



The Good Shepherd Catholic Primary Academy

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Diary Dates

Headteacher Newsletter 1, 8th September 2021

September

13 th	Roald Dahl Day – come dressed as your favourite character (Years 1 to 6 only)
16 th	The Briars Team in to work with Year 6
16 th	Year 3 trip to Creswell Craggs
17 th	PTA coffee morning for new parents – 9am
17 th	Celebration Assembly for Key Stage 1 – 2.45pm
22 nd	Year 5 to Safety Zone – Holme Pierrepont
23 rd	Irish Dancing starts – further information to be sent via MyEd
24 th	Celebration Assembly for Key Stage 2 – 2.45pm
24 th	PTA Cake Sale – after school
28 th	Year 1 to Arnot Hill Park – more information to follow
30 th	Year 4 Egyptian Day – more information to follow

October

1 st	Celebration Assembly for Key Stage 1 – 2.45pm
5 th	PTA Meeting – 7.30pm in school – all welcome
5 th	Parents' Evening – Mrs Dickinson's class, Year 1 and Year 2
6 th	Parents' Evening – Nursery, Mrs Whittle's class and Years 3 to 6
8 th	Mental Health Day – wear something yellow – more information to follow
8 th	Celebration Assembly for Key Stage 2 – 2.45pm
15 th	Celebration Assembly for Key Stage 1 – 2.45pm
15 th	Last day of the half term – return to school on Monday 1 st November

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome to you all and I hope you have had a lovely summer break.

I am very excited to join the Good Shepherd community as your Headteacher and would like to thank you for making me feel so welcome over the past few days. The children here are simply fantastic! They are warm and engaging with such a thirst for learning – it really is a privilege to be a part of their education journey.



I thought you might be interested to hear a little about me and my vision for the Good Shepherd Academy. Prior to starting here, I was Headteacher at Our Lady of Perpetual Succour in Bulwell for eight years and, for two of these, I was also Executive Headteacher at St Mary's, Hyson Green. As a child I attended St Margaret Clitherow in Bestwood Park and also our feeder secondary, Christ the King. I am passionate about Catholic Education and as a servant leader, I am here for all in this community. I absolutely love my job and my aim is to make The Good Shepherd School the very best it can be through an innovative and ambitious curriculum that prepares the children well for the future.

I am really keen to get to know you all, so please do stop and introduce yourselves so I can begin to put names to faces! Also, we are excited to be able to welcome you back to our celebration assemblies which, this year, will take place on Friday afternoons. The PTA have kindly offered to serve tea and coffee from 2pm, so please join us for a cuppa if you can.

Yours in partnership,

Celine Toner

Meet the Teacher

For all classes, excluding Nursery and Reception, we have decided to hold our usual 'Meet the Teacher' sessions a little differently this year. An information pack about your child's class will be printed and sent home with the children on Wednesday 15th September. Following this, all teachers will be available to meet you via an informal drop-in session (dates below). This will give you an opportunity to pop into your child's class, meet the teacher and ask any questions – any time between 3.30 and 4.30pm.

For parents of our new children in Nursery and Reception, you are invited to a 'Getting to know you' evening on Tuesday 21st September: Nursery from 4.15 – 4.45pm and Reception from 5-6pm.

Class	Date	Teachers
Year 1	Monday 20 th September	Miss Sweeney & Miss Clarke
Year 2	Monday 20 th September	Mrs Powell & Miss Whitaker
Year 3	Monday 20 th September	Mrs McGee/Mrs Ryan & Miss Plummer
Year 4	Tuesday 21 st September	Mrs Dougal & Miss Tomycz
Year 5	Tuesday 21 st September	Mrs Moore & Miss Shaw
Year 6	Thursday 23 rd September	Ms Leonard/Miss Smallwood/Mr Barfield

Welcome to all our new children and their families

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all the new children and their families into our Nursery and Reception classes. Also to Klara, Santino and Selikem who join us in classes 2, 3 and 4 respectively. I am sure they will all be very happy here at Good Shepherd, and I look forward to watching them flourish over the coming years.

New staff

I would like to formally welcome all the new staff who have joined us this term: Miss Smallwood (Deputy Headteacher) Mrs Dickson (Nursery Teacher), Mrs Knowles (Nursery TA), Miss Forde (Reception TA), Miss Clarke (Year 1 Teacher), Miss Whitaker (Year 2 Teacher), Mrs Powell (Year 2 Teacher), Miss Junaid (Apprentice TA) and Miss Gibbons (Student Teacher in Year 4).

Drop off and pick up arrangements

This seems to be running more smoothly now after some initial teething problems. Please note that from today (8th September), **only** children who are with childminders should wait to be collected via the trim trail. Siblings of Reception and Year 1 children can be collected from their classrooms. In order to alleviate congestion, we advise Reception and Year 1 parents to leave by the bottom gate. Year 6 children will be dismissed from the grassed area.

Communication

Please see the attached letter regarding the types of communication you can expect to receive from school, how this will be received and the frequency. If you need to contact a teacher/member of staff in school, please use the office email as teachers do not access to their emails during the school day. Teachers are available for a short time at the end of each day should you have any quick queries. Many thanks. office@goodshepherd.notts.sch.uk

Covid - 19 isolation

As you know isolation rules have changed recently, which means that children only need to isolate from school if they test positive for covid. Whilst they can attend school as normal if a member of the household tests positive, we would advise that your child has a lateral flow/PCR test just in case they are asymptomatic.

Midday Supervisors – urgently required

We urgently require a midday supervisor to start as soon as possible. Working hours are 11.55am – 1.20pm. If you would like to apply or want to have a chat about the role, please contact Mrs della Spina in the school office.