

# St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

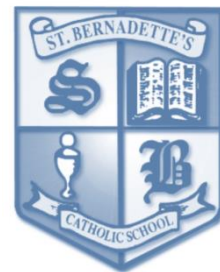
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Newsletter 23  
2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021

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

## Staffing Update

This academic year we say goodbye and thank you to three members of staff: Mr Kingston, Mrs McDaniel and Miss Smith.

Mr Kingston has decided to retire after devoting over 45 years of his life to teaching children and 30 of those at St Bernadette's. We thank Mr Kingston for the steadfast commitment and time that he has given to this school and for the education he has given to thousands of children over the years. We wish him all the best in his retirement and hope that he enjoys the extra time that he can spend with his loving family.

Mrs McDaniel is moving on to pastures new and we wish her all the best for the future and thank her for the impact she has made to St Bernadette's and Year 4. We thank her for the dedication and the commitment she has shown and hope that she enjoys her new found challenges and has great success in the future.

We would like to say a big thank you to Miss Smith who has covered Ms Finnegan's maternity leave in Nursery and wish her all the best in her new job. We thank her for her hard work and commitment and the impact she has made on our youngest pupils. We are sure that she will settle in quickly to her new role like she did at St Bernadette's and wish her lots of success.

We would also like to wish Miss Fullerton all the best as she will get married over the summer holidays. She will return as Mrs Devlin. We wish both her and her future husband God's blessing and wish them a lifetime of happiness together.

## Diary Dates

### JULY 2021

#### **Monday 5th**

1.30 pm – Year 1 Sports Day

#### **Tuesday 6th**

9.30 am – Year 3 Sports Day 1.30 pm – Year 4 Sports Day

**Wednesday 7th** 9.00 am – Year 4 Mass (School) 9.30 am – Reception Sports Day

1.30 pm – Year 6 Sports Day

**Thursday 8th** Nursery Sports Day - 9.30am

**Monday 12th** Year 5 Sports Day - 9.30 am

**Tuesday 13th** Leavers Production (TBC)

**Tuesday 20th** 9.15 am – Outdoor Leavers Mass

**Wednesday 21st** Feast of St Augustine (for 28/8 – 2EL own clothes) Finish for Summer holidays

## Darcy (Y3)

Please remember Darcy, one of our Year 3 pupils in your prayers. We ask God to give her strength and to wrap His loving arms around her and her family.

*Heavenly Father, we ask You to watch over Darcy  
Relieve her pain, guard her from all danger, anoint her  
your gifts of compassions and strength. Through Jesus  
Christ our Lord we pray,*

**Amen**

## Fundraising

Some of the staff of St Bernadette's school are climbing Mount Snowdon on 10th July to show support for two special members of our school community. A current pupil and a former pupil are currently battling cancer and the school would like to show how much we are thinking of them as well as raising money to be shared equally between them. If you would like to give a small donation to this worthy cause then please visit:

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/stbernadettessummersnowdonclimb>

Thank you for your support.

## Term Dates for Next Academic Year 2021-2022

### Autumn Term 2021

**Term Starts:**  
Thursday 2 September 2021

**Half Term:**  
Monday 25 October 2021  
to  
Friday 29 October 2021

**Term Ends:**  
Wednesday 22 December 2021

### Spring Term 2022

**Term Starts:**  
Monday 10 January 2022

**Half Term:**  
Monday 21 February 2022  
to  
Friday 25 February 2022

**Term Ends:**  
Friday 8 April 2022

### Summer Term 2022

**Term Starts:**  
Monday 25 April 2022

**Half Term:**  
Monday 30 May 2022  
to  
Friday 3 June 2022

**Term Ends:**  
Friday 22 July 2022

Please note that the Christmas holidays may be different from other Birmingham schools.  
School will also be closed on the following dates:

#### Staff INSET

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2021, Monday 1st November 2021, Friday 7th January 2022, Monday 28th February 2022,  
Monday 25th April 2022

May Bank Holiday – Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May

*(Please note the Inset Days may be subject to change)*

## Year 6 Production

Year 6 are currently working hard, busy preparing a production of Wow! What a Year. Unfortunately, government restrictions do not currently allow for an audience. We therefore propose to film the production and send the link out to parents before the end of the academic year.

## Covid Update

Due to the increasing rise in the number of cases of the Delta variant, Birmingham is now an area of enhanced response. The government has issued new advice on travel and socialising, including minimising travel into and out of the area (Birmingham) and not taking unnecessary journeys. Dr Varney says that due to Birmingham being an area of enhanced response travel should be minimised to essential trips only. For further information on these enhanced measures, please visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/further-support-for-birmingham-blackpool-cheshire-east-cheshire-west-and-chester-liverpool-city-region-and-warrington-to-tackle-delta-b16172-v>

Or the Birmingham city Council website: <https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/news/article/890/covid-19-birmingham-listed-as-enhanced-response-area>

With these extra measures in place across the city it is vital that we continue to wear masks when on the school site and also maintain social distancing if we are to continue to protect our community, staff and children. Please remember: If your child is displaying symptoms of Covid-19, (persistent cough, high temperature, loss of taste or smell) please ensure that you all isolate and book them in for a PCR test. The household will need to continue to isolate until you receive a negative result or for a period of 10 days from a positive test result. **Lateral flow tests should NOT be used if a person is displaying symptoms.** Please also ensure that you inform us of any symptoms that your child has or your family, and then inform us of any test results as soon as possible so that we can act accordingly and in a timely manner to protect our school community.

Thank you for your continued support in this matter.

## Sports Day Arrangements

With the rise in COVID-19 cases locally, we have made the very difficult decision not to allow parents to attend this year's sports days. We are very sorry for the disappointment this decision will cause. We will hopefully be able to take photographs of some of the events and upload them to the school Twitter feed. Sports days are planned to take place on the following dates:

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July – Yr2 (am)**

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> July) – Yr1**

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> July – Yr3 (am) & Yr4 (pm)**

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> July – Rec (am) & Yr6 (pm)**

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> July – Nursery**

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> July – Yr5**

(Please note these days may be subject to change depending on the weather)

## Outdoor Leavers' Mass

The outdoor leavers' Mass is scheduled to take place on the school playground at 9.15am on 20<sup>th</sup> July. We are awaiting announcements from the government regarding the lifting of restrictions. Until these announcements have been made we will be unable to accommodate parents, however, it is hoped that there may be further easing on 19<sup>th</sup> July that will allow attendance. We will keep you informed.

## Year 3 First Holy Communion

Congratulations and well done to the children in Year 3 who celebrated the sacrament of First Holy Communion on 19<sup>th</sup> June. The children looked beautiful in their Communion attire and were a real credit to themselves and their families. It was lovely that we could celebrate this special day with them in a very reverent and prayerful service. The children have also since celebrated a 'Going Forth' Mass in school which was also a very reverent occasion. Please continue to remember these children in your prayers as they continue on their journey of faith.

## Well Done

Chloe in Reception has been fundraising for Cancer Research. She has raised almost £200 for this amazing charity and is still fundraising now. Well done.

## Attendance

Well done to the following children for having the best attendance in their key stage this week.

**FS/KS1 - 2RW**

**KS2 – 4CM**

## Social Media

Please can I remind parents about not using Social Media to discuss school concerns or to post defamatory comments about the school or staff. The Parent Code of Conduct, which can be found on the school website, clearly states the following:

*7.1. Parents are expected to act in accordance with the school's E-safety Policy when discussing the school on social networking sites, such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.*

*7.3. Parents must not post content which is damaging to the school or any members of the school community. In the event of defamation, the school will take legal action.*

*7.4. All parents are encouraged to use social media responsibly in order to set a positive example for pupils.*

*-St Bernadette's Parents Code of Conduct 2019*

I would therefore request that parents contact school if they have any concerns so that they can be addressed appropriately, rather than airing them on a public forum. I trust that parents will support school with this matter and raise any concerns through the correct channels. Thank you.

## Thought of the Day

The 3 Cs of life: Choices, Chances, Changes. You must make the choice, to take a chance, if you want anything in life to change.

## School Laptops

Please could we ask that all school laptops are returned and signed back into the school office from Monday 5th July. We are asking for these to be returned so that any necessary updates can be undertaken over the Summer holidays. Please do not send your laptop back with your child as a signature will be required by the office. Thank you for your co-operation with this matter.



## French Themed Day

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July is Bastille Day in France, and we are delighted to inform you that St Bernadette's will be holding a special French Theme Day in school to celebrate this. Each class will be involved in a whole range of fun and practical French related activities throughout the course of the day to learn about the country's geography, history, food, art and culture. Activities may include: cooking crepes, ballet and 'can-can' workshops, playing French boules, experiencing a French cafe, mime work in the style of Marcel Marceau, a performance of the French Revolution, building the highest Eiffel Tower, exploring the work of famous French artists and food tasting.

All children are invited to come to school dressed in a French theme; this could be wigs or clothes in the colours of the French flag (red, blue and white); dressing as a significant French person (Napoleon Bonaparte, Marie Antoinette, Coco Chanel, Zinedine Zidane, Claude Monet, Claude Debussy etc...); dressing as a fictional Francophone character (Le Petit Prince, Tintin, Astérix, Madeline, Babar); or even a French monument! Class teachers will share ideas about how the children may come dressed before the big day. We look forward to seeing the wide variety of costumes we will have in school that day - there may even be a prize for the best dressed pupil (or teacher)!

– Thank you.

## Person of the Week

Each week we share with the children the life and achievements of an inspirational person. This week that person is Harriet Tubman. Harriet was born into slavery on a plantation in Maryland, USA. Though life was hard, Harriet persisted. She used all of her strength and bravery to escape slavery and journey north on the Underground Railroad. Harriet made the dangerous mission back to the South many times, fighting her whole life to bring other with her to freedom.

## End of Year Reports

This year we will not be sending hard copies of End of Year reports to parents. Reports will be emailed to parents in the coming weeks so please you check you emails. Please ensure that the office has your most up-to-date email address to ensure that your child's report is received. Thank you.

## Dangerous Driving and Careless Parking

I am becoming increasingly concerned by the disregard for our children's safety shown by a minority of our parents who continue to park inconsiderably and illegally on the zig-zag lines, the footpath and on the corner of roads at busy junctions. It has also come to my attention that some drivers are ignoring the crossing patrol and driving through as they are stepping into the road. The Highway Code clearly states that drivers must stop when a crossing patrol shows the 'Stop for Children' sign. We are fortunate that no children had begun to cross at the time. If this blatant disregard for public safety continues then it is only a matter of time before someone is seriously hurt or even killed. If you are not prepared to support the school in ensuring the safety of our children, then we will have no option but to publish the details of cars parked/ driving illegally and forward the information to the police for fines to be issued.



## Prayer Intention for July

Pope Frances invites us to pray with him during the month of July that families that may be accompanied with love, respect and guidance.

**Heavenly Father, be with our family,  
From the youngest to the Oldest,  
Lighting up our relationships,  
Sowing grace into our troubles  
God be with our family,  
Weaving love into our work,  
Our rest and our play.**

**Amen**

## Birthdays

Can I please remind parents that we no longer accept sweets in school to mark a child's birthday. However, you may, if you wish, like to donate a book from the year band list to your child's class library for their friends to enjoy.



## Book Donations

A big thank you to Miley in Year 6 for her generous donation of books to school. It is lovely to receive donations of good quality books that children no longer require. I am sure that the children will enjoy reading them and they will contribute to book corners in school. We would also like to thank one of our parents, Lorna Wilder, who has donated a set of books to each year band from their wish list. This is a very kind and generous donation for which we are truly grateful. We were also fortunate to have a visit from the author Rachel Delahaye this week who also donated books to school. We thank her for spending time with our Year 5 children and for her generous contribution.

## Reflection

*"It is more blessed  
to give than to  
receive."  
- Acts 20:35*

## New Classes

Below you will find a list of current classes and their new teachers for September.

Current Class	New Teacher	New Class
Nursery/ Reception Mix	Mrs Dawood	RND
	Miss Deards	RSD
	Mrs Devlin (nee Fullerton)	RPD
RND RSD RPF } Mixed	Miss Gibbs	1EG
	Miss Bowden	1OB
1EG	Mrs Hussain	2SH
1OB	Miss Fiddler	2SF
1SMcG	Miss O'Toole	2CO'T
2SF	Mrs Lennon	3EL
2RW	Mrs Kelly	3TK
2EL	Mrs Hill	3EH
3TK	Mrs Brownhill	4CB
3EH	Mr Wayne	4RW
3SH	Miss Manders	4CM
4AM	Mr Baker	5EB
4CB	Mrs Harston	5KH
4CM	Mrs Canning	5LC
5EB	Mr Markham-Jones	6AMJ
5LC	Miss Boron	6ZB
5KH	Miss Lakin	6KL

The children in school will hopefully have the opportunity to have a zoom meeting with their new teacher before the end of term so that 'Bubbles' can be maintained.

## 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:

<b>Nursery (Blue)</b>	<b>Malachi</b>	For trying new foods. Well done.	<b>Nursery (Red)</b>	<b>Mark</b>	For working hard in phonics time.
<b>Nursery (Green)</b>	<b>Bobby</b>	For great phonics work.	<b>Nursery (Yellow)</b>	<b>Lewis</b>	For showing kindness towards his friends this week.
<b>RND</b>	<b>A'Miyah</b>	For some lovely independent writing this week.	<b>3TK</b>	<b>Rayn Manna</b>	For always being kind and considerate to her teachers.
	<b>Aaron</b>	For being a sensible boy.		<b>Amara</b>	For always being kind and considerate to her teachers.
<b>RPF</b>	<b>Adonay</b>	For making letters and numbers with the construction resources.	<b>4AMD</b>	<b>Thea</b>	For a consistent and excellent attitude towards learning and behaviour
	<b>Gracie-Mae</b>	For excellent blending in phonics.		<b>Alfie</b>	For a consistent and excellent attitude towards learning and behaviour
<b>RSD</b>	<b>Hamza</b>	For trying really hard to trace his name!	<b>4CB</b>	<b>Scarlett</b>	For doing extra research at home about countries of the British Isles.
	<b>Ruth</b>	For always being so prayerful and sensible		<b>Umar</b>	For super effort in science.
<b>1EG</b>	<b>Pixi</b>	For using her manners and always setting a good example for others.	<b>4CM</b>	<b>Ava</b>	For improving her word count on Accelerated Reader.
	<b>Khaleesi</b>	For never failing to use her manners with those around her.		<b>Tyrese</b>	For always being kind and helpful.
<b>1OB</b>	<b>Hassam</b>	For trying really hard in lessons!	<b>5EB</b>	<b>Montini</b>	For fantastic work in science.
	<b>Mia-Rose</b>	For producing beautiful work in Topic.		<b>Hermela</b>	For having lovely manners and a positive attitude.
<b>1SMCG</b>	<b>Muizz</b>	For being kind and helpful in class.	<b>5KH</b>	<b>Kyran</b>	For trying so hard with his reading.
	<b>Gabriella</b>	For being kind and helpful in class.		<b>Sienna</b>	For showing such enthusiasm during our author visit.
<b>2EL</b>	<b>Sh'Kyah</b>	For competing and supporting others so well during our Sports Day practice.	<b>5LC</b>	<b>Lola-Faryl</b>	For working so hard on her reading.
	<b>Callum</b>	For trying so hard with his sounds and reading.		<b>Joseph</b>	For coming up with great ideas in our creative writing session.
<b>2RW</b>	<b>Harley</b>	For super participation in English.	<b>6AMJ</b>	<b>Krista</b>	For trying her best in our school performance.
	<b>Maverick</b>	For being an all around Star Pupil.		<b>Jefin</b>	For an excellent Maths SATs score.
<b>2SF</b>	<b>Keone</b>	For being a kind and wonderful friend.	<b>6KL</b>	<b>Joshua</b>	For being a great understudy in our production.
	<b>Joey</b>	For improved behaviour. Well done!		<b>Bailey</b>	For being so helpful in the classroom.
<b>3EH</b>	<b>Maisy-Mae</b>	For being kind and helpful and a positive role model for her peers.	<b>6ZB</b>	<b>Kalese</b>	For her amazing dancing in our production.
	<b>Nathan</b>	For his great effort in Maths		<b>Sara</b>	For reading every night at home
<b>3SH</b>	<b>Charlie</b>	For always achieving full marks in our spelling tests and for your beautiful presentation when writing in a pen for the first time.			
	<b>Georgio</b>	For a huge improvement in his handwriting and for playing an active role within lessons.			



# BOOK DONATIONS WELCOME

Our school has signed up with national charity the Children's Book Project to receive donations of good quality, gently used books from local families. These will be used across the school. Books can be dropped at reception.

Spread the word and look for us on their map!

[www.childrensbookproject.co.uk/donate](http://www.childrensbookproject.co.uk/donate)



Registered charity in England and Wales: 1183092



# SEND BRIEFING PARENT WEBINAR

August 2021



Parent/Carer Webinars take place regularly throughout the year and cover a number of different topics. Please see the local offer website for further details. Each webinar should last approximately one hour and take the format of a presentation followed by an opportunity to ask questions.

## Occupational Therapy

### Sensory Tots: An Introduction to the Senses

This Family Forum will explore the 8 sensory systems. You will learn how to use the senses in activities to support the development of your child's skills.

60min presentation with Q&A time at the end.

**Speakers: Occupational Therapists - Sarah Gallagher & Ellie Steer**

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> August - 6.00pm – 7.00pm**

Ticket Link: Sensory Tots: An Introduction to the Senses

<https://www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk/product/sensory-tots-an-introduction-to-the-senses-2nd-august/>

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> August - 10.00am – 11.00pm**

Ticket Link: Sensory Tots: An Introduction to the Senses

<https://www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk/product/sensory-tots-an-introduction-to-the-senses-3rd-august-10am/>

All people who book a ticket will be sent a copy of the presentation and a copy of the recording of the Webinar.





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August 2021



Parent/Carer Webinars take place regularly throughout the year and cover a number of different topics. Please see the local offer website for further details. Each webinar should last approximately one hour and take the format of a presentation followed by an opportunity to ask questions.

## Speech & Language Therapy

### Let's get School Ready: SLT and OT Transition tips

**Speakers:** Ellie Steer - Occupational Therapist  
Annie Loftus - Speech & Language Therapist  
Javairia Mahmood - Speech & Language Therapist

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> August - 10.00am – 11.00am**

Let's get School Ready: SLT and OT Transition tips - Primary Age

**TICKET LINK:** <https://www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk/product/lets-get-school-ready-slt-and-ot-transition-tips-4th-august/>

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> August - 2.00pm – 3.00pm**

Let's get School Ready: SLT and OT Transition tips - Secondary Age

**TICKET LINK:** <https://www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk/product/lets-get-school-ready-slt-and-ot-transition-tips-11th-august/>

All people who book a ticket will be sent a copy of the presentation and a copy of the recording of the Webinar.



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