

St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

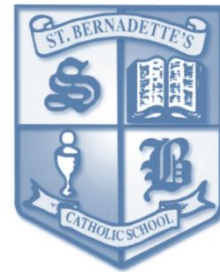
Hobmoor Road, Yardley, Birmingham, B25 8QL

Telephone: 0121-783-7232

Website www.stberns.co.uk

Twitter: @StBernsPrimary

e-mail: enquiry@stberns.bham.sch.uk



Newsletter 5
6th November 2020

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

Lockdown

As you are aware the government have announced that England has entered into a second lockdown as of yesterday. Although schools will remain open during this time it will have a profound impact on some school events that were organised this term. Unfortunately, the Confirmation that was planned to take place for Year 6 pupils will no longer go ahead as churches will have to remain closed and we are unable to hold Masses in school. Similarly, the date that had been arranged for Year 4 First Holy Communions will have to be postponed again. We are hoping that we may be able to organise First Confessions for Year 4 to be held in school if restrictions allow. The Year 3 Enrolment Mass at Holy Family on 22nd November will also be cancelled. Further details will follow when new arrangements have been confirmed.

Seesaw

In order to ensure that we can provide effective provision to pupils during isolation, school has invested in new software to support home learning and it is hoped that homework will also be set using this method. We have asked parents to give consent via Parent Pay for this software and then pupils will be given usernames and passwords to enable them to access the information. Please ensure that you have activated your consent on Parent pay. The software is compatible for use on all platforms and will not require parents to have access to other software other than Seesaw which is web based (www.seesaw.me) or available via an app. A guide for parents has been emailed this week.

Prayers

Please could you keep Darcy (Y3) in your prayers. She is currently undergoing treatment and will be in and out of hospital over the next 6 months, so we prayer for her and her family at this time and hope she has a speedy recovery.

Diary Dates

Wednesday 11th November

Remembrance Assemblies throughout the day

Monday 16th November

Anti-Bullying Week

Tuesday 17th November

First Confessions 4pm in school for 4CB

Wednesday 18th November

First Confessions 4pm in school for 4CM

Thursday 19th November

1:00pm - Yr6 Confessions (in preparation for Confirmation)

First Confessions 4pm in school for 4AM

Friday 20th November

Feast of St.Cecilia (for 22nd 2RW own clothes)

Monday 30th November

St Andrew's Day (50p -all to wear blue or white)

9:00am - Advent Service in school throughout the day

Please make sure
you are wearing a
face mask when
dropping off
and collecting
your child/ren.
Thank you



Thought for the Day

If you fail, never give up because FAIL means 'First Attempt In Learning'

School Christmas Dinner

Christmas dinner will be available to pupils week commencing 7th December. It will be available to the following year bands on particular dates:

Monday 7th December

Nursery and Reception

Tuesday 8th December

Year 1 and Year 2

Wednesday 9th December

Year 3 and Year 4

Thursday 10th December

Year 5 and Year 6

Should you wish your child to have a Christmas dinner, please look out for the link that will be sent to indicate meal choices. Thank you

Anti-bullying Week

Anti-bullying week begins on the 16th November and the theme this year is 'United against Bullying'. During the week the children will have special assemblies and undertake activities to explore this theme further so that they understand the importance of standing up to bullying and the negative impact that it can have.

Attendance

Well done to the following classes who have had the best attendance in their key stage. FS/KS1 **10B** KS2 **4CM**

It's getting cold

As we approach the colder months, please ensure that your child has a coat, hat and a pair of gloves to wear on their way to school and in the playground on these chilly days. Don't forget to put your child's name in all items of clothing. Thank you.

FSM Vouchers

As you are aware Birmingham City council announced that they would support pupils entitled to Free School Meals over the half term break. Unfortunately, due to logistical problems with Birmingham City Council and their provider, Sodexo, these will not be released to parents until week commencing 16th November.

Allergies

It is vital that you inform school if your child has a diagnosed allergy so that provisions can be made. It has come to light in the last couple of weeks that two children have serious allergies which school was unaware of, as we had not been informed by parents. If your child has an allergy, school must be made aware and appropriate mediation should be supplied to ensure the safety of your child should they come into contact with an allergen. If you have not let school know please contact the office immediately.

Person of the week

The person of the week which the children have been learning about is Marie Curie. She was unable to attend university when she was younger because she was a woman, but when she was older her scientific work was respected around the world. Her discoveries of radium and polonium dramatically helped in the fight against cancer and she went on to win the Nobel Prize for Physics.

Ten:Ten Parent Newsletter

The monthly Ten:Ten parent Newsletter which used to be attached to the school newsletter has now gone digital! It can now be found on the school website using the following link:

<https://www.stberns.co.uk/ten-ten-parent-newsletter>

Accelerated Reader

The reader of the month with the highest word count is Tilly-Bleu

Values and Virtues

Well done to the following pupils who have shown that they have demonstrated the values and virtues of Curious and Active last half term:

Nursery		
Reah		
RND	RSD	RPF
Konrad	Taliah Rose	Lewis
1EG	1OB	1SM
Yahya	Liyana	Gabriella
2SF	2RW	2EL
Martin	Miguel	Olivia
3TK	3EH	3JR/LC
Shylah	Mischa	Delna
4AM	4CB	4CM
Adeena	Sienna	Alexa
5EB	5LC	5KH
Deven	Teagan	Finlee
6AMJ	6KL	6ZB
Vince	Jordy	Scarlett

The values and virtues that we are focusing on this half term are **Intentional and Prophetic**.

Intentional: planning our actions and choosing to live how God wants us to.

Every action we make has an impact on other people and the world around us. If we live intentionally, we listen to our conscience and deliberately decide that the actions we take will have a positive impact. We use the earth's resources wisely, think about the choices we make, and care for God's creation.

Prophetic: spreading the word of God through how we live our lives.

As we choose to act intentionally and make good decisions, we encourage others to do the same. We set a good example through our words and deeds and inspire other people to act in a positive and wise way. We help people to make the right decisions themselves and think about how God wants them to live their lives.

Follow us

If you use Twitter and would like to keep up with the news, pictures and updates for school, why not follow us at
[@StBernsprimary](#)

November is the month where we remember all those who have died

We always pray for those who have died and we do so with special devotion in November, the month of All Souls.

You might pause for a moment and remember, perhaps even write down, the names of those who have died for whom you want to pray. Then pray these words:

Peace be with those who have left us and have gone to God.
May they be at peace.
May they be with God.

May they be with the living God.
May they be with the immortal God.
May they be in God's hands.

May they sleep in peace.
May they live in peace.
May they be where the name of God is great.

May they be with the living God now and on the day of judgment.
May they live with God.
May they live in eternal light.

May they live in the peace of the Lord.
May they live forever in peace,
With God in peace.



Reflection

"Change your thoughts and you change your world." - Norman Vincent Peale

Year 5

We would like to share with you some of the fantastic writing year 5 have been producing in their English lessons. I am sure you will be very impressed with standard produced.

Beyond the river of pain, Percy found himself inside a dark obsidian cave. The air was stagnant and the little boy's eyes dripped as the cave got darker. As the light was so low, Percy pressed his hands on the dirty, slimy walls and felt his way along the cave moving as quickly as he dared. Trying not to notice the long, nail like stalactites hanging above him.

Ava-May – Year 5

Beyond the river of death, Percy found himself in a dark, seemingly endless room. There wasn't even a single drop of colour in the place. Just onyx and obsidian walls beside him. The thick, stagnant air choked the poor boy's lungs and stung his teal eyes like pepper spray. His heart pounded involuntary. Everything about this place was wrong. No trees, no lush green leaves, not even a soul. Just silence – menacing silence. He set his hand against this floor trying to ignore the fact that stalactites were above his head and could fall, any second, piercing into his skull.

David – Year 5

Summoning all his courage, Percy found himself in a charcoal, airless chamber. The air smelt of rotting flesh. His mind was telling him to run. It took all of his courage to move forward, tried not to get cut by stalactites that hung like witches' fingers. He knew that light did not exist in this realm of the dead, so he wondered his way around the block prism walking as quick as he dared.

Jithin Year 5

Prayer

Dear God,

Thank you for loving us and letting us make our own choices.

Help us to remember that our choices have consequences.

Please help us, when we have difficult choices, to make decisions that are helpful to us and to others.

Amen.

The Colour Collector

A poem inspired by Roger McGough's
The Sound Collector, written by
Lorraine, Kieran, Leona, Keigan, Riley,
Alisan, Kian and Marta (Year 5)

An imposter called this morning,
Dressed in a metallic way.
Put every colour into a bag
And carried them away.

The turquoise fence,
The emerald green grass,
The bright, golden sunrise,
The shiny, see-through glass.

The neighbours white cat,
The royal blue dragonfly.
The colours are gone
And this is not a lie.

The soft strawberry bedspread,
The shining steel spoon,
The tidy white window sill,
The colours from the room!

The white, fluffy clouds,
The absurd, little bird.
He took the colours,
Without a word!

The sparkling yellow stars,
The bright yellow moon.
He has taken the colours,
I hope he brings them back soon.

The tangerine orange bed,
The pitch black kettle.
He has made the world colourless
And now I can't settle.

A criminal called this morning,
He didn't leave his name.
Left us only a dark world,
Life will never be the same.

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:

Nursery (Blue)	Alfie	For great name writing	Nursery (Red)	Mickey	For always listening carefully and being a super star!
Nursery (Green)	Evangel	For settling so well in Nursery.	Nursery (Yellow)	Esther	For good sitting and listening during group time. Well done Esther!
RND	Rio	For coming into school with a lovely smile on his face! Well done!	3TK	Is'haq	For his positive approach to all areas of school.
	Alfie	Trying really hard to blend words in phonics. Well done Alfie!		Shylah	For lovely sensible behaviour.
RPF	Mariamawit	For her FANTASTIC writing! Super star!	4AMD	Anniyah	For making great efforts to play with new friends.
	Adonay	Trying his best to blend words in phonics. Super star!		Harry	For suggesting a whole class game that involves all the children.
RSD	Mohammed	For always tidying up beautifully! Well done!	4CB	Vincent	For superb effort and perseverance in P.E.
	Aaira	For trying so hard in phonics and literacy. Well done!		Reign	For working hard at all times and being a fantastic role model to his peers.
1EG	Jai	For trying extremely hard in all lessons and at home to further his learning.	4CM	Lemuel	For a fantastic effort in English.
	Mazher	For trying hard in maths		Maya	For working fantastically in lessons and being a great role model to her peers.
1OB	Nikita	For always having beautiful manners.	5EB	Grace	For being so proactive with Seesaw.
	Tyler-Jay	For always trying hard in Maths!		David	For producing an amazing piece of writing set in the Underworld.
1SMCG	Elias	For super International Week homework!	5KH	Eren	For being such a polite and well-mannered young man.
	Gurnoor	For working hard in every single lesson.		Octavia	For being such an enthusiastic reader!
2EL	Archie	For trying his very best in Maths lessons this week.	5LC	Cheldane	For producing a brilliant piece of writing at home.
	John-Junior	For being such a kind and helpful member of our class.		Megan	For working so hard in Maths.
2RW	Charlie	For his fabulous homemade space costume!	6AMJ	Kesiya	For an amazing effort in Maths
	Logan	For making a real effort with his behaviour.		Jewel	For trying her best in every lesson.
2SF	Tafari	For working hard all day every day!	6KL	Chloe-Ann	For always displaying an excellent attitude to work.
	Keone	For excellent work in maths.		Riya	For always displaying an excellent attitude to work.
3EH	Thea	For her great attitude towards all areas of school life	6ZB	Aliyah	For a fantastic start back this half term!
	Jaiden	For the way he has settled into school life at St Bernadette's		Malika	For being such a thoughtful young lady.
3JR LC	Georgio	For his positive attitude and great effort in school.			
	Ava	For her positive attitude and great effort in school.			



Year 3 – 6 Competition

As part of our commitment to make maths exciting and high profile in our school, this November we are taking part in a competition for Maths Week England. It's called Rock Out 2020 and it's all done online via play.ttrockstars.com.

For every correct answer to a multiplication or division question, your child will earn their class a point. The Times Tables Rock Stars platform will calculate the class average (the number of correct answers per pupil in the class who play during the competition hours). Winning classes in the school and in the country as a whole will be the ones with the highest average.

All game modes (Gig, Garage, Studio, etc.) will count but only from games played between 7.30am and 7.30pm on Monday 9th, Tuesday 10th, Wednesday 11th, Thursday 12th, Friday 13th and Saturday 14th.

In the spirit of the competition, please don't play on their behalf but by all means encourage and support them to the extent that it doesn't cause high stress levels or impact on family plans. We suggest a limit of half an hour a day outside school hours – some will play more, some will play less.

Thanks for your support.

From Birmingham with Love



We've all been through a tough time with Covid-19 and repeated lockdowns. For many families it can get harder over Winter, which is why we're here to help. Here are some of our partners' most used services and support, which might make life a little bit easier...



1. **Online parenting course.** We've pre-paid for every parent in Birmingham to access a [parenting course](#). Just enter the access code "COMMUNITY" at the top of the page to claim. There are courses for parents, carers and grandparents of children from bump to 19. Learn about how your child develops, and get tips to manage their behaviour.



2. **Mental health support.** In these difficult times we have to look after our mental health. For young people aged 11-25 there are forums, guides and counselling available at [Kooth](#). If your child 0-25 needs support, get in touch with Pause by calling 0207 841 4470 or [email](#). Adults can get support from [MIND](#) by calling 0121 262 3555. Or for urgent help call [Forward Thinking Birmingham](#) on 0300 300 0099.



3. **Financial help.** If you've lost your job, or are struggling for food or rent there are services that can help. [Local welfare provision](#) can make a big difference if you are in a crisis and need food, fuel or basic white goods. [Discretionary Housing Payments](#) may be able to help with rent. And there are [food banks](#) across Birmingham that are here to help.



4. **Domestic abuse.** For women and children affected by domestic abuse please see [guidance](#) or confidentially contact [Birmingham and Solihull Women's Aid](#). For Men, please contact [Respect](#).



5. **Problems with drugs or alcohol.** A new, discrete app called Staying Free is available on Android or Apple. Use the code "birmingham11" for pre-paid access. To speak to someone call [Change Grow Live](#).



6. **Bereavement support.** It's a terrible time to lose a loved one — you can get help by calling 0121 687 8010 or from [Cruse](#).



7. **Early help for families.** If anyone in your family needs more help, from public services or community groups, then please contact our [voluntary sector local leads](#). We have ten areas which can connect you to support across the city.

If you are worried about a child, please call Birmingham's Children's Advice and Support Service on 0121 303 1888. In an emergency, including child abuse, contact the Police on 999. You can also [chat](#) to the Police.