



# St Maria Goretti Catholic Academy Newsletter

Autumn Term 2017/18  
22nd December 2017



TEL: 01782 234737 E-MAIL: OFFICE@STMGCA.ORG.UK WEB: WWW. STMARIAGORETTI.ORG.UK

## A Message from the Principal.

Dear Parents and carers,

I want to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for your commitment to our school and parish community. The dedication of our staff, volunteers, Parishioners, Academy Representatives and Directors is imperative to the success of our school. Your support and feedback at the recent RE OFSTED Inspection made us very proud to be a part of our school. I look forward to sharing the report with you in the new year.

There is so much to celebrate. Our new staff have been a welcome addition to the team, congratulations to Mr Preston, Mrs Farthing, Mr Beckett, Mr Hawley, Mrs Stone, Mrs Costa, Mrs Fallows and Miss Barber. More recently the Christingle and concerts were exceptional! Thank you to all who supported, especially those who provided costumes, set designs and the script. These are but a few successes and there is so much more to celebrate and to come!

As you know we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Fox who will be working as a Teaching Assistant in another school in Cheshire. We also say a fond farewell to Mrs Greaves after many years of

service to our school. Mrs Greaves will be leaving to enjoy a long and happy retirement. As some of you may already know, Mrs Greaves has served our school as a midday supervisor for many years. She may have even been your midday supervisor. The role of the midday play leader must not be underestimated. It is a hugely influential role in teaching our children life skills. I'm sure you will join me in congratulating her, but as like any long serving member of staff she will return just as Mrs Rawlinson has. Congratulations to Mrs Backhouse, who leaves us today to start her maternity leave. We continue to keep Mr Salt in our prayers as he recovers from his illness. I will be visiting him after Christmas and passing on your best wishes. I know you have missed him.

In the term ahead we have much to look forward to: British Values week, First Holy Communion, Confirmation, Young Voices who will be performing in Birmingham, Vocations week, Peter Kennedy, and the cancelled Celebration assemblies. Please note the dates from this newsletter.

Finally, I wish you a very happy and holy Christmas and hope you have the opportunity to spend time with loved ones.

God Bless,  
Mrs Cooper



## Inside this issue

- A Message from the Principal .....
- Academy Committee Report 2017 .....
- Attendance .....
- School Building works update .....
- Health & Safety .....
- Activities and Dates for your diary .....

Follow us on Facebook and twitter.



## **St Maria Goretti Catholic Academy**

### **ACADEMY COMMITTEE REPORT DECEMBER 2017**

The Academy Committee met for their termly meeting on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November when the main item on the agenda was to receive a report from the Principal on the performance of the school.

The report is an opportunity for the staff to demonstrate to the Committee that progress is being made against the priorities that were agreed in the School Development Plan.

It was noted that the newly appointed staff had settled in well and that good progress was being made in the achievement of curriculum targets.

The Curriculum Group has also met this term and heard from the subject leader in Computing on progress in this subject. The Safeguarding and several curriculum policies were also reviewed.

The Finance Group has met to consider the finances, which I am pleased to report were within Budget in 2016-17 and remain under control this year.

Elsewhere, the H&S and Resources group considered the Health and Safety reports including one prepared by the Link Representative.

During November the RE and Catholic Life of the school was inspected by the Diocese. Academy Representatives were among those interviewed. Although the final report is still awaited I can reveal that the inspectors were extremely complementary about all aspects of the school.

The school has produced and submitted its Annual Safeguarding Audit to the Local Authority. This demonstrated compliance with national requirements.

Finally, I must mention how much I enjoyed the Christmas shows. Such events are spiritually uplifting and so important in teaching the children the Christmas story and the true meaning of the feast. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff for the way in which they prepared the children for these performances.

May I wish you all a Happy and Holy Christmas and Peace in the New Year.

Ray Chadwick

Chair of Academy Committee

19<sup>th</sup> December 2017



## Attendance reports

The whole school's current attendance percentage is 95.6% as at 15th December 2017.

Year 2 were last week's certificate winners for excellent attendance with 93.5% - Well done!

Congratulations to Years 2 & 5 who have the best attendance from September 2017 with 97.6%

It is essential that your child gets to school on time each day.

The school doors open at 8:45am. Registration is taken at 8:55am prompt.

School finishes each day at 3:15pm. It is essential that your child is collected on time.

Clubs finish at 4:15pm unless otherwise stated on the letter sent out for that particular club.

At the end of each term the school celebrate the children's achievements in school, including 100% attendance.

Each child who has attended school every day since September will receive a certificate of 100% attendance and also has the chance to win one of our amazing Christmas hampers. There are also some Chocolate Santa's to be won. All children who have 100% attendance will be included in the prize draws.

---

## School Building works

The building works are progressing to plan. Foundations are completed for the new rooms. Work is well underway with the new entrance, walls are completed and the roof is about to go on. Internal works are underway, with some work scheduled over the Christmas break.



### Site Safety

Our children have displayed a fabulous attitude towards safety on site during our building works.

Please continue to remind your children of the dangers and risks of building sites.

We thank you for your patience during the works which are planned to be completed in February 2018.

---

## Health & Safety Update

Please use this link for information on school closures

[http://webapps.stoke.gov.uk/schoolclosures/Public\\_view.aspx](http://webapps.stoke.gov.uk/schoolclosures/Public_view.aspx)

### School Closures

If the school is closed due to bad weather the details will be on the Stoke City Council school closures website and a text message will be sent via ParentPay.

### Gritted Paths

As the colder weather is upon us, please stick to the gritted pathways on school premises. Thank you for your patience during the recent adverse weather.



ST MARIA GORETTI CATHOLIC ACADEMY PART OF THE ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC COLLEGIATE.

## Spring Term 2018

### Dates For your Diary

Tuesday	16/01/2018	4 - 6.00pm	Parents Evening (Hall)
Thursday	18/01/2018	4 - 6.00pm	Parents Evening (Hall)
Thursday	18/01/2018	9.15am	FS & KS1 Celebration Assembly
Friday	19/01/2018	1.45pm	KS2 Celebration Assembly
Tuesday	06/02/2018	Morning	Watch Me Learn
Monday	12/02/2018	9.15am	FS - Mothers' Day Assembly
Monday - Friday	19/02/2018 - 23/02/2018	School Closed	Half Term Break
Friday	23/03/2018	9.15am	FS & KS1 Celebration Assembly
Friday	23/03/2018	1.45pm	KS2 Celebration Assembly
Friday - Friday	30/03/2018 - 13/03/2018	School Closed	Easter Break

Christmas  
Hamper  
Prize draw  
for  
100%  
Attendance



 Christmas break—Children need to be back in school on Monday 8th January 2018. 

### Autumn Term 2017/18

#### CHRISTMAS 2017

School opens on Monday 8th January 2018

#### SPRING 2018 HALF-TERM

School closes on Friday 16th February

School opens on Monday 26th February

#### EASTER 2018

School closes on Thursday 29th March

School opens Monday 16th April

#### MAY 2018

School closed on Monday 7th May (May Day)

#### SUMMER 2018 HALF-TERM

School closes on Friday 25th May

School opens on Monday 4th June

#### SUMMER 2018

School closes on Friday 20th July

### Contact information

Aylesbury Road

Bentilee

Stoke on Trent

ST2 0LJ

T: 01782 234737

E: office@stmgca.org.uk

Principal:

Mrs Z Cooper

Chair of Governors:

Mr R Chadwick

*Achieving together in love and faith*