at either of the Everyone Active leisure centres in Solihull.

But that's not all! All those who complete the challenge can enter a free prize draw to be in with a chance to win a £15 gift card for the Entertainer, or a £25 gift card for Waterstones or £30 to spend in Touchwood. They could even win a family ticket to a family show at The Studio Theatre at The Core.

Visit the Summer Reading Challenge website (<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>) for lots of games and competitions, together with the Book Sorter where children can write reviews and get suggestions for new books to try.

It's free to join the library, and free to take part in Marvellous Makers with lots of fun activities, for details of all the library events take a look at <https://www.solihull.gov.uk/library-events>

We look forward to seeing you at Knowle Library.



**Reading Challenge Desk** will be open  
from 10.00 - 12.30pm & 2.00 - 4.30pm  
Monday | Tuesday | Thursday | Friday  
Saturdays 10 - 12.30pm



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## More Music

Our fantastic musicians put on a brilliant performance last Tuesday night. Year 4 showcased their ukulele skills as did some of our individual performers with a mix of brass, strings and woodwind on offer. A big thanks to Mrs Evans and Mr Lancaster.



Also, well done to our musicians who performed at the Solihull Music Festival last month, taking their talents out to the world!



## Netball Team

Well done to our netball team who have made amazing progress this year and look set for great things next year.



# St George and St Teresa's time to shine!!!

## Headteacher's award

Nursery: Emma

Reception: Oscar

Year 1: Lucia

Year 2: Max

Year 3: Georgia

Year 4: Kimia

Year 5: Bethany

Year 6: Teddy



## Science award

Nursery: Rory

Reception: Patrick

Year 1: Josphe

Year 2: Emlyn

Year 3: Edgar

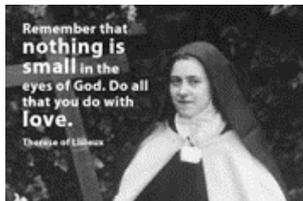
Year 4: Conor

Year 5: Olivia

Year 6: Thea



## St Teresa's Little Way award



Nursery: Danielle

Reception: Margot

Year 1: Ella

Year 2: Ray

Year 3: Nell

Year 4: Orla

Year 5: Tom

Year 6: Joey G

## Learned and Wise award



Nursery: Henry

Reception: Mason

Year 1: Rupert

Year 2: Aviana

Year 3: Caoimhe

Year 4: John

Year 5: Immi

Year 6: Enoch



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# MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.

Well done to Year 1 - our top attenders this academic year.

Year	Attendance
Nursery	91.4%
Reception	93.4%
Year 1	96.9%
Year 2	94.4%
Year 3	96.2%
Year 4	95.4%
Year 5	95.7%
Year 6	95.0%



## Parking around school

We ask you to be considerate to our neighbours when parking.

Thank you for your continued understanding and co-operation.



## Potholes

There are some potholes in the car park area. We have arranged for these to be repaired in the summer. In the meantime, please tread carefully around them.

## Nut free school

Please remember we are a nut free school. Even traces of nuts brought in by one child can have serious implications for other children.

