

September 2011

**St John Fisher
Catholic Primary School**



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9 September 2011

Dear Parents

Welcome back to a new school year - a particular welcome to all those of you who are new to our school, I hope that you will have a long and happy relationship with us. It has been lovely to see the children looking so neat and tidy at the start of the term - long may it continue!

You will receive a letter from me every Friday, the letter on the first Friday of the month generally being more detailed than the others. I have also tried to give you as many dates as possible although some of these are subject to change and more will be added when they are known.

Year One

I am pleased to welcome Mrs Baxter back after her maternity leave. Mrs Baxter will be working in Year One for the first three days of the week with Mrs Ward-Tsang teaching the class on Thursdays and Fridays.

Parent Governor

We need to appoint a new parent governor as Mrs Savrimoothoo's four year period of office has come to an end. (Mrs Savrimoothoo is remaining on the governing body as a foundation governor, that is, a governor appointed through the Church and the Diocese). I will be sending out all the details regarding this at the start of next week. If you are interested in finding out more about being a parent governor please contact either me or our Chair of Governors, Mary James, through the school.

Uniform

While I said it is good to see the children looking so smart at the moment please would you ensure that all items of uniform and P.E. kit are named. We seem to acquire a huge amount of lost property each year which shouldn't really happen. I would also be very grateful if the present high standard of uniform is maintained - I don't want to see children in weird and wonderful variations of the official uniform!

Midday supervisors

We would like to appoint at least one more midday supervisor and have a few more as back up in case of absence. If you are interested in the post please contact the school office.

Charlotte's Web

Thank you to those people who have already paid for the theatre visit on 14 September. Charlotte's Web is a delightful story which I'm sure the children will enjoy. Live

theatre in school is always excellent value and £2.50 per child represents a very good deal.

School Meals

We will shortly be sending out invoices for this term's school meals. If you are in receipt of certain benefits you may be entitled to free school meals. For more information please go to the following website: www.hertsdirect.org/freeschoolmeals. Applications should be made as soon as possible as they cannot be backdated.

Sue Hampton

Last term we had a very enjoyable and informative visit from the author Sue Hampton. Her book TRACES has been nominated for The People's Book Prize and she has asked us to vote for her online at www.peoplesbookprize.com by clicking on Children's and then on the cover of her book. She is also signing copies of her books at St Albans Waterstone's this Saturday, 10 Sept. I'm sure that some of the children would love to go along and meet her again.

Learning Logs

I have mentioned in the past that the children will be starting an additional piece of homework this term known as Learning Logs. I will write a separate letter about this but I just wanted you to know that they won't start until we have been back for a few weeks.

Parking

Please do make sure that when you are dropping or collecting your children to and from school that you park considerately. We really do not want to upset our neighbours by cars being parked in such a way that makes it difficult for them to get in or out. No parents should drive into the school car park at the beginning or end of the day unless by arrangement with myself.

Swimming

Swimming starts this coming Monday for Years 6 and 5.

Roald Dahl Day

Friday 30 September has been designated as 'Roald Dahl Day'. It's an opportunity to dress up as a character from a Roald Dahl story or poem, to enjoy reading them and to help the Roald Dahl Children's Charity. We will be asking everyone to donate £1.00 which we will send off to the charity. You can find out lots more about the event at www.roalddahlcharity.org/schools. It promises to be a Dahlicious day!

Diary Dates

Monday 12 September	Swimming starts for Years 6 and 5
Wednesday 14 September	Charlotte's Web Theatre Visit
Monday 19 September	Welcome Assembly for Reception parents - 9.10am
Friday 30 September	Roald Dahl Day
Tuesday 4 October	School photographer in for individual photos
Friday 7 October	CAFOD Assembly
Wednesday 12 and 19 October	Parents Evenings
Thurs 13 October	Maths Day
Friday 14 October	Harvest Assembly
<i>Monday 24 - Fri 28 October</i>	<i>Autumn Half Term</i>
Monday 31 October	Swimming starts for Years 5 and 3
<i>Friday 25 November</i>	<i>Occasional day - school closed</i>
Tuesday 13 December	Reception, Years 1 and 2 Christmas Production
Wednesday 14 December	Years 3 and 4 Christmas Production
<i>Mon 19 Dec - Mon 2 Jan 2012</i>	<i>Christmas Holidays</i>
<i>Tuesday 3 January</i>	<i>Inset Day - school closed</i>
Monday 9 January	Swimming starts for Years 4 and 3
Monday 30 January	Reception Parents to look at Learning Journals
<i>Monday 13 - Fri 17 February</i>	<i>Spring Half Term</i>
Monday 20 February	Swimming will continue for Years 4 and 3
Wednesday 7 and 14 March	Parents Evenings
Saturday 17 March	Netball Rally Small schools
Saturday 24 March	Netball Rally Large Schools
Saturday 24 March	Swimming Gala
<i>Mon 2 April - Fri 13 Apr</i>	<i>Easter Holidays</i>
<i>Monday 16 April</i>	<i>Inset Day - school closed</i>
Monday 23 April	Swimming will continue for Years 4 and 3
<i>Monday 7 May</i>	<i>Bank Holiday</i>
<i>Monday 4 - 8 June</i>	<i>Summer Half Term</i>
Monday 11 June	Swimming will continue for Years 4 and 3
Tuesday 19 June	District Sports Field/Relay Heats
Thursday 21 June	District Sports Track
Friday 22 June	St John Fisher Day
<i>Friday 20 July</i>	<i>Term ends for children</i>
<i>Monday 23 July</i>	<i>Inset Day - school closed</i>

Yours sincerely

Charles McNerney
Head Teacher