

# St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

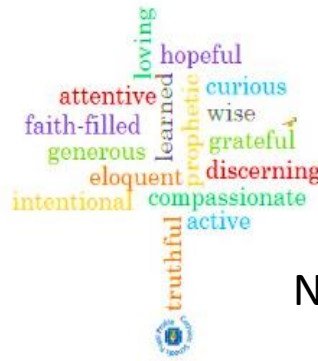
Hobmoor Road, Yardley, Birmingham, B25 8QL

Telephone: 0121-783-7232

Website [www.stberns.co.uk](http://www.stberns.co.uk)

Twitter: @StBernsPrimary

e-mail: [enquiry@stberns.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@stberns.bham.sch.uk)



## Newsletter 22

12<sup>th</sup> June 2020

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

Dear Parents,

We hope that this newsletter finds you all safe and well as we continue to adapt to the ever-changing Government guidelines in staying alert to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. It has been wonderful to have some of our children back in school and we are extremely pleased with how successful the first phase of introducing pupils back to school has been. This has been the result of the collaboration between school staff, parents and children to adhere to new rules within and around school. We would like to commend the children, particularly our younger pupils, who have adapted so well to new routines in school and are trying really hard to stay safe through social distancing and regularly washing their hands. It really has been a pleasure to have them here. We'd like to say a big thank you also to our parents, who are following the new guidelines around school, bringing their children in on time between 8.20 - 8.50 am and adhering to the one-way system through the playground before and after school – think of all those extra steps you are getting in! Finally, to our staff, who are always so resilient and flexible, adapting to many changes in the school day and supporting our children and each other in ensuring the phase one return to school has been as safe and smooth as it could be – a huge thanks to you too.

Well done to those children and parents who are continuing to engage with the online learning opportunities provided for you. Your teachers are working hard to ensure they are meeting the needs of the children as best as possible and provide regular feedback, which is very much appreciated.

Following the recent Government announcement this week, schools are not expected to open to all year bands before September. However, we are currently putting plans together to invite more of our children back in to school over the coming weeks. The idea will be that all year bands will be given the opportunity to return to school in some capacity, at some point before the end of term. This will be done over a number of weeks to allow us to phase children back in to school safely. Please see below for more detailed information on the next phases of returning children to school.

Thank you parents and guardians once again for your continued support and co-operation during these challenging times and we hope that you are taking heart, as we are, as some form of normality begins to resume in the coming weeks.

## School Uniform

Unfortunately, due to the current climate, school will be unable to supply uniform for purchase from the office. Our school uniform supplier is Clive Marks Schoolwear Ltd, where you can purchase jumpers/ cardigans and t-shirt etc with the school logo, should you wish to do so. Their store will re-open on 18th June in line with Government recommendations. However, if you are looking to purchase uniform for September, you will need to contact the store to book an appointment by logging onto [clivemark.co.uk](http://clivemark.co.uk) and creating an account. Once this has been done you will be able to book an appointment. The Sheldon store is located at: 2286 Coventry Road, Birmingham, B26 3JR

## Reminder School Meal Increase

School meals went up by 5p per day from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020. Please make sure you are paying the correct amount on ParentPay. New prices are as follows:  
Year 3 to Year 6 = **£2.40** per day **£12.00** per week  
Nursery class = **£2.10** per day **£10.50** per week

## Free School Meals

If you are unsure whether you are eligible please apply online at <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/birmingham> any problems please pop in to the School office for some help.

## School Participation in Covid-19 Testing

The Government is calling on schools to participate in a study on the spread of COVID-19. If the school is selected, a nurse will visit each week from 15th June, continuing until the end of the Summer term. The nurse would take nasal swabs from children and provide swabs for school staff to self-test. These would then be analysed and the school and parents would be informed if anyone tested positive for COVID-19. Anyone testing positive would need to follow national guidance and self-isolate for 7 days. Participation in the study is voluntary and parents would need to sign consent forms before their children could take part. The school has been put forward for the study, however as yet, **we have not been informed if we have been selected to take part.** We will keep you updated as more information comes to light.

## Archbishop Ilsey Year 6 Transition

Due to current restrictions Y6 transition will be very different this year. To help ease this transition, Archbishop Ilsey are currently producing a weekly virtual tour of the school to allow the children in Y6 and families to get to know the school a bit better. This is linked to a weekly transition newsletter which is emailed over to parents each week. If you have not received this, it is also tweeted and on the Archbishop Ilsey YouTube page on their website. If your child will be attending Archbishop Ilsey in September, it would certainly be beneficial to watch the tours and read the newsletter which also contain some challenges and activities for them.

**Twitter:** @ABIlsey

**Website:**

<https://www.ilsley.bham.sch.uk/>

## Plans for the Continued Phased return of Children to School

**PLEASE READ THE INFORMATION BELOW CAREFULLY.**

### Phase Two

In **Phase 2** of reopening school, we will be offering the opportunity for the following children to return school on **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June:**

- **Siblings** of those children **who are currently in school** in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 or Year 6
- **Other children** in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 or Year 6 **who have not yet taken up a place** will be invited once again to return to school on this date. \*Please note that we are unable to offer the siblings of these children a place as yet. **This will be the final opportunity for these children to take up a place before the end of term.**
- **Children in Year 5** will also be given the opportunity to return to school on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June. \*Please note that we are unable to offer the siblings of these children a place as yet.

### **PHASE 3**

In **Phase 3** of children returning to school, **we hope to** invite children currently in Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4 to return to school **as long as we can do this safely.** This may be either on a part-time or full-time basis depending on numbers, and will also be a phased return. **We are unable to say when this will be at present** but more details will follow in the coming weeks, so please read all communications from school carefully and regularly. As we are sure you are aware, in order to bring the children back to school safely, we need to put careful plans and risk assessments in place. Therefore, **we must have a clear and definitive idea of the number of children that will be returning to school.**

To this end, **all parents** should have received a link via email to complete a questionnaire, asking you whether or not you intend to send your child back to school.

- **Please complete the questionnaire by Monday 15th June at the latest.** If you do not respond to the questionnaire, we will assume that you will not be sending your child/children back to school at any point before the Summer holidays.
- If you intend to send your child in to school, **it must be on a permanent basis and attendance is required every day.** This will allow us to be able to manage staffing numbers and ensure we have the capacity to provide a safe environment for children and staff.
- **Please complete one questionnaire per child and only complete the relevant section for your child.** PLEASE DO NOT COMPLETE THE QUESTIONNAIRE IF YOUR CHILD IS CURRENTLY ATTENDING SCHOOL as we are assuming you will take up the offer for siblings to return to school.

## FINAL WEEK OF TERM

Please note that during the last week of term beginning 13th July, **Nursery will be closed and Year 6 will not be expected to attend school.** Therefore, these year bands will break for the Summer holidays on **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July.**

This will allow for a transition period in the final week of term, during which children in the other year bands will be able to meet their new teachers for the next academic year.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THESE PLANS ARE DEPENDENT ON CURRENT GOVERNMENT GUIDELINES IN RELATION TO RELAXING LOCKDOWN RESTRICTIONS AND COULD CHANGE SUBJECT TO FURTHER GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

## AR Home Reading Books

Could we ask that any Accelerated Reader reading books that the children brought home before lockdown be returned to school so that staff can begin to replenish the stocks in the library and prepare it for the new academic year. We spent a great deal of money resourcing the library when we set it up and we are currently missing a large number of books. We would greatly appreciate it if you return the books to school and place them in the plastic box in the reception area by the office in the next couple of weeks. The books should have a blue or orange sticker on the front with a ZPD number on it.

## Stars of the Week

Your teachers would like to commend the following children in particular this week:

### Nursery

Miss Lavin and the Nursery staff would like to mention Bailey, Shaydon, Aaron, Freddie, Brianna, Alfie and Jake for their continued hard work on all their tapestry activities over the last two months.

It's been so lovely seeing the pictures and videos of all the wonderful things they have been doing at home. The Nursery staff are also delighted with Rubie-Mae, Owen and Jude, who are in school this week, for all their hard work and efforts with their story, The Very Hungry Caterpillar and the life cycle of a butterfly.

### Reception

Miss Finnegan would like to mention Iga for her amazing art and design skills. She created a castle, including features such as battlements, moat, portcullis, drawbridge and arrow slits. A picture of her wonderful work is attached below. Miss Deards is over the moon with Charlie for his super phonics work and Miss Fullerton is delighted with Amelie for her great blending and reading.

### Year 1

Miss Fiddler wants to say a big well done to all of 1SF who have returned to school. They have shown excellent behaviour and have worked so hard with all their topic work. Also, a big well done to the children that have remained at home and are working hard on their plant work. Mrs McGrath is really pleased with Amily as she has worked really hard during Topic week. Mrs Jones is also delighted with Daisy for her amazing topic work throughout the week.

### Year 2

Mrs Bhella Kelly would like to commend Romayah for completing some amazing work in English and also Amiah, Jones and James T for fantastic effort in their English remote learning! They have completed some amazing character profiles, diary entries as well finding similarities and differences between the two versions of Baba Yagga, the Russian Folk Tale. Qasim has impressed Mr Wayne with his reasoning skills on pictograms as well as Kaeli for catching up with all her work after her internet was down. Miss O'Toole is delighted with Kayden for his enthusiasm and excellent subject knowledge during their dinosaur topic. Mrs Harston is delighted with all of the children in her English set who have written such wonderful dragon reports and diary entries, which you can read below. She would also like to thank all of the children in her Maths set who have made and emailed amazing patterns and made such creative 3D shapes.

The Year 2 staff would also like to say how proud there are of Ethan as he has been so brave when he has had to have some blood tests done over the last while. His teachers are missing him lots and are looking forward to seeing him soon.

# Stars of the Week

Your teachers would like to commend the following children in particular this week:

## Year 3

Mrs Kelly is really pleased with Zachary for great comprehension answers and book reviews, Joyce and Quinn for amazing sentences using their weekly spellings and in fact all of her 3TK English Set for their hard work. Miss Corkery is delighted with William as he is trying really hard and has learned lots about money this week. She is also really proud of Reign as he has had a lockdown birthday this week and still completed his work every day. Miss Gibbs would like to commend T'Yana for persevering and practicing new concepts and learning, Tilly - Bleu and Ava B for consistently completing their Maths online work and Harry K for excellent effort in his English work this week. Mrs Hill would like Sienna and Greta to be included in the newsletter for their superb effort with completing their Maths work. Miss Colclough is also really pleased with Krisha and Shannon for their fantastic reading in school.

## Year 4

Miss Hulse and Miss Manders are delighted with Kimii-Li and Ezra's poetry work and illustrations. Miss Hulse would also like to mention Logan for his continued effort in Maths. Mrs Brownhill is impressed with Ayona's excellent adverbials work and Darcey's amazing fox poem. Finally, Mr Kingston and Mrs Canning are really pleased with Lorraine's work in Maths.

## Year 5

Miss Grant & Miss Connaire are delighted with Elisha for the high quality of her work and the excellent effort over the past couple of weeks with her home learning. They are also really pleased with Riya, Nidhaan and Jerin for continually completing their home learning in English. Miss Dorian would like to commend Khloie, Chelsea, Elisia and Mattia for their great online Maths and Jor'El, Nikita and Freddie for their super English work. Miss Speake and Ms Ryan are very impressed with the thorough working out in Maths that Scarlett, Freddie and Jor'El have shown. They are also delighted with the effort that Chanali and Emil have displayed in the tenses work in English, this week.

## Year 6

Miss Lakin is really pleased with all of the new 6KL class for their Maths and English investigative work and their new cross stitching skills. Mrs Docker had a really enjoyable, calm week with her new 'Year 6 bubble'. She was so pleased with Renee's increased effort in class and amazing, observational drawing. Corey, Sarah and Bexanne produced some talented Creative writing pieces, where they managed to write about a very short plot point in great depth. Ocean has contributed maturely to all lessons this week, but especially in our 'Moving on Up' Transition Project. Jack and Mani's work on 'World Ocean Day' was well thought out and showed a clear understanding of the 'ingesting plastics' issue. Miss Boron would like to say well done to her whole class for coming in with such enthusiasm each day. She would also like to say a special well done to Jamuel and Ruby for fantastic effort with their Maths work. Miss Cahill would like to commend Sarah on her in depth work on the class reading book and excellent contributions to our character based class discussion.

Keep up the hard work everyone! Thank you and well done 😊





## The New York Electric Dragon.

The New York Electric Dragon is an unusual species of dragon, which is usually only seen at the same time as thunder and lightning. Would you like to find out more?

Then carry on reading!

### How will you know you've seen Speedy The Electric Dragon?

Electric dragons are easy to recognise because they are the biggest dragons to be found in the USA.

Unusually, they are the size of the Empire State Building and are covered in black, shadowy scales. Unlike most dragons, the electric dragon has shiny blue, electrifying wings. In addition, it can blow out bolts of electricity from its mouth, which it uses to defend itself against stronger dragons.

### Where can you find an Electric dragon?

Electric dragons are only found in the City of New York, especially around gigantic buildings because they can hide behind them. They build their habitats on top of huge

sky-scrappers, but they only fly during thunderstorms, so they are not often spotted by humans.

## What makes Electric Dragons unique?

The New York Electric Dragon is different to other dragons because it has two squiggly horns upon its head and is covered in dark, shadowy scales, so that it can camouflage amongst the thundery clouds. Surprisingly, Electric dragons can spin around and make electric tornadoes to defend itself from its enemies. How amazing is that!

By Charlie



## Lucy the Candy-floss Dragon. - By Alysia

Lucy the Candy-floss Dragon is special type of dragon, which is only seen very early in the morning at hot, quiet beaches. Would you like to read more about her? Then let's keep on reading!

### How will you spot Lucy the Candy-floss Dragon?

You can tell when you see a Candy-floss Dragon because they are the most sparkly dragon found in Candy Crush Land. Outlandishly, they are as big as a hippo and have bright pink and dark purple glittery sparkles on their scaly skin. Unlike lots of dragons, Candy-floss Dragons have sweet juices that come out of their scales and chocolate sprinkles spray out when they flap their average sized wings. Also, they breathe candy-floss to distract their enemies when they attack. Unbelievably, they can throw pink fire out of their huge, long tail.

### Where can Lucy the Candy-floss Dragon be found?

Candy-floss dragons are usually found across Nerd Sweet City, but Lucy is commonly found on a bright, beautiful rainbow because this is where she feels happy and gets her candy-floss power from. She makes her home at the top of a rainbow, yet she only flies when it is sunny and rains at the same time, so people cannot see her on her rainbow.

## What makes my Lucy the Candy-floss dragon fantastically rare?

Lucy is an individual dragon, so she stands out from her other Candy-floss Dragon friends. On top of her head is an amazing, fabulous, unicorn horn. This horn glows pink and blue (the colours of Nerd Sweet City) and pulses when there is danger! It magically senses the danger and a big, giant bubble gum bubble comes out the top of her horn and floats to the enemy, trapping them inside.





*"We are all connected because we exist in the same water*

*and find our sustenance in this ocean and everything else we need to live."*

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The completion of the feast and octave of Pentecost heralded the start of Ordinary Time. Ordinary Time celebrates "the mystery of Christ in all its aspects."

So, we have begun this time with the celebration of two important feasts that are far from ordinary - and we find a focus on the fundamental teachings and doctrine of the Church that seem controversial but fascinating.

Last Sunday, we celebrated Trinity Sunday, one of the few celebrations of the Christian Year that commemorates a reality and doctrine rather than a person or event. We remembered and honoured the eternal God: The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit and the unity of the Trinity. Essentially, the Trinity is the belief that God is one in essence (Greek *ousia*), but distinct in person (Greek *hypostasis*). The Greek word for person means "that which stands on its own," or "individual reality," and does not mean the persons of the Trinity are three human beings. Therefore, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are somehow distinct from one another - not divided though, yet completely united in will and essence. How can this be? Well, think of the sight of two eyes. The eyes are distinct, yet one and undivided in their sight. Another illustration to explain the Trinity is as a musical chord. Think of a C-chord. The C, E, and G notes are all distinct notes, but when joined as one chord, the sound is richer and more dynamic than had the notes been played individually. Each note in the chord is equally important in producing the rich sound, and the sound is lacking and thin if one of the notes is left out. A "mystery." By mystery the Church does not mean a riddle, but rather that the Trinity is a reality above our human comprehension that we may begin to grasp, but ultimately must know through worship, symbol, and faith. It has been said that this mystery is not a wall to run up against, but an ocean in which to swim. So, as St Paul told us that God is love, love and hence faith are the Ocean in which we all swim.

The next mystery of our faith was celebrated this Thursday, as every other year on the Thursday after Trinity Sunday, when the feast of Corpus Christi is celebrated in commemoration of the Last Supper of Jesus Christ and his twelve apostles before his crucifixion on Holy Thursday (Maundy Thursday). The name 'Corpus Christi' is Latin for 'the body of Christ'. This jubilant festival was celebrated to proclaim the truth of the transubstantiation of bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ during Holy Mass through Holy Communion (Eucharist). Even though, every sacrament is held in highly esteem, the Eucharist has traditionally held a special place among them. To illustrate this, Ignatius of Antioch (105 AD) referred to the Eucharist as the "medicine of immortality" (Ephesians 20:2); St. Ephrem the Syrian (373 AD) taught that even crumbs from the Eucharistic host could sanctify thousands and thousands; St Thomas Aquinas considered the Eucharist to be the greatest of all sacraments. Thus, the Church has consistently viewed the Eucharist as unique, even among the sacraments. So, while every Sunday is a feast of the Eucharist, because by participating in the Mass, and in receiving Communion, we are honouring and celebrating the Eucharist, it is fitting that a feast exists to specifically commemorate the Eucharist. The Catholic Catechism summarizes this in its teaching of the importance of the Eucharist:

The Eucharist is "the source and summit of the Christian life." "The other sacraments, and indeed all ecclesiastical ministries and works of the apostolate, are bound up with the Eucharist and are oriented toward it. For in the blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely Christ himself, our Pasch."

*"God's love is like an ocean: you can see its beginning but not its end."*

*"We are one with God as the waves are one with the Ocean."*



# Parent Newsletter

Living faith  
within our families

June 2020



## Sara's Super Saturday

On Sunday 31st May, we celebrated Pentecost – when the disciples received the gift of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is sometimes called a 'helper', and in the assembly for the w/c June 1st, children watched a video about a girl who received help. Here is a version of that story, called 'Sara's Super Saturday':

'It started when Grandad woke up from his morning nap. "Do you know what time it is, Sara?" he mumbled, still half asleep.

I said, "I don't know how to tell the time, I just get confused..."

Grandad woke up properly then, lifted me up, sat me on his lap and explained all about the big hand and the little hand and the tick tock second hand that goes round and round. It had never made sense

before, but Grandad was so kind and welcoming, he made it seem easy!

Grandad asked again, "Do you know what time it is, Sara?"

I looked at his watch, at the big hand and the little hand and said proudly, "It's 11 o'clock!"

"Or as I like to call it, biscuit time!" said Grandad.

Then later on, Mum was putting on her trainers to go out to walk the dog and I asked if I could come too. Mum said, "Of course, put your new trainers on then!"

I said, "Mum, I really like my new trainers, but the laces are all fiddly. I miss my old Velcro trainers. They were easy to put on."

So, Mum sat next to me on the doorstep. She'd been busy, but suddenly she was really calm and peaceful, and patiently showed me how to thread one lace over the other,

make a loop and pull it through!

Then later on I was outside when I fell off my bike and knocked into Ted, my older brother. "Owwwww! Sorry Ted, I didn't mean to bump you! I'm rubbish at riding my bike now Dad's taken the stabilisers off."

Ted can be grumpy sometimes, but he was really kind and picked me up off the floor. "You're not rubbish," he said, "it just takes practice! When I was your age, it took me ages to learn to ride my bike without stabilisers. Do you want me to help you?"

So, Ted held the back of my bike whilst I pedalled. It was really tricky keeping my balance, but Ted kept encouraging me to keep going, and never minded if I bumped into him or fell off! Eventually I managed to ride the whole driveway without falling off!

What a day! I'm going to remember it as 'Sara's Super Saturday'!

## "Receive the Holy Spirit"

John 20:19-23

Sara couldn't tell the time, tie her shoelaces or ride her bike without stabilisers, but with help she learned how to be like others and do the things they do – just like the Holy Spirit helps us to be like Jesus and do the things He does!

Children learned that like the way Sara's family helped her, the Holy Spirit is welcoming, peaceful, forgiving, encouraging, loving and kind: whenever we demonstrate those qualities, we can be sure the Holy Spirit is working in us.

### Prayer

Dear Holy Spirit,

I welcome you into my heart.  
Help me learn from you and  
become more like Jesus.

Amen



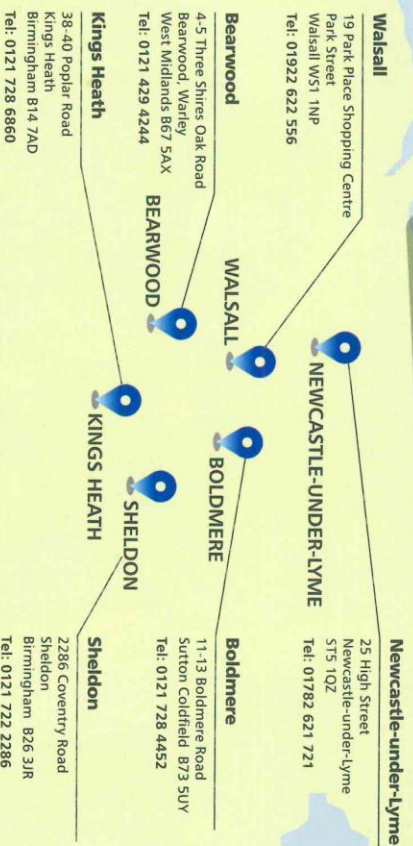
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