



Tuesday, 11th April 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

As term comes to a close, I would like to thank you all for your support for your children and our school. A lot of hard work has taken place this term, and we are delighted at the progress your children are making. Visitors to our school are consistently impressed by the work they see the children doing. May I remind you again, that it is those children whose parents read with them every night, and help them learn their spellings and tables, who are excelling. **Please read every night with your child.** You will be giving them a gift which will help them for the rest of their lives. If you know of any parent who struggles with reading, we would like to help them. Please direct them to me or the Deputy Headteachers, and we will try to arrange for an adult reading group to take place in school. Confident reading is the key to success in life, and our aim is for St Kentigern's to be a reading community.

Lent Fundraising

I thank you so much for your support for our fundraisers for CAFOD. With your help, the children raised just under £2,000. This is a magnificent effort from our whole school community, including our 2 year olds, who raised £240 from a sponsored walk. St Kentigern's is a generous and caring community, and your kindness will be felt by those receiving CAFOD's vital help to feed their families and make a living.

What's on during the Easter Holidays?

The school website has a new page for the Arts. Mrs Ackerley has attached links to a number of venues which are providing activities during the Easter holidays. Z-Arts is close to our school, and always has a number of exciting events which cost little or nothing.

Maths Information Evening

We would like to invite you to a maths calculation evening. This is an opportunity for parents to discover how calculation is taught from Nursery through to Year 6. Methods of teaching Maths calculation have changed dramatically over the past 20 years, and I know, because parents have told me, that some adults struggle to understand for example use of the number line or informal methods of calculation. We hope the evening will give you more confidence in the methods used to support your child at home.

The meeting will be held on Wednesday, 3rd May. There will be two sessions; one at 3:30 pm and another at 6 pm. We look forward to seeing you then.

Attendance

100% attendees for this term have been given an Easter egg. Thank you to those parents who send their children in to school every day. It really matters, and contrary to popular thought, it is difficult for children to catch up when they miss significant amounts of school time. Our statistics consistently show that the pupils with lower attendance are doing less well than those who attend every day. Attendance at St Kentigern's is rising steadily, and this is enabling your children to achieve very high standards in all areas.

Easter Palm Crosses and Cards

Father Connolly has sent palms for all families. They have been blessed and come to you with wishes for a happy and peaceful Easter. The cards given out last week contained information about Mass times over the Easter period.

Parents' Evening

Parents' evening will take place on Thursday, 27th April. This is our first week back. Sign up sheets will be on classroom windows on Monday, 24th April. Year 6 will hold their parents' evening later in the term, when SAT results are published. Mrs Ackerley, Year 4, will be holding her parents' evening on 4th May.

I wish you all a happy and restful holiday, and look forward to seeing you all again as we begin the Summer term.

Best wishes

Barbara Harrold

Headteacher