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HEADTEACHER: Mrs P A Hartley BEd (Hons), NPQH

DEPUTY HEAD: Mrs J Hardman BSc (Hons), QTS, NPQH

July 2017 Newsletter

Believe and Achieve

To provide a fun, stimulating and excellent education which enables each child to achieve their full potential, academically, spiritually, emotionally and socially in a safe, Christian environment.

Dear Parents, Children & Friends,

We are fast approaching the end of term and this academic year.

ST. MARY'S SUPPORT GROUP NEWS:

The Support Group continues to work extremely hard in raising money for school. My sincere thanks on behalf of Governors, staff and pupils to everyone who has been involved in organising or supporting fund raising events. A special thank you to those members who will be leaving us this time Mrs Garlick , and Mrs Pollard.

150Club: Winning Numbers from the June Draw are : 9, 3, 56, 30, 66, 25

The next draw will be on Friday 21st July. This draw will include the end of term £500 draw.

STAFFING UPDATE

Congratulations to Mrs Barlow who gave birth to a baby girl earlier this term: Eloise Jane Barlow. Mother and Baby are doing really well and have already visited St. Mary's. We look forward to Mrs Barlow re-joining the teaching team in January 2018, after completing her maternity leave. Miss Fletcher will continue to work alongside Mrs Hardman in Year 2, during the Autumn Term to cover this absence.

All other staffing arrangements remain the same for the academic year 2017- 2018:

Rec - Miss Zylko

Year 1 - Mrs Ernest

Year 2 - Mrs Hardman, Mrs Barlow (Miss Fletcher - Autumn Term)

Year 3 - Mrs Fricker

Year 4 - Mrs Booth and Mrs Burke

Year 5 - Mrs Corless

Year 6 - Mr Day

SIAMS INSPECTION:

A couple of weeks ago we received notification of our SIAMS Inspection which purpose is to evaluate the distinctiveness and effectiveness of St Mary's School as a church school. We were delighted to be judged to be 'Outstanding' in all four categories of the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist schools.

The Inspector made some lovely comments during the day and many of these are captured in the final report which is attached with the newsletter and can be found on the school website.

Some of the highlights and comments made by the Inspector are:

- *I inspect lots and lots of schools but I can only think of one other school that has awed me as much as this one.*
- *The behaviour and attitudes towards learning are exceptional, I have never seen children so engaged, well behaved and motivated.*
- *The Christian ethos of the school has an outstanding impact on the achievement and attainment of pupils.*
- *The ethos group is exceptional. Pupils are confident in their faith and are a credit to school.*
- *Collect Worship is outstanding and is at the heart of all that you do. Pupils have a strong knowledge of bible stories and the Christian Values, and have a strong commitment to their belief and a strong sense of belonging.*
- *Prayer and reflection is at the heart of the school and the pupils' prayer responses are mature and the standard of an adults.*
- *RE teaching is outstanding. The impact of highly effective RE education extends far beyond subject boundaries. Pupils are able to apply an exemplary knowledge of Biblical story and Christian teaching to a wide range of everyday occurrences.*
- *Leadership and Management is outstanding. The school is exceptionally well-led by leaders whose personal faith and commitment to the pursuit of excellence and confident church school distinctiveness are tangible and profound. As a result, the impact of the school's Christian vision is observable in every aspect of school life.*
- *Governors are highly effective in holding the school to account for its distinctiveness and monitor school practice and provision rigorously.*
- *Excellent partnerships with parents, the church and the local community make a significant contribution to the success of the school.*
- *Parents are highly supportive of the school because they know that their children are supported and challenged, nurtured and loved.*
- *Partnerships with St Mary's Church are seamless and effective.*

All pupils were an absolute credit to the school, they clearly articulated their pride in their school. As a reward for an exceptional year I have organised a whole school treat on the 18th July where pupils will each have the opportunity to play Crazy Golf on their school field Fingers crossed for the sunshine. ! (Please note we are aware Year 5 Bikeability is also happening on this day but Year 5 will get the opportunity to participate !)

INVITATION TO SCHOOL EUCHARIST:

On Thursday 13th July, Father Alan and/or Father Daniel and Reverend Dorothy will lead St. Mary's School Eucharist, alongside Year 6 pupils. The Eucharist is a very special service with Year 6 leading prayers and readings, choosing the hymns and taking up the offertory. This service is open to ALL Parents, Governors and Community Members and not just to Key Stage 2 Parents. We would be delighted if you could join us. The service will start at 9:10am and last for approximately 50 - 60 minutes.

LINKS WITH ST MARY'S CHURCH:

During this term each class has visited St. Mary's Church and Father Alan has led lessons to support the pupils RE curriculum. These lessons have included a Baptism and our very own wedding in Year 3. Our sincere thanks to Father Alan for his time and support given to make these visits possible, the pupils really look forward to and learn a great deal from the visits.

St. Mary's Support Group assisted the Men's Society to run St. Mary's Parish Fun Day. It was a fabulous day and extremely well supported, thank you everyone who helped in any way and thank you to the School Band for opening the Fair superbly.

A thank you also to the Men's Society for kindly paying for the bibles which will be presented to Year 6 as they leave St. Mary's School.

WHERE IN THE WORLD PHOTOGRAPHS OF PLACES OF WORSHIP

I would like to continue to celebrate and share with pupils the different places of Worship all around the World. If you are planning a holiday this summer and visit any place of Worship, please send an image into school for us to share and display. Please remember to include your child's name, the name of the Place of Worship and where the photograph was taken. Staff are happy to copy any photographs and send the original home, alternatively you can send in a copy or e-mail an image to

office@stmaryscecrompton.oldham.sch.uk. I look forward to receiving your pictures.

YEAR 5 APPLICATION TO SECONDARY SCHOOLS:

How you apply for a place at secondary school depends on where you live. The application has to be made to the Local Authority in which you live. Please see below for further details.

Oldham Residents:

The LA have sent a letter to school addressed to parents of Year 5 pupils who reside in Oldham. **This letter informs parents that the online secondary school application will open from 1st August 2017 and will close on the 31st October 2017. You will need to complete an application using the online application system available on the Oldham Council website.**

If you don't have access to the internet, there are computers in all Oldham's libraries. You will need an email address, but these are very easy to set up and staff will be happy to help.

Some voluntary aided schools may want you to fill in a supplementary form or provide documentation in addition to the application you make to us. Supplementary forms are available from, and returned to, the relevant school.

To enable you to have a look at what is on offer; all Oldham secondary schools will be holding open evenings during the Autumn term. You will be able to access further information, a guide and links to school websites by logging onto www.oldham.gov.uk/admissions

The closing date for all applications is **5pm on 31 October 2017**. Any application received after this time will be classed as late and will not be processed until all the on time applications have been allocated a school place.

Rochdale Residents:

Parents of children who live in Rochdale should check the Rochdale council website for details of the application process and deadlines (www.rochdale.gov.uk/admissions). Alternatively you can telephone the Admissions Team on 01706 925982 for further information.

SCHOOL UNIFORM:

We are very proud of how smart pupils from St Mary's School look and this is often commented upon when we are out on visits. One of the reasons pupils look so smart is because of the compliance with the school uniform, thank you for your support in this matter. Occasionally pupils do deviate from the school agreed uniform, particularly regarding trousers, socks and shoes, therefore can I politely remind you of the school uniform ahead of purchasing any new items over the summer.

St. Mary's School uniform

- Pale blue shirt or blouse
- Grey school trousers (not canvas)** or skirt
- (blue & white cotton - usually gingham - dresses may be worn in •the summer)
- Dark grey jumper or cardigan
- Grey or white socks
- (in cold weather, grey or dark tights may also be worn)
- Navy blue & gold tie (available from school)

Both boys and girls may wear smart, grey trousers. **Black shoes should be worn in school. Trainers are not permitted.**

IN ADDITION

Please can you note the school policy on jewellery and **hair** is as follows:

Jewellery

For safety reasons, jewellery is not allowed in school, with the exception of watches. This means that earrings and studs are not allowed in school. Watches should be removed for physical education and games. **Pupils who come to school wearing earrings WILL be asked to remove them, plasters are not acceptable to cover newly pierced ears.**

Hair

All long hair needs to be tied back due to health and safety reasons. Hair should be smart and appropriate for school and should be of a natural colour. **Hairstyles, which are deemed to be extreme by the school, are not permitted.** There must be no patterns/tramlines or extreme height. As guidance, **hair should be no shorter than 3 on top and 2 on the sides.** No make-up or nail varnish is permitted.

ATTENDANCE

We are delighted to announce that 153 children have been awarded attendance badges for their high attendance during the first summer half term in 2017. Of these badges 129 were awarded to children who came to school every day during last half term. Congratulations to all 153 children and their parents for ensuring such superb attendance. Well done especially to Year 1 who were the class with the highest attendance last half term.

We want to continue encouraging our children to recognise the importance of their learning opportunities and will continue to reward excellent attendance as every lesson counts.

IMPORTANT CHANGES TO BAND and MUSIC TUITION:

All music tuition will commence from the week beginning 11th September 2017. **All Brass and Woodwind Tuition will take place on a Wednesday and Percussion on Friday.**

For those children who are in band please be aware that from September the band rehearsal will be **at 8:30am on a Wednesday morning.** Pupils should arrive for 8:20am ready to commence for 8:30am. Pupils should come into school through the Infant door and straight to the hall. There will be no band practice in the first week but will commence from Wednesday 13th September.

MUSIC FESTIVAL:

Our pupils in Choir, Band and Woodwind performed beautifully at the annual Oldham Music Festival on Friday 16th June at the Queen Elizabeth Hall. All groups received fabulous comments from the adjudicators and we were delighted to be awarded the Tindale Taylor Trophy for Outstanding Contribution to Music in Oldham, by a Primary School. A sincere congratulations to all our pupils and the dedicated Music staff: Mrs Roberts, Mr Meaden, Mrs Meaden and Mr Smith.

YEAR 6 END OF TERM PERFORMANCE:

Year 6 will be performing "Lights, Camera, Action" next week.

Dates of performances are as follows:

Monday 10th July 10:00am Performance for the School.

Tuesday 11th July 1:45pm Community Performance

Tuesday 11th July: 7:00pm Evening Performance

Thurs 13th July 7:00pm Evening Performance

Tickets are available to all parents and friends of the school from the school office.

LEAVERS' ASSEMBLY:

The Year 6 Leavers service on Friday 21st July will start at 9:30am in church, however church will be open from 9:00am where tea, coffee and biscuits will be available.

Please note there will be no usual Friday assembly in school, on this day.

ICT:

Please remember to look at our school website - newsletters from school and your class are posted onto the site for your reference. Pictures of recent events are also uploaded. Remember you can also follow us on twitter: www.twitter.com/stmarysce. Twitter has a direct feed to our website on the right hand side of the home page and important messages and updates can be found here.

RETURN TO SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER:

May I take this opportunity to remind parents that **school will re-open on Tuesday 5th September for pupils.**

Thank you for your continued support and co-operation. Can I take this opportunity to wish you all a restful and enjoyable holiday !

Kind regards,

P.A Hartley

Headteacher

