

St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

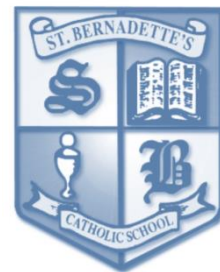
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Newsletter 3
08th October 2021

At St Bernadette's we are fully committed to safeguarding our children. We expect all staff, parents and visitors to share this commitment.

Parents' Evening

Parents' Evening will take place on 9th or 10th of November with an English focus (Children in EYFS will meet with their class teacher/ Key worker). In order to book an appointment time, you will be sent a link on 18th October. This will allow you to choose an available slot which is suitable to you. Please ensure that the office has your most up-to-date email and mobile numbers.

Responding to Communications

From time to time we send out communication electronically to be completed – this maybe a questionnaire, a request for information or an invitation for your child to have a special lunch. When this happens, please can you ensure that this information is completed and returned in the time requested. Failure to do so may result in your child missing out on activities within school.

Secondary Schools Applications

All children in Year 6 are required to complete an application for Secondary School in September 2020 online. Details can be found online at www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions. Please ensure that you do your research about potential schools by looking at their websites and use all of the choices available. Make sure you have read the admission arrangements fully for the schools you are interested in and know how likely it is that your child will be offered a place there. It is important that you include at least one realistic preference for a school that your child would have met the criteria for in previous years. **Please note that some local Catholic schools require you to complete additional information regarding baptismal details.** The final date for acceptance of preferences and online applications is **31st October 2021**.

Meetings in School

I would like to express my disappointment at the number of parents who have attended recent meetings in school. To give an example, at a meeting last week, where parents were specifically invited, there was a less than 25% attendance. Staff spend a lot of time preparing information for these meetings and it is very disheartening when parents do not attend. If you are invited to attend a meeting at school, it is in the best interests of your child for you to attend. Please try and make alternative arrangements so that you can attend such meetings.

Diary Dates

Monday 11th October

Reading Open Week – Year 1 -Year 6

Monday 18th October

International Week

Friday 22nd October

Feast of St John Paul II (4CB own clothes)

Feast of St. Jude (for 28th -5KH own clothes)

Monday 25th – Friday 29th October

HALF TERM HOLIDAY

Monday 1st November

INSET DAY

Wednesday 3rd November

2:15pm – Year 6 Confirmation Meeting

Tuesday 9th November

Parents' Evening (Maths focus)

Wednesday 10th November

10.00am - New Parents Meeting

Parents' Evening (Maths focus)

Thursday 11th November

Remembrance Assembly - KS2

Friday 12th November

1.30pm Meeting for Year 6 parents regarding FGM & CSE

Monday 15th November

Anti-Bullying Week

Wednesday 17th November

1:30pm - KS2 Mass (Church) 5.00pm - First Holy Communion Meeting (Belonging)

Thursday 18th November

1:00pm – Year 6 Confessions (in preparation for Confirmation)

Friday 19th November

EYFS nursery rhyme craft competition.

Sunday 21st November

10:30am – Year 3 Enrolment Mass (Church)

Monday 22nd November

Stay and play week in Nursery Feast of St.Cecilia

Thought for the day

There are 4 very important words in life: Love, honesty, truth and respect. Without these in your life, you have nothing.

Person of the Fortnight

Every two weeks we will be sharing information about a range of different important figures: scientists, athletes, musicians, etc. to help increase the children's aspirations, general knowledge and cultural capital. This week that person is Michelle Obama, iconic first lady, advocate, lawyer and author. Young Michelle grew up on the South Side of Chicago in a close-knit family. She loved school, achieving A's, and worked hard to blaze trails at the universities of Princeton and Harvard. Then, at the beginning of her legal career, she met Barack Obama. As first lady, she used her platform to advocate for women and girls and continues to inspire many with her powerful voice, and best-selling books.

Alton Castle Residential Meeting

A meeting will be held in the school hall on Friday 5th November at 1.15pm for parents of children attending the Alton Castle Residential later in the term. Please make every effort to attend this meeting where important information will be shared regarding the trip.

Uniform

Please can I remind parents that children should be wearing full winter uniform. Polo shirts should no longer be worn and pupils should be in a shirt/blouse and tie. In addition to this can I remind girls that the wearing of leggings beneath skirts is not permitted. If girls wish to have their legs covered they should wear tights and a skirt or trousers. Furthermore, please can I remind parents that the wearing of earrings in KS1 is not permitted for health and safety reasons. Thank you to those families that do adhere to the uniform policy.

School Fund

With restrictions easing and the ability for school trips to resume, we will be reintroducing school fund. This will be a £10 contribution per child which will cover the cost of all day trips. This will be a considerable saving for parents as each trip costs in excess of £10.

Attendance

Well done to the following classes who have had the best attendance in their key stage. FS/KS1 **RND** KS2 **3TK**

Year 6 Confirmation

The date for the Year 6 confirmation this academic year will be Thursday 2nd December at 6.00pm at Holy Family Church. The children will be confirmed by Bishop David Evans.

Lunches for day trips

Children who have a school meal are provided with a packed lunch if they are taking part in a day trip. As a result of changes in legislation regarding allergens, it will be necessary for you to select the packed lunch you would like your child to have. When a day trip is taking place you will be sent a link to complete a Google form. It is vital that this information is completed so that a lunch can be provided for your child. If your child already has a packed lunch supplied from home, you would send them with this on the day of the trip as normal.

Reception Readers

We would like to extend an open invitation for one member of a Reception child's family (parent, carer, grandparent) to attend school on a Friday Morning to read with their child until 8.55am. The family member would enter school with the child and read to them before departing at 8.55am. This would take place each Friday from 22nd October.

Worried about a child?

If you have concerns about the safety and/or welfare of a child or young person then please contact one of the designated Safeguarding Leads in school: Miss Cowings, Mr. Lavin, Mr. Carroll or Miss Connaire. Alternatively, you can contact Birmingham Children's Advice and Support Service on 0121 303 1888.

Follow us

If you use Twitter and would like to keep us with news, pictures and updates for school, why not follow us at @StBernsPrimary

At St Bernadette's Catholic School, you will find us caring, hardworking and co-operative. We follow the ways of Jesus using our talents and gifts to make our school special. We show respect to all and welcome you.



International Week

Week commencing 18th October will be International Week in school where the children will be given the opportunity to learn about different countries in the world and explore some of the world religions. The children will be learning about the following countries and religions:

Year Group	Country	Religion
Nursery	Spain	Catholicism
Reception	The Philippines	Christianity
Year 1	Nepal	Hinduism
Year 2	China	Buddhism
Year 3	Brazil	Catholicism
Year 4	India	Sikhism
Year 5	Israel	Judaism
Year 6	Pakistan	Islam

Some year bands will have the opportunity to visit different places of worship linked to the religion they are studying.

Reading

I would like to remind you of important information regarding reading shared in the first newsletter this academic Year:

Hearing children read at home

- This should happen for at least fifteen minutes each night.
- Try to make this a special time for you and your child – it should not feel stressful or pressurised for the reader.
- Please focus your attention entirely on your child for this time. Turn off devices and remove other distractions.
- Use strategies such as echo-reading or choral reading to help your child's fluency and expression.
- Even the most confident readers need to be heard reading aloud – encourage older pupils to read a page or two aloud, before then reading independently.

Reading Records

- Each child has a reading record, which must be signed at least three times a week.
- Children who have their diary signed at least three times per week will receive a reading star and will be entered into a termly prize draw if they receive enough stars.
- Teachers will check diaries weekly.
- If a child does not have their diary in school, they will not be able to receive their reading star for that week. Children must collect at least ten stars to enter the prize draw.

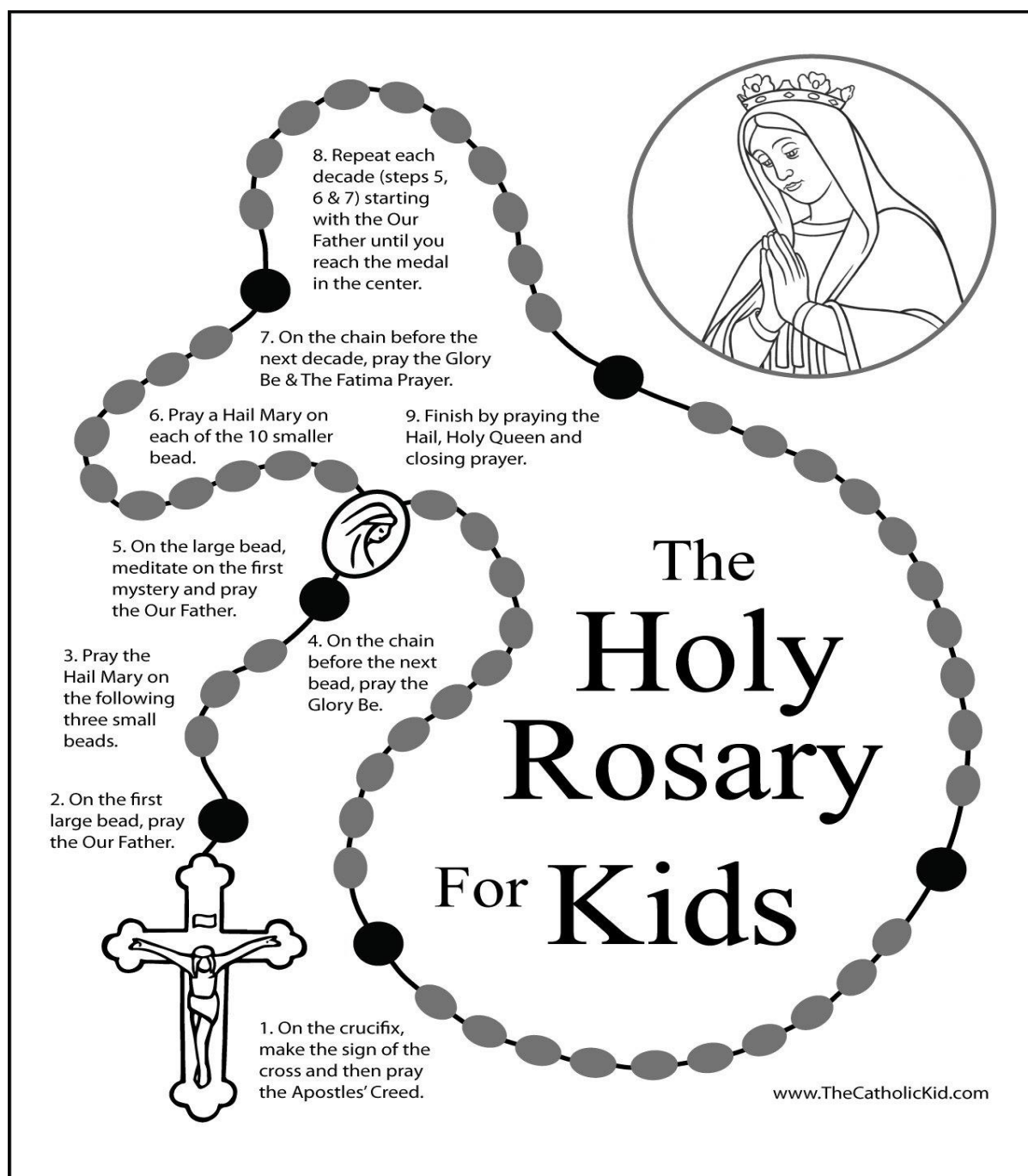
A recent audit of children's diaries has shown that 138 children have not had their diaries signed at least three times a week. It is your duty as a parent to ensure that your child is heard read regularly and that their diary is signed. Please ensure that if you have not been hearing your child read and signing their diary that action is taken to address this.

Reflection

As we enter the month of October it might be timely to remind ourselves that this is the month that is dedicated to Our Lady. The Rosary has been one of the distinctive parts of Catholic devotion for centuries. The calm, unhurried repetition of the prayers helps us to focus on the mysteries that the Rosary celebrates. The repetition creates a space for us to picture and ponder the life, death and resurrection of Christ and also Mary's part in that story of our salvation. We can pray the rosary silently or out loud, in public or in private, alone or with many others. It needs no books, or method, no special space or time. It is a universal prayer. It is important that we pass on a great love of Our Lady to the next generation.

Each time we pray the Rosary we should focus on Jesus' life as well as a special person or intention that we want to pray for. The Rosary is a particularly special prayer to our school as it is the prayer which Our Lady taught St Bernadette to pray. Some resources to help pray the Rosary at home are available on the following website: www.tentenresources.co.uk/rosary-for-parents

The password to access this information is: **ROSARY**



Special Certificates

Each week a child from each class is nominated to receive a special certificate through the post. The pupils who are awarded these certificates have shown that they really understand what it means to live as Jesus taught us, perhaps by being particularly kind or helpful. Well done, to the following children:

CLASS	NAME	REASON	CLASS	NAME	REASON
Nursery (Blue)	Jonathan	For always trying his best at Nursery.	Nursery (Red)	Eve	For being a marvellous member of red group, always listening and following instructions.
Nursery (Green)	Albie	For making the most of all the opportunities Nursery has to offer.	Nursery (Yellow)	Jaxon	For marvelously following our Nursery routine.
Nursery (Orange)	Harper-Willow	For being a marvelous friend to the other Nursery children.	3TK	Charlie	For being a brilliant role model to the rest of the class.
				Amily	For her excellent behaviour and beautiful manners.
RSD	Reah	For always being a kind and caring friend.	4RW	Loza	For being a kind and fantastic helper to her friend.
	Emily-Rose	For trying so hard in phonics - a superstar!		Andrew	Super effort in maths!
RND	Bilal	For being a super role model in RPD! You're a star, Bilal!	4CB	Kaiyan	For fantastic partner work in Topic.
	Freyja	For excellent counting! Super mathematician!		Thijash	For being a fantastic role model to his peers.
RPD	Jaylen	For being such a kind and helpful friend to everyone in his class.	4CM	Alaarna	For always being helpful and respectful.
	Oscar	For trying really hard in phonics and always using his manners.		Jacob Christian	For his super book talk – it's great hearing your feedback.
1OB	Millie-Christine	For always being sensible both inside and outside the classroom.	5EB	Harrison	For working hard in lessons and even online when ill!
	Ruhann	For trying exceptionally hard to follow all routines and instructions.		Blanka	For working hard all the time and being very reliable with jobs.
1EG	Arsema	For always having beautiful manners.	5KH	Alexander	For producing a great piece of writing on the Underworld.
	Gracie-Mae	For her fantastic effort during phonics lessons!		Mason	For having a great attitude to learning, especially in maths lessons.
2COT	Lilac-Rose	For her excellent effort in all lessons.	5LC	Sonny	For being a helpful and considerate member of our class.
	Muizz	For his excellent effort in all lessons.		Lillie-Rose	For having beautiful manners and always listening attentively.
2SH	Leo	For wonderful work in Maths.	6AMJ	Stephin	For being an excellent role model when representing the school.
	Aaishah	For her excellent answers in Topic lessons.		Filip	For being an excellent role model when representing the school.
2SF	Archie	For always listening carefully and finishing tasks to the best of his ability.	6KL	Eren	For displaying excellent manners.
	Jeswin	For always treating others around him with kindness and respect.		Ebony	For being so helpful in the classroom and so kind to others.
3EH	Amaan	For his enthusiasm in our Topic lessons.	6ZB	Riley	For always displaying superb manners.
	Scarlett-Louise	For her beautiful manners and being such a wonderful role model to others.		Joseph	For being such a helpful and friendly member of our class.
3EL	Charlie	For trying super hard in Maths every lesson.			
	Josh	For superb reading aloud in English.			



Public Health
England

NHS

Vaccines and porcine gelatine

This leaflet describes how and why porcine gelatine is used in vaccines

The issue of pork ingredients in some vaccines has raised concerns among some groups. This leaflet has been developed to provide information about vaccines that contain this product and the alternatives that may be available.

What is gelatine?

Gelatine is a substance derived from the collagen of animals such as chickens, cattle, pigs and fish. Collagen is found in tendons, ligaments, bones and cartilage. Porcine gelatine comes from collagen in pigs. All forms of gelatine for use in medicines are manufactured under strict hygiene and safety regulations.

Why is porcine gelatine used in vaccines?

Gelatine is used in a very wide range of medicines, including many capsules and some vaccines. Porcine gelatine is used in vaccines as a stabiliser – to ensure that the vaccine remains safe and effective during storage. Vaccine manufacturers normally test a wide range of stabilisers and choose one that is stable, good quality and available in sufficient volume. Unlike the gelatine used in foods, the product used in vaccines is highly purified and broken down into very small molecules called peptides.

Why can't vaccines be made with other stabilisers or other types of gelatine?

Developing a vaccine takes many years of laboratory testing and clinical studies to ensure that it is both safe and effective. Once the manufacturer has chosen the stabiliser for the vaccine, any change in this could require extensive laboratory and clinical studies to show that the safety and effectiveness of the vaccine has not been affected. Because of this, developing a new safe and effective vaccine with a different stabiliser may take several years or may never happen.

Which vaccines contain porcine gelatine?

In the UK routine immunisation programme, there are three vaccines that contain porcine gelatine:

- Fluenz Tetra® the nasal spray vaccine that protects children against flu
- MMR VaxPro®, a vaccine that protects against measles, mumps and rubella
- Zostavax®, the vaccine that protects older adults against shingles



immunisation

the safest way to protect your child's health

What is the view of the faith communities?

Public Health England (PHE) has consulted with the Kashrut and Medicines Information Service, who said:

'It should be noted that according to Jewish laws, there is no problem with porcine or other animal derived ingredients in non-oral products. This includes vaccines, including those administered via the nose, injections, suppositories, creams and ointments.'

However, PHE acknowledges that there is diversity within the British Muslim and Jewish communities and they, and some other groups, may consider medicines and vaccines containing any porcine product to be forbidden. In these circumstances, it is likely that the individual would be unable to accept many pharmaceutical products unless there was no suitable alternative and/or the product was considered life-saving.

Are there any suitable alternatives to these vaccines?

- **MMR:** in the UK we have two types of MMR vaccine – MMR VaxPro® and Priorix®. Priorix® does not contain gelatine and is as safe and effective as MMR VaxPro®.
- **Shingles:** Zostavax® is the only shingles vaccine currently available in the UK.
- **Fluenz Tetra®:** for healthy children, there are no suitable alternatives. There are injectable flu vaccines that do not contain pork gelatine, but these are expected to be less effective than Fluenz Tetra® in children. They may also do less to reduce the spread of flu in the community. These vaccines are only recommended as part of the programme for children and adults who are at high risk of the complications of flu.

What if people don't want to have vaccines containing porcine gelatine for themselves or their children?

The final decision about whether or not to be vaccinated, or have your child vaccinated, is yours. In order to come to an informed decision you may wish to consider the evidence about the advantages and disadvantages of having yourself or your child vaccinated, and you may wish to seek advice from your faith leaders or other community leaders.

Parents not wishing their children to have the porcine gelatine-containing MMR vaccine should request the Priorix® vaccine from their GP. A full course of two doses will provide protection against measles, mumps and rubella. Please note that the practice may need to order this product in specially so it will be helpful to tell them your views before the appointment.

If your child is at high risk from flu due to an underlying health condition, the nasal vaccine is considered the best option. If they choose not to have the nasal spray or cannot have it for medical reasons, then they should have a flu vaccine by injection. For adults at high risk from flu, the injectable vaccine should also be given. There is no alternative vaccine available for healthy children as part of the annual NHS programme. However, as more children in your area are vaccinated with the nasal vaccine, you and your family should have a lower chance of being exposed to flu.

For older people wanting to protect themselves against shingles there is at present no alternative to Zostavax®.

If you would like further information before making your decisions about vaccinations, you may wish to talk to your doctor or practice nurse. This is particularly important if you are at high risk of the diseases that these vaccines effectively prevent.