

# Newsletter



Saint Nicholas Owen  
Catholic Multi-Academy Company



*As a Catholic school, St Wulstan's seeks to enable each child to walk in faith with Christ, loving Him and each other. With the help of our families, our parish and our local community, we will do our best to use the gifts that God has given us to make our world a richer place.*

Dear Parents

22 September 2017

This afternoon we welcome back Year 6 who have been on their residential retreat to Alton Castle where, as well as taking part in some challenging and adventurous activities, they have had the opportunity to learn more about their faith. They have been in regular contact with us and it would appear they have had a fabulous few days. We hope to share some of their experiences with you next week. With our Year 6 at Alton Castle were the Year 6 children of Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Primary School, Harborne, who are part of our Multi Academy Company. This enabled our children to meet and make friends with some of the children they will be with when they all transfer to Hagley for Year 7. My thanks to the children for their excellent behavior and attitude while representing our school. My gratitude to Mrs Warnett, Mrs Edwards, Mrs Mound and Mrs Jones for accompanying the children, enabling them to gain so much from this experience.

On Monday we welcomed Mollie Hughes who, as I mentioned, has scaled Everest twice. Mollie began the morning speaking to the whole school about her experiences, showing the children the equipment she used and explaining the demands of such an expedition. We watched what can only be described as terrifying clips of film taken from her helmet camera as she crossed bottomless crevasses and scaled vertical rock faces. To see the vast expanse below her, hear the wind and her breathlessness as she overcame her fear was so inspirational. The children were awestruck, as were the staff. Mollie spoke passionately about what motivated her, her need to control her fears, the self-belief required to succeed, mental strength and the power of team work. The message she gave applied to everyone in the room but was truly motivational and inspirational for the children. Her message that they can carry with them through their lives, was that they can truly do anything if they have those beliefs. It was a very special visit.

We are always pleased to hear of present and past pupils' achievements and successes. This weekend, Mia, Year 3, and her family will be on a sponsored walk this weekend to raise money for Alzheimer and Dementia research. We wish them well raising money for such a vital charity. We have also heard this week that two of last year's Year 6 have been selected to play for the Worcestershire County Netball Team. Congratulations to Jessica Macaulay and Gracie Bannister who were selected from over sixty girls. We always enjoy hearing of our children's hobbies and successes; please always feel free to contact school to share such news.

Applications for Reception Class 2018 must be completed online [www.worcestershire.gov.uk](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk) by 15 January 2018. As I have said before there can be a misconception that only Catholic children can apply to our school. We welcome applications from all families of all or no faith.

If you know of any families who are looking for a Reception Class place for September 2018, please encourage them to contact me and arrange a visit to the school. Similarly there are some places available in some other year groups. If you know of any parent who is interested in such a place for their child please encourage them to contact me.

Hagley Catholic High School will be holding their annual Open Day on Saturday 14 October from 9.00am to 12.00pm. If you have a child in Key Stage 2, it is never too early to start thinking about High Schools. The vast majority of our children transfer to Hagley at the end of Year 6 so do take this opportunity to take a look at the school. Our Year 6 children have now received their high school transfer forms. If you have any queries regarding transfer please do not hesitate to speak to us.

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Principal  
Mrs KE Savage

Attached to this Newsletter is the new menu for School Meals, please retain it for your perusal. A gentle reminder that **all lunch orders** (Universal Free School Meals, Free School Meals etc) must be handed into the School Office on a Monday **morning only**, together with full payment if applicable.

A reminder that on October 3 we will be holding a Year 6 Information Evening at school. At this meeting Mrs Warnett will explain the aims and expectations for our Year 6 children, SATs assessment, preparation for high school, attendance etc and how through school and family we can support our children as they move onto the next stage of their lives. I am delighted to say Mrs S Horan, Principal of Hagley Catholic High School will join us for this meeting. Mrs Horan will give a short presentation on Hagley Catholic High School and answer any questions you may have. Thank you.

As we are now settled into the term we have a few diary dates.

Next Friday 29 September 2017, we will be holding a 'Tea and Cake' afternoon in the School Hall at 2.30pm. Staff will be providing the cakes and all monies donated will go to Macmillan. Please come and join us in the school hall and enjoy being waited on by our Year 6 pupils! I especially welcome our new Reception Class parents as it is a lovely opportunity to sit and chat in a relaxed atmosphere. Please support us in this worthy cause.

On Friday 6 October we will be holding our annual Harvest Mass in school at 9.15am – please join us if you can. As usual our harvest gifts will be sold and the proceeds donated to the Father Sunny Trust – a charity supported by both school and parish. We would be very grateful for any food items that can be donated for this on the Friday morning. Thank you.

On Monday 16 October the Friends of St Wulstan's/PTA will be holding their Annual General Meeting in the Brinton Arms at 7pm. The Friends had a very successful year last year and worked very hard, but are very keen to listen to all new ideas and welcome all new parents whether they are new to the school or have just not been to Friends' meetings before. For those parents who are new to the school the Friends' meetings are a good way to get to know other parents and to socialise whilst supporting the school. There is no pressure to take a leading role so please do come along – the more people who get involved the better!

Unfortunately already, we have had a number of children who have lost jumpers over the last few weeks and a number of un-named jumpers in lost property. Could all parents please check that their child's jumper has a name clearly marked in it and also that they have not accidentally brought home another child's jumper. Thank you for your help with this – we have a number of parents who are understandably frustrated that their child's named clothing is missing and we really do need to reunite children with their correct clothes!

Thank you to all the parents who have spoken to me regarding the parking and in support of the letter I sent home this week. I ask you to continue to park and drive with caution and consideration. My thanks again to all parents and carers who do so daily.

**URGENT APPEAL - One of our new Reception Class parents, who lives in Millgate Close, Stourport, is without transport for a couple of weeks, if you can help with this matter please call to the School Office. Thank you.**

If you have any queries or concerns regarding your child's academic, social or emotional needs please do not hesitate to contact me or their class teacher. Many thanks for your continued support and enjoy what I believe are the last few days of summer weather!

K E Savage (Mrs)  
Principal

<i>Dates and times for the week ahead</i>	
<b>Monday 25 September</b>	Harriers Football Club 3.40 - 4.40pm
<b>Friday 22 September</b>	Macmillan 'Tea and Cake' afternoon 2.30pm in the school hall
<b>Tuesday 3 October</b>	Year 6 Information Evening - Mrs Warnett and Mrs Horan
<b>Friday 6 October</b>	Harvest Mass in School Hall at 9.15am
<b>Sunday 8 October</b>	School Mass in St Wulstan's Church 10.00am
<b>Saturday 14 October</b>	Hagley Open Day
<b>Monday 16 October</b>	PTA AGM - The Brinton Arms 7.00pm
<b>Friday 20 October</b>	End of half term



*Mollie Hughes with our Year 5 adventurers and our younger explorers!*



