

St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

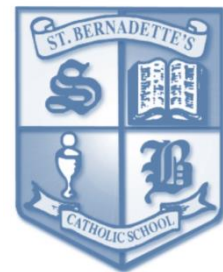
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Newsletter 6
20th November 2020

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

Reading

We have noticed a number of children are not having their reading records signed to show that they are being heard read at home. The reading record needs to be dated and signed every time you hear your child read, which should be at least 3 times per week, regardless of their age or ability. Should you wish your child to continue to make progress in reading, it is essential that we work together at home and school to ensure they are reading at every possible opportunity.

Research states:

- Parents who read one short book with their children every day provide them with exposure to an estimated 78,000 words each a year.
- Children who are read to at least three times a week by a family member are almost twice as likely to score in the top 25% in reading compared to children who are read to less than 3 times a week.
- Reading enjoyment has been reported as being the most important indicator for a child's future success.

Communication

Lots of communication is currently sent to parents via text or email. Please ensure you read any information carefully and respond as necessary. It is also important that school has an up-to-date mobile number, email address and emergency contact number for all parents, to ensure they can be contacted promptly, should the need arise. Therefore, if you have changed your mobile or email address recently, please ensure school has been informed of the updated information by completing the form which can be found on the school website:

<https://www.stberns.co.uk/change-of-details>

Reflection

'Nothing is sweeter than love; nothing stronger, nothing higher, nothing more generous, nothing more pleasant, nothing fuller or better in heaven or earth: for love proceeds from God, and cannot rest but in God, above all things created.'

- St Therese of Lisieux

Diary Dates

Monday 30th November

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

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

Monday 7th December

Christmas Dinner – Nursery & Reception

Tuesday 8th December

Christmas Dinner – Year 1 & Year 2

Year 4 First Confessions – 4CB

Wednesday 9th December

Christmas Dinner – Year 3 & 4

Year 4 First Confessions – 4CM

Thursday 10th December

Christmas Dinner – Year 5 & 6

Year 4 First Confessions – 4AM

Tuesday 22nd December

Finish for Christmas

Toy day

100% attenders own clothes

Feast of St. John the Beloved (for 27th 4AM own clothes)

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 get NO as an answer, remember N.O. means 'Next Opportunity'.

Person of the Week

The person of the week which the children have been learning about is Mahatma Gandhi. As a young man he dreamt of unity for all people and religions. Inspired by this idea, he led peaceful protests to free India from British rule and unite the country – ending violence and unfair treatment. His bravery and free-thinking made him one of the most iconic people of peace in the world, known as 'Mahatma' meaning 'great soul'.

Holy Family Church Volunteers

Fr. Fretch Ballesteros is looking for volunteers to help out during Mass at Holy Family Church once lockdown has ended. Masses take place daily (Tuesday – Friday at 10.30am) and on Saturday at 4.00pm and on Sunday at 10.30am and 5.15pm. If you could support the parish by volunteering at any of these Masses please contact Fr. Fretch at Holy Family Church on 0121 772 0059 or via email: holyfamily763@outlook.com

Thank you

A huge thank you to Daisy in Year 4 for her donation of new books and games to the year band, and also Keevie for her donation of books for the reading corner. We would also like to thank George in Year 5 for his generous donation of books for the Year 5 classes. I am sure that the children will get lots of enjoyment and pleasure from them.

Attendance

Well done to the following classes who have had the best attendance in their key stage. FS/KS1 = **2EL** KS2 = **6ZB**

Year 4 First Confessions

A reminder that First confessions for Year 4 children will now take place in the school hall at 4pm on the following days after lockdown has ended:

Tuesday 8th December – 4CB

Wednesday 9th December – 4CM

Thursday 10th December – 4AM

Due to COVID restrictions, each child will only be allowed to have one adult with them during the service and the adult will need to wear a face covering throughout the time they are inside the school building. Chairs will be set out in the hall for the child and adult, with adequate spacing between family bubbles to allow for social distancing.

Parking

Last week a number of parents received fixed penalty notices from West Midlands Police for inconsiderate and illegal parking when collecting their children. If you drive to school, please ensure that you are parked legally and responsibly, for the safety of all. Thank you.

Christmas Holidays

Please remember that the Autumn term does not finish until Tuesday 22nd December, with the children not returning to school until Wednesday 6th January. These dates may be different from other Birmingham Schools.

Reporting Absence

The telephone lines at school can often be very busy and it can sometimes take some time to report your child's absence. In order to save you time, there is now the facility to do this online by completing a simple form which can be accessed on the school website:

<https://www.stberns.co.uk/pupil-absence>

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>

Covid -19

As you are aware we have had a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the school community in our Year 3 and 4 'bubbles'. Staff and children within these 'bubbles' have to self-isolate for 14 days since the last contact with the confirmed case. This means that children in Year 3 and 4 should return to school on **Thursday 3rd December**, if they are not exhibiting any symptoms. Work will be provided for the children daily using the online 'Seesaw' platform.

DfE Guidance for parents

Please can I remind you about the government's guidance ['What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges in the autumn term'](#). This guidance sets out when children and young people may be unable to attend school in line with public health advice to self-isolate because they:

- have had symptoms or a positive test result themselves
- live with someone who has symptoms or has tested positive
- are a close contact of someone who has coronavirus (COVID-19) and are requested to do so by NHS Test and Trace or the PHE advice service



Every fortnight, the top 3 children from years 3 to 6 will be celebrated on the newsletter. This may be based upon the amount of coins they have earned, their speed score, the average daily minutes they have played or the most improved speed score. This will be changed regularly to ensure that all children are given a fair chance.

Coins earned last 14 days

Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	OVERALL
Grace 17,627	Lemuel 169,385	Logan W 114,569	Josh 249,868	Josh 249,868
Niamh 16,090	Joyce 129,034	Romeo 54,188	Jordy 121,285	Lemuel 169,385
Charlie 15,430	James 98,630	Charlie 38,333	Danielle 108,316	Joyce 129,034

Most improved speed per question

Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	OVERALL
Yusha -6.27	Harry -4.81	Kyran -0.64	Pareeshay -8.55	Pareeshay -8.55
Grace -1.67	William -4.62	Evie -0.57	Chelsea -2.58	Yusha -6.27
James -0.33	Tia -3.47	Lacey -0.52	Brodie -1.29	Harry -4.81



Applications for Nursery/Reception 2021

If you, a family member or friend have a child that was born between September 2017 and August 2018, you may apply for a place at St Bernadette's Nursery. Applications for Nursery are made through the school office. You will need to provide your child's birth certificate, baptismal certificate and proof of address with your application. Please make any application as soon as possible.

Applications for Reception places for St Bernadette's are made through Birmingham City Council on the following website: https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20119/school_admissions/1786/apply_for_reception_primary_school

It is important that you apply on time as any applications received after the 15 January 2021 will be classed as late applications and will be processed after the national offer day of 16 April 2021, and late applicants are less likely to be offered a place at any of their preferred schools. An additional form will need to be completed (available from the school office) and we will also need to see your child's birth certificate and baptismal certificate. If you have any queries or require assistance, please call the school office on 0121 464 2364. **Please note: If your child attends St Bernadette's Nursery they are not automatically offered a place in Reception - an application still has to be made.**

Puberty

As you are aware, the children in Year 4 will be covering the topic of 'Puberty' over the coming weeks. This is part of the Science curriculum and therefore pupils cannot be withdrawn from these lessons. This topic will be covered using the Relationship Education resources produced by Ten:Ten entitled, 'Life to the full'.

School Uniform

Thank you to those parents who responded to the recent survey regarding possible changes to the school uniform. The Governing Body will meet on 25th November to analyse these responses and you will be notified of the outcomes before the Christmas break.

Live Mass Streaming

St Bernadette's and Holy Family schools have been working with Holy Family Church to help enable the live streaming of Masses to take place. Once the technology is in place at Holy Family Church the children and their families will be able to benefit from attending virtual Masses.

Year 2 Phonics Screening

During the week commencing 7th December all pupils in Year 2 will undertake the national phonics screening test that would usually have been administered towards the end of Year 1; this did not take place this year due to COVID-19. Please ensure that you are helping your child revise their phonics and ensure that they attend school during this important week.



NEW!

NHS
Birmingham
Community Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

Children's Occupational Therapy advice line

Launches: 9th September 2019

An Occupational Therapist will be able to offer practical therapy advice, strategies and support to schools, parents/carers and other professionals in relation to a child's/young person's functional and independence skills.

The phone line will be open Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm

The child or young person must be:
Aged 0-18 years (up to 19 only if in full-time special school education)
Registered with a Birmingham GP

Phone number: 0121 683 2325

Best Care
Healthy Communities

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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)	Kiera	For having wonderful manners.	Nursery (Red)	Aliza	For fantastic cutting and sticking!
Nursery (Green)	Arhum	For fabulous Land Art.	Nursery (Yellow)	Zidane	For excellent counting during group time. Well done Zidane!
RND	Ella Rutter	For doing some excellent counting in the Maths area.	3TK	Evelyn Miller	For always trying her best in class.
	Stanley Brown	For always being kind and a good friend to his peers.		Gurtej Singh	For working really hard in Maths.
RPF	Daisie-Blu	For amazing writing in literacy! Well done!	4AMD	Keevie	For her kind donation of books to the reading corner.
	Jake C	For fabulous number work in Maths!		Daisy	For her contribution of books and equipment to the class and year 4.
RSD	Amelia	For being a kind friend, always.	4CB	Tia	For completing extra India research at home.
	Neil	For reading beautifully and always working hard		Riley C	For excellent effort in maths.
1EG	Clay	For helping others find friends on the playground.	4CM	Megan	For behaving reverently during a class prayer service.
	Yahya	For showing kindness to others and helping them.		Niah	For a fantastic effort in his English lessons.
1OB	Iga	For always trying so hard in Maths!	5EB	Georgie	For hitting the ground running after a long absence.
	Olivia	For always trying her best in every single lesson.		Kryzo	For making excellent contributions in all lesson discussions.
1SMCG	Kacie	For working hard in every single lesson.	5KH	Marta	For being so polite and working so hard in lessons.
	Hansikka	For always listening carefully and working hard in lessons.		George	For generously donating some beautiful books for our classroom bookshelf.
2EL	Khalil	For his wonderful space retell in English	5LC	Kieran	For trying so hard in our gymnastics lesson.
	Leniyce	For improved focus in Maths		Lacey	For being such an enthusiastic reader.
2RW	Atif	For his wonderful column addition.	6AMJ	Lawrence	For trying his best in every lessons.
	Amily	For trying really hard in maths.		Vince	For always showing beautiful manners.
2SF	Francis McIntaggart	For fantastic behaviour and super effort in all his work.	6KL	Jordy Boyomo	For an excellent effort in English this week.
	Kyle Moriarty	For working hard in RE		Ava Grace Robinson	For always displaying such a mature and sensible attitude in school.
3EH	Joshua A	For super effort in Maths and on TTRS	6ZB	Robert	For such fantastic writing in English.
	Nevaeh	Great effort with her English work		Isabelle	For excellent contributions in English.
3JR LC	Eva Clair	For working so hard in all lessons.			
	Haris	For thinking of others with his charity donations.			