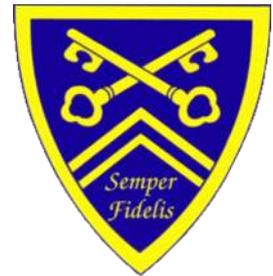


HAGLEY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2017



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- 2nd February - Year 7 Parents Evening
- 3rd February - MUFTI Day & Lourdes Quiz Night 7pm
- 9th February - Dance Trip to Birmingham Hippodrome
- 9th February - Year 12 Parents Evening
- 16th February - Pyramid Concert
- 1st March - Ash Wednesday
- 2nd March - Year 9 Options Evening
- 16th March - Year 9 Parents Evening
- 17th March - MUFTI Day
- 23rd March - Dance Trip to Birmingham Hippodrome
- 30th March - Year 8 Parents Evening

Dear Parents/Carers

At the end of the first month of the Spring Term I would like to share with you some of the opportunities our pupils have been fortunate enough to have experienced so far. On Friday 6th January the first of this years ski trips departed with many pupils enjoying the snowy slopes of Austria. I am sure you would like me to thank all those members of staff who gave up their free time in order to offer our pupils this wonderful experience.

Also over the first weekend of this term a group of 71 Year 7 pupils took part in the annual residential retreat to Alton Castle in Staffordshire with the RE department. This was a very enjoyable trip and the pupils, as always, were a credit to the school. I would again like to take this opportunity to thank all our staff who accompanied our pupils on this trip.

On Thursday 19th January we hosted the Rotary Club of Stourbridge 'Youth Speaks' Public Speaking Competition. Two teams represented the school, the intermediate team giving a talk on "the correct punishment of child offenders" and the senior team talked about the effects on mental health of bullying. Both teams were a credit to the school. Thank you to Mr O'Brien for organising this event and to all the staff who supported the pupils in preparing for this competition.

Mr Trickett and a group of Year 9 pupils represented the school at the annual Holocaust Memorial Day Service in Bromsgrove.

Last week we marked the Feast Day of our Patron Saint, Nicholas Owen with every form group taking part in a prayer service. I was very grateful to Father Des Devenney for celebrating Mass with for the Sixth Form.

Looking ahead, on Thursday 16th February, the Hagley Pyramid Concert will take place at Birmingham Town Hall. I would like to extend a warm welcome to all parents, pupils and extended families to join us. This

years concert will focus on "A Night at the Movies", pupils will be singing some great songs including The Eye of the Tiger and Ghostbusters. Tickets are on sale from Mrs Aston in the Music Department.

With a number of our Parents Consultation Evenings approaching I would like to thank parents for their attendance at these events. I would also like to thank those who have filled in our Parental Questionnaires, issued at the Consultation Evenings. The results of these questionnaires are carefully analysed and any issues raised are used to form the basis of our School Development Plan for the coming year. We can only realise all the pupils' full potential if we work together in true partnership. These questionnaires do provide us with one such opportunity to do so.

The Spring Term always requires the school to start thinking about the next academic year. In preparation for this we will be continuing with our Sixth Form application procedures by interviewing all of the students to ensure that they have the most realistic plans for September. We will also be starting the Year 9 into 10 programme immediately after half term with two important evening meetings on Thursday 2nd March (Options Evening) and on Thursday 16th March (Parents Consultation Evening).

You may recall in previous newsletters that we provided information on how to obtain free school meals; can I please urge anyone who thinks they may be entitled to this service to contact the school to obtain an application form or follow the link on school website for more information. The school also benefits financially from this service.

I would like to advise you of an alteration to our school calendar, we have changed the date of our annual Presentation Evening to Wednesday 5th April.



T Hammond
Headteacher



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Adverse Weather School Day Arrangements

During periods of poor weather and other exceptional occasions it may be necessary to operate an amended school day.

On all such occasions the start of the school day will be at 9.00am as usual. All pupils should travel as normal and when they arrive in school go directly to their form rooms and not wait outside in the cold. We do expect pupils to wear normal school uniform but we would encourage them to wear sensible footwear appropriate for the weather even if not part of the uniform code.

To assist with the return journey, we do plan to change the school day so that we can finish at 14:55pm. During extreme weather the structure of the school day will be:

9:00 to 9:10	Registration
9:10 to 10:25	Lesson 1
10:25 to 10:40	Shortened break
10:40 to 11:55	Lesson 2
11:55 to 12:25	Shortened lunch break
12:25 to 12:30	Registration
12:30 to 13:45	Lesson 3
13:45 to 14:55	Lesson 4

This will allow the pupils to catch the 15:03pm service to Kidderminster or the 15:03pm service to Stourbridge.

Thank you for your continued support.

Communication With Parents/Carers

Contact Information

From September 2016, we have been making much greater use of electronic communication between the school and parents, it is therefore imperative that the contact details we hold for all parents/carers are kept fully up to date, including mobile number(s) and email addresses.

If you have changed your email address or mobile recently, or think that we might not have your correct details, please send in a letter to Mrs Millard with the correct information.

If you do not have an email address, please inform us and we will make sure that important information reaches you by alternative methods.

Mr Jones Network Manager

School Fund Contribution 2016/17 Reminder

The School Fund is an independent fund collected and administered by the school. It exists because state funding is targeted and many rules, regulations and laws determine what it can and cannot be spent on.

The Fund is therefore of vital importance, not only for the smooth running of the school but also for the many little things that make school a nicer place to be. Let me give you a few examples:

Insurance for school trips and outside visits: By law this has to be collected from parents and cannot be paid for out of statutory funding. In the bad old days letters would have been sent out for each trip and money collected and banked. Lots of admin and lots of teacher time spent chasing sums as low as 16p! Some trips such as evening sports fixtures were not covered. Now we make a one off payment from this fund and it covers all pupils for any trip.

A nicer place to be: Imagine a school without flowers or pictures in the foyer and chapel; a place that cannot offer rewards and support to pupils or give hospitality to parents and visiting pupils; a school that has few sporting fixtures etc.

This year's sum (per year per family) is £20. A general exemption applies to parents who contribute to the Trust Fund via regular gift aid donations. *Do not hesitate to contact us on 01562 883193 if you would like to know more about giving regular donations under the gift aid scheme.*

Thank you to everyone who has already contributed to the School Fund. If you have not paid your contribution we would be grateful if you could do so as soon as possible.

For further information please see the school website and ensure that you complete the slip and return it to the school reception (in a sealed envelope marked for the attention of (Mrs D McBride) as soon as possible. Online payments or cheques made payable to St Nicholas Owen Catholic Multi Academy or SNOCMAC for short are preferred.

Thank you in anticipation of your co-operation and support.

Many lost items are brought to Reception or reported missing, often quite expensive to replace. Whilst we endeavour to find and return them, it is not always possible to do so. Could parents please ensure that as many of your child's belongings as possible are fully named. This would include coats, scarves, gloves, trainers, pencil cases, spectacle cases, purses, mobile phone cases etc. This will help us enormously in this onerous task!

Thankyou.

Reception

Cashless Catering System

We are pleased to announce that in the Summer Term the School will introduce a cashless catering system that incorporates the latest technology, and eliminates the need for students to carry cash throughout the day. This system will allow us to continue with the development of the school meal service and provide a more efficient, faster, and ultimately better quality of service.

Amongst the advantages of the system are:

- increased speed of service, reducing queuing times
- students learn about the importance of lifestyle control by monitoring their own account and budgeting each week within their allowance
- alleviates many of the associated problems with the use of cash in schools, such as loss
- students are unable to spend money without the parent's knowledge on anything other than school meal items
- anonymity for children claiming Free School Meals

Timescales are still being finalised and we will write to you all again once the actual implementation date has been finalised. We will also produce a set of FAQ's based on the experience of other schools that should address any questions that you might have.

SIMS Learning Gateway - Parents of Year 7

We are in the process of rolling out a new secure online service called SIMS Learning Gateway (SLG) which will enable you to access key information about your son/daughter. We believe that using SLG will improve the way we share information with you and help you engage in your son/daughters education. Once you have received your login details you will be able to access the following information:

- attendance
- homework
- reports
- contact details

At the Parents Consultation Evening on Thursday 2nd February, we will be able to issue your login details to the SIMS Learning Gateway. To collect your logins, please bring provide photo identification for example driver's license or passport.

Mr D Brown

Hagley Pyramid of Schools

Presents

A Night at the Movies

Birmingham Town Hall

Thursday 16th February 2017

Once again the Pyramid concert is upon us.

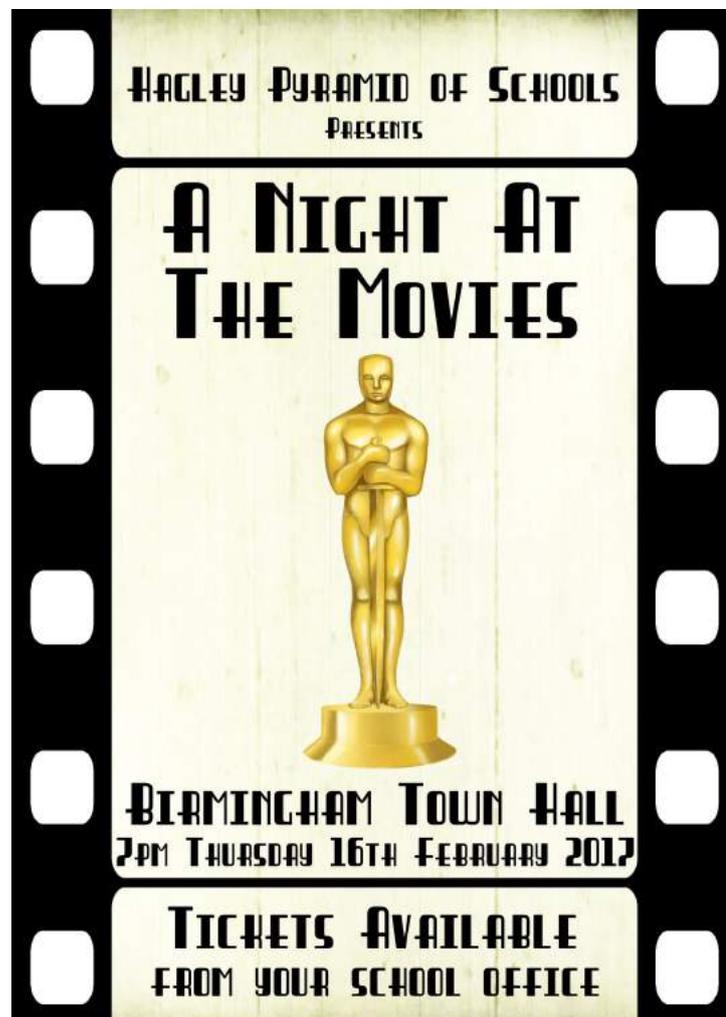
Mr Mallinson and the music team have been working very hard since September teaching the songs and techniques to all the Primary children across the 8 schools.

This year's event raises the bar again and you are in for a spectacular evening of music and fun in the Birmingham Town Hall. The event starts at 7pm and will be over by 8.45pm.

The songs are ready, the children are ready, the bands are ready BUT are you!!!!

Get your tickets quick, as the event is almost sold out.

Tickets only £10

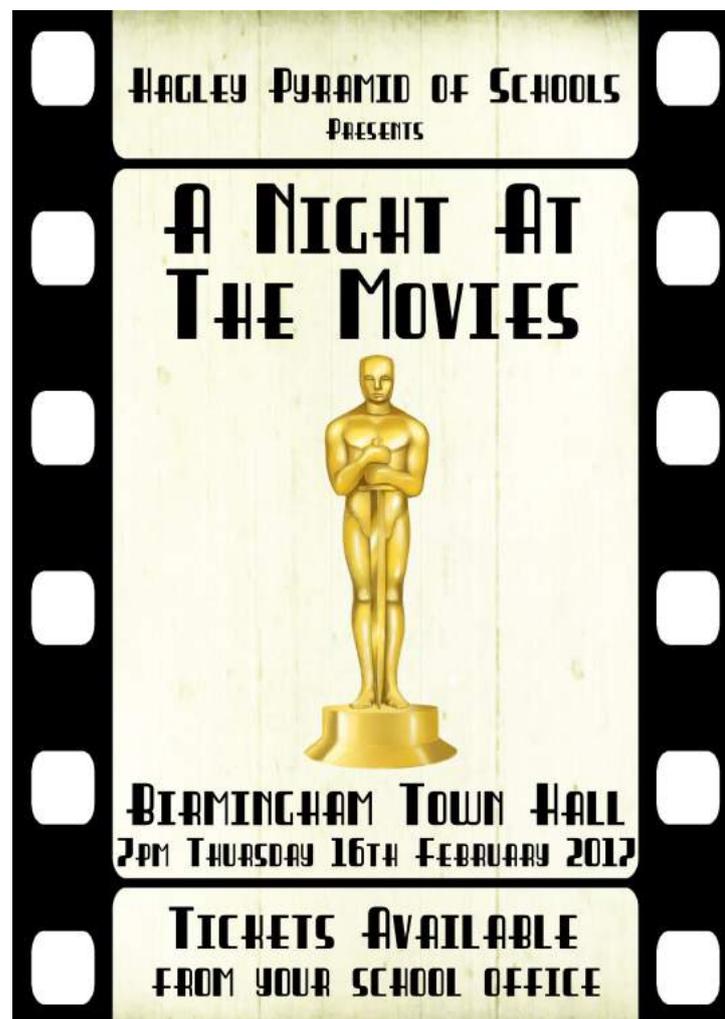


Hagley Pyramid of Schools

Although this year's event hasn't happened yet, I am planning the event for February 2018. It costs over £10,000 to put this show on and I am looking for sponsorship. If you have a connection to a business or an organisation that might be willing to help out financially towards this event, please get in touch ASAP.

The concert impacts on all aspects of the children's education and the experience of taking part will stay with them forever. Help us continue this opportunity for another 300 excited pupils next year.

Please contact Mr Mallinson if you are able to support this event.



Physical Education Department

Extracurricular Timetable (November 2016 – February 2017)

Lunchtime Sports Clubs					
	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Monday	Girls Netball (Courts - VRA/MDE)			Girls Basketball (Sports hall - WB)	Girls Basketball (Sports hall – WB)
Tuesday	Table-tennis club (Gym – AHI)	Table-tennis club (Gym - AHI) Girls Netball (Courts - VRA/MDE)	Table-tennis club (Gym – AHI) Girls Netball (Courts - VRA/MDE)	Boys Basketball Club (Sports hall – MBE)	Boys Basketball Club (Sports hall – MBE)
Wednesday		Girls Basketball (Sports hall - MDE)	Girls Basketball (Sports hall – MDE)	Table-tennis club (Gym - MBE)	Table-tennis club (Gym – MBE)
Thursday		Boys Basketball Club (Gym – RCA)	Boys Basketball Club (Gym – RCA)	Volleyball Club (Sports hall – SRI)	Volleyball Club (Sports hall - SRI)
Friday	Girls Danish Longball (Gym - VRA)	Girls Danish Longball (Gym - VRA) Girls Football (Sports hall—MCA)	Girls Danish Longball (Gym - VRA) Girls Football (Sports hall - MCA)	Girls Danish Longball (Gym - RA) Girls Football (Sports hall - MCA)	Girls Football (Sports hall—MCA)

Afterschool Sports Clubs & Teams					
	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Monday				Girls Basketball Match (Sports hall - WB)	Girls Basketball Match (Sports hall - WB)
Tuesday	Trampolining Club (VRA)	Trampolining Club (VRA) Girls Football Match (MCA)	Trampolining Club (VRA) Girls Football Match (MCA)	Trampolining Club (VRA) Boys Basketball Match (Sports hall - MBE)	Trampolining Club (VRA) Boys Basketball Match (Sports hall - MBE)
Wednesday	Volleyball Club (Sports hall – SRI)	Volleyball Club (Sports hall – SRI) Girls Basketball Match (Gym - MDE)	Volleyball Club (Sports hall – SRI) Girls Basketball Match (Gym - MDE)	Volleyball Club (Sports hall – SRI)	Volleyball Club (Sports hall – SRI)
Thursday		Boys Basketball Match (Gym – RCA)	Boys Basketball Match (Gym – RCA)	Girls Football Match (MCA) Badminton Club (Sports hall - SRI)	Girls Football Match (MCA) Badminton Club (Sports hall - SRI)
Friday				Table-tennis club (Gym – MCA)	Table-tennis club (Gym – MCA)

Please note. Team sheets (including details of venue, return times etc.) will be completed for all sports fixtures and events. These will be displayed on the notice boards in the PE department. **Clubs timetabled in the gym will not take place during the mock exam periods. All students are welcome to attend the extra curricular clubs. Please encourage your son or daughter to come along and have a go at what might be a new sport to them. A healthy body = a healthy mind.**



TERM DATES

ACADEMIC YEAR 2016/2017

Autumn Term 2016

Term Starts - Training Day – Staff Only	Thursday 1st September 2016
Training Day - Staff Only	Friday 2nd September 2016
All Staff and Sixth Form Only	Monday 5th September 2016
All Staff and All Pupils	Tuesday 6th September 2016
Training Day - Staff Only	Friday 14th October 2016
Half Term	Monday 24th October 2016 to Friday 28th October 2016
Term Ends	Friday 16th December 2016 (School will close early for pupils at 2.20pm)

Spring Term 2017

Term Starts	Tuesday 3rd January 2017
Training Day - Staff Only	Friday 17th February 2017
Half Term	Monday 20th February 2017 to Friday 24th February 2017
Term Ends	Friday 7th April 2017

Summer Term 2017

Term Starts	Monday 24th April 2017
Half Term	Monday 29th May 2017 to Friday 2nd June 2017
Term Ends	Thursday 20th July 2017

Bank Holidays

Transferred from New Year's Day	Monday 2nd January 2017
Good Friday	Friday 14th April 2017
Easter Monday	Monday 17th April 2017
May Day	Monday 1st May 2017
Whitsun Bank Holiday	Monday 29th May 2017



TERM DATES

ACADEMIC YEAR 2017/2018 - PROPOSED DATES

Autumn Term 2017

Term Starts - Training Day – Staff Only	Monday 4th September 2017
All Staff and Sixth Form Only	Tuesday 5th September 2017
Training Day - Staff Only	Wednesday 6th September 2017
All Staff and All Pupils	Thursday 7th September 2017
Training Day - Staff Only	Friday 13th October 2017
Half Term	Monday 23rd October 2017 to Friday 27th October 2017
Term Ends	Tuesday 19th December 2017
Training Day	Wednesday 20th December 2017

Spring Term 2018

Term Starts – Training Day	Tuesday 2nd January 2018
Half Term	Monday 19th February 2018 to Friday 23rd February 2018
Term Ends	Thursday 29th March 2018

Summer Term 2018

Term Starts	Monday 16th April 2018
Half Term	Monday 28th May 2018 to Friday 1st June 2018
Term Ends	Friday 20th July 2018

Bank Holidays

Good Friday	Friday 30th March 2018
Easter Monday	Monday 2nd April 2018
May Day	Monday 7th May 2018
Spring Bank Holiday	Monday 28th May 2018