

St Thomas Garnet's Gazette

ISSUE 41

SPRING TERM 2008

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PTA Chairperson's Report

Dear Parents and Friends

We have packed as much as we can into this short, but busy and fun term. With the Christmas celebrations behind us, we have had a term of planning for the summer events and enjoyed the run-up to Easter and Spring fundraising.

We have also been spending! We doubled our donations to the class teachers to purchase extra DVDs and other resource materials. Our biggest improvement this term has been the opportunity to really smarten up our sports kits and equipment. The PTA would like to sincerely thank our sponsors Richard Godsell Estate Agents and local law firm D'Angibau Wilmot for helping to make this happen. We are about to purchase new chess clocks for the Chess Club to help them practise in a proper competition environment. Also, look out in the playground for our all-weather notice board. We hope to keep you better informed of dates, times and events this way.

The PTA works closely with our Headmistress Mrs. Cutler in how we allocate the monies we raise and, as such, your views and thoughts are very important. Please do share these with either myself or Mrs. Cutler so we can take action.

The 'Steps' campaign has again had a busy term and I hope you enjoy reading the latest antics in this issue. However, we know that long term fundraising can sometimes take a back seat, but, with our goal within our grasp, we can achieve this within the time frame.

May I, on behalf of all parents and teachers thank Kris Padwick so very much. Kris has been our Treasurer for the past three years and in her own words is ready now to 'Sizzle some sausages instead of counting the money!' Kris will continue to serve on the Committee alongside the new Acting Treasurer Simon Palmer. Thank you Simon for taking over.

Last but by no means least, my very grateful thanks to the wonderful PTA members, Class Reps, Teachers and all of you who turn up to help at events. I know that you all lead busy lives, and the time you give up to School activities is appreciated.

Have a very happy Easter

Julie Mc Call

Wizard of Oz

The last week before the Christmas holiday break was very exciting as Transition and all the Junior classes went to see the 'Wizard of Oz' at the Mayflower Theatre in Southampton. We had two coaches and we were all looking forward to the trip (and an afternoon out of school!). The journey there seemed very long but when we got there and went inside the building we were amazed by the size of the theatre and the way it looked. There were lots of other schools there as well, but our teachers quickly found our seats and we waited for the performance to begin. The story is well known, and we enjoyed watching Dorothy and her new friends the Scarecrow, Tin Man and the Cowardly Lion take the Yellow Brick Road to Oz to meet the Wizard who could send Dorothy home. Dorothy's adventure whilst she travelled and kept her ruby slippers from the Wicked Witch of the West was very extraordinary and exciting and we all enjoyed the singing they did on their journey. I especially liked Dorothy - she had a really lovely voice when she sang 'Somewhere over the Rainbow'. I also liked the lion character, although all the others were brilliant too. We all had a great time - so thank you to the teachers and parent helpers who made the whole thing possible!

Amelia Wood-Power J3

Dates for your Diary-Summer Term 2008

April.

MONDAY 14TH: RETURN TO SCHOOL

Tuesday 22nd : PTA meeting in the Staff Room at 2pm.

May.

Monday 12th-16th SATS for Juniors.

Sunday 18th : Musical Mania-St. Peter's School

Monday 19th: Class photographs.

HALF TERM : 26TH-30TH MAY

(Return to school 2nd May)

June.

Wednesday 4th : Whole school photograph.

Monday 9th-13th : Drama week.

(Transition & Juniors)

Wed 18th & Thurs 19th : Drama Presentation in School Hall 7pm .

Monday 23rd: St. Thomas Garnet's Feast Day 400th Anniversary.

Friday 20th June : Summer Fete 3-5pm

Friday 27th June : STG Summer Ball

Monday 30th: Sports Day 9.30am Infants, 11am Juniors.

July.

Tuesday 1st : Reserve Sports Day if wet on 30th June

Wednesday 2nd : Transfer Day and Reception visit for the afternoon.

Thursday 3rd : Parents Open Afternoon 1.15-3.15pm.

Friday 4th : School Outing Day

Wednesday 9th : Prize Giving Evening 7pm School Hall.

Thursday 10th : Junior 4 Leavers Mass at Corpus Christi Church at 10am.

Friday 11th : Junior 4 Leavers Assembly 9.15am School Hall.

End of term : Friday 11th July at 2.30pm.

September.

THURSDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER 2008 : RETURN TO SCHOOL

Infant Christmas Party



*Photos from the
Infant Party*

*The tables,
Mr. Merlin, the
children and staff
all enjoying the
entertainment!*



As is tradition at St Thomas Garnet's, the Infants enjoyed a Christmas Party with food and entertainment organized and provided by the PTA committee and parent helpers. This year, the children enjoyed pizza, salad and garlic bread, followed by ice lollies for dessert. They all wore the party hats they had made in class and after playtime returned to be entertained by Mr. Merlin and his 'pet' dragon, who was very naughty indeed but made all the children laugh at his antics! Some children even had the opportunity to assist in some magic and there were the balloon sculptures too. There were lots of smiles, laughter and fun throughout the afternoon, and everyone left in high spirits indeed after a surprise visit from Father Christmas and receiving a small gift!



Junior Christmas Party

The Junior Christmas Party was a very energetic affair and again the children enjoyed a lunch and entertainment courtesy of the PTA. Lunch was served and the pizza, salad and garlic bread was devoured with great enthusiasm and approval. Thank you to Fannelli's for delivering the pizza to us at school on both days! After playtime the children were able to burn off any extra energy they had with Punch and Judy Entertainments who provided a disco with games included as well....many thanks to all those parents and staff who helped and enjoyed participating in the fun! The afternoon concluded with a visit from Father Christmas who brought all the children a small gift and told them all to go to sleep early on Christmas Eve so he could bring the rest of their presents.....I hope they all did!



*Photos from
the Junior
Christmas
Party*



Father Christmas visits school!

We were very grateful to Father Christmas for making time in his very busy schedule to come and visit the Infants and Juniors at the end of their Christmas parties this year and for bringing each of them a small gift as well. We hope he can make it again next year, so remember to mention it in your letters at Christmas 2008 everyone!!

Andrea Yeadon



Our Christmas Advent Mass



Singing
'Silent Night'

Father Peter kindly said Mass for us which had been so carefully prepared by Mr. Higgins and J3. During the Mass Mengting Chen sang the first verse of Silent Night. This was absolutely beautiful, very well done Mengting.



A very special presentation...



After Mass, Father Denis presented Mr. Longrigg with the very special papal medal, the Bene Merenti. There was plenty of applause to follow and the whole school joined in with the excitement. It was a very special moment and a complete surprise to Mr. Longrigg. The meaning of Bene Merenti is "well deserving" and after having dedicated his life to Catholic Education, I am sure that you will agree that Mr. Longrigg is certainly well deserving.

Mrs Cutler

