

COLLATON ST MARY C OF E (AIDED) PRIMARY SCHOOL

Blagdon Road,
Paignton,
Devon,
TQ3 3YA
01803 556433



Headteacher: Mrs Penny Millington

MISSION STATEMENT

We are challenged to....

- See God in everyone
- Experience the Christian way of life together
- Be the best learners we can be

NEWSLETTER 1 School Year 2008/2009

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new school year. I hope you all enjoyed the summer break with your children, despite the disappointing weather. For those who managed to escape to warmer climes, you certainly missed nothing here!

I am pleased to be writing my first newsletter to you after my first week as headteacher of this delightful school. The school community is very well served by a highly professional and committed staff team and supported by an informed and dedicated governing body. I feel very privileged to be working in partnership with them all. I am very much enjoying getting to know your children and helping them understand my expectations for them. I am gradually meeting some of you and next week, I hope to introduce myself to more of you at the Meet the Teacher sessions.

Welcome Celebrations!

To recognise the beginning of a new era at Collaton-St-Mary, the parish and diocese are organising a Commissioning Service for me. It is intended that this will be combined with the Welcome Service for the new children who have joined Mrs Willcock's class to which, the parents of that class, are cordially invited. We plan to hold this in the school hall on **Wednesday 1st October at 2:30 pm.**

Year Six and Secondary Selection

I know that parents will have been busily visiting a range of secondary schools in the area to help choose the one that offers the provision that they would most like for their child. However, for Year Six parents who are considering a selective school for their child, who may still feel unsure about whether the 11+ is appropriate for him/her, I am happy to meet with you to contribute to your decision making. I have set aside two after school sessions: **Tuesday 7th October 3:15 - 4:15** and **Wednesday 8th October 3:15 - 4:15.** Please contact the office by **Friday 3rd October** if you would like to arrange an appointment.

Remember, the closing date for applications is **Friday 24th October, 2008.** Please visit the LA website for further information - www.torbay.gov.uk and click on the Secondary Schools link.

Year Reception Admissions for September, 2009

Children who will have their 5th Birthday between 1st September 2009 and 31st August 2010 may commence schooling in September 2009. The deadline to apply for a place is **Friday 10th October, 2008**. Even if you have a child already attending the school you ***must*** apply for a place for any other siblings who become eligible to commence full time education in a primary school.

Please visit the LA website for further information - www.torbay.gov.uk and click on the Primary School link.

School Meals

Helping your child to develop healthy eating habits is one of our key priorities and we are fortunate to be able to provide a delicious, nutritionally balanced mid-day meal for the children in our care. These represent excellent value at £1.95 using organic and locally sourced produce. In order to avoid a price rise (given that inflation on basic food products is relatively high) we need as many children as possible taking advantage of this provision. If your child hasn't tried our meals yet why not order now? You can order meals for any number of days in the week and be reassured that your child has had something to eat at mid-day that will certainly set them up well for the rest of the day.

We will be sending out some leaflets entitled 'Our School Food' providing information about our school meal services. There will also be a questionnaire enclosed. Please take the time to complete and return this as we would very much welcome feedback from parents and children.

Are you entitled to free School Meals?

If you think you may be entitled to receive free school meals (even if you do not wish to take them up) please pick up and complete a form from the leaflet holders in the main entrance foyer or ring our school office and we can arrange to send a form home to you with your child, in an envelope. This could enable additional funding for our school. All information will be treated with the utmost confidence.

Yours sincerely

Penny Millington
Headteacher

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Autumn Term 2008

15/09/08	Year R begin full time.
22/09/08	Years 5/6 Osmington Bay Residential for one week
01/10/08	2.30pm Welcome Service in School Hall for new intake and Headteacher
08/10/08	2.15pm Harvest Festival in School Hall
13/10/08	School Photographs being taken
Half term:	Monday 20th October to Friday 31st October (inclusive)
04/11/08	Parents Evenings 6.00 to 9.00pm
06/11/08	Parents Evenings 3.30 to 6.00pm
10/11/08	PTFA AGM
05/12/08	Christmas Fayre
18/12/08	End of term
05/01/09	School returns for the start of Spring Term