

St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

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Newsletter 1

04th September 2020

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

Welcome back!

It was lovely to welcome back all our families, old and new, to school this week. The school has not been the same without the children and there is once again a lovely atmosphere in school as the children have settled back into their new classes and routines. May I congratulate the children for returning to school looking very smart in their winter uniforms and eager to learn. I would also like to take the opportunity to ask you as parents for your continued support to ensure that your child's attendance and punctuality remains as high as possible this academic year.

Communication

A reminder that parents can now email staff with queries regarding their child's work, on the year band email address.

If your child attends the nursery you should email nursery@stberns.bham.sch.uk

If you have a child in the Reception class then please email reception@stberns.bham.sch.uk Teaching staff who cover

classes in year 1 can be contacted at year1@stberns.bham.sch.uk and all other year bands, using the same email address but preceded with the applicable year band.

Forgotten Items

It is school policy that if a child forgets to bring an item for school e.g. a lunchbox, PE Kit or homework etc. it will not be accepted by office staff. In the case of a forgotten lunchbox, the child will be provided with a school meal which will be charged to your Parent Pay account.

School Meals

Unfortunately, due to problems with suppliers, Cityserve is unable to provide the full menu for which you made selections for your child. It is hoped that these problems will be resolved shortly and the full menu can be reinstated. Until this time the kitchen is providing a reduced menu which is still nutritionally balanced.

Reflection

God didn't promise days without pain,
laughter without sorrow,
nor sun without rain,
But he did promise;
strength for the day,
comfort for the tears and
light for the way.

Autumn Term 2020

Term Starts: Tuesday 1 September 2020

Half Term:

Monday 26 October to Friday 30 October 2020

Term Ends: Tuesday 22 December 2020

Spring Term 2021

Term Starts: Wednesday 6 January 2021

Half Term

Monday 15 February to Friday 19 February 2021

Term Ends: Thursday 1 April 2021

Summer Term 2021

Term Starts: Tuesday 20 April 2021

Half Term:

Monday 31 May to Friday 4 June 2021

Term Ends: Wednesday 21 July 2021

INSET DAYS:

Friday 25th September 2020, Monday 2nd November 2020, Monday 22nd February 2021, Monday 19th April 2021, Friday 30th April 2021

May Bank Holiday: Monday 3rd May

(Please note the inset days may be subject to change)



Fr. Philip

We say a fond farewell to Fr Philip who will complete his last weekend as parish priest at Holy Family Church on the 6th September. It has been a pleasure to work with him during his time in the parish helping to formulate the spiritual development of the children at St Bernadette's. He has been instructed by the Archbishop to move to become the parish priest of Our Lady and All Saints in Stourbridge. We wish Fr Philip all the best as he begins a new chapter in his mission. In the meantime, Holy Family Parish will be looked after by Fr Andrew from Corpus Christi Parish until a new parish priest is appointed.

Secondary Schools Applications

All children in Year 6 are required to complete an online application for Secondary School in September 2020. 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 2020.

Social Distancing

Please can I remind parents to ensure that they are socially distancing from one another whilst on the school premises. It is very easy to forget about the measures that have been put in place and gather to have a chat. The current guidance states that adults should remain 2m apart and this should be adhered to in order to prevent any potential transmission of the virus and to ensure the safety of the whole school community. Furthermore, may I also take this opportunity to remind parents of the one-way system in operation and that parents and children should not be walking across the staff car-park – designated paths should be used at all times. You will also notice that outside a number of exits there are yellow lines painted – please can you stand back behind these lines. Thank you.

Lunchboxes

All lunchboxes provided for children should contain a healthy option. Sweets and fizzy drinks are not permitted. Children may bring a small packet of crisps or a chocolate bar only on a Friday as a treat. On all other days the lunch provided should be healthy and nutritious. Please see <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes> for ideas.

Contact Details

Please ensure that the office staff have two emergency contact telephone numbers for your child which are current and up-to-date. If you have changed your contact details over the Summer holidays (address, telephone number, email address) please inform the office via telephone – 0121 783 72132 or email at enquiry@stberns.bham.sch.uk

Punctuality

School is now open from 8.20am until 8.50am to ensure that there is ample opportunity for parents to drop off their child whilst remaining socially distanced. Any children who arrive at school after 8.50am will not be permitted.

**Keep 2 metres
apart**



We are social distancing

**Please respect this and
adhere to the guidelines**

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you
for your hand of
blessing in my life.

Thank you for choosing to
work through me
today. I submit myself and my
resources to you.

Show me ways to be a
blessing to others so that
the earth will be filled
with the knowledge of your
glory in Jesus' name.

Amen.

Values and Virtues

Each half term the children in school will be learning about a different value and virtue, which they will be encouraged to live out in their daily lives. The value and virtue we are focusing on this half term in Curious and Active.

Curious: exploring God's creation and asking questions to find out more.

Everything around us was created by God. Being curious about these things – from tiny insects to enormous planets, from the languages of the Earth to the patterns made by numbers – brings us closer to God.

Active: working to make things better where we can.

As we use our curiosity to explore, we find things that could be better: a friend is unhappy; a neighbour is lonely; there is litter in the playground; the whiteboard needs wiping. Some of these problems we can fix. By being active we take responsibility for these tasks and look after God's creation.

Asthma and Allergy

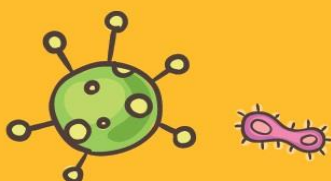
If your child suffers with Asthma or a life-threatening allergy it is vital that school are made aware of this and that there is in date medication in school, clearly labelled with your child's name and dosage. (Much of the medication in school expired during the lockdown period so needs to be replaced as a matter of urgency). Please note the expiry date of any medication sent in to school so that you can always ensure there is valid in-date medication available in the event of an emergency.

Nuts

We have a significant number of children in school who have a serious and life-threatening allergy to nuts. No nut based products are used in school and we would please ask parents to ensure that no nut based products are sent in lunchboxes – this includes Nutella sandwich filling. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

COVER YOUR COUGH AND SNEEZE

Stop the spread of germs that make people sick



When you cough or sneeze
cover your nose and mouth



Dairy Dates

Unfortunately, the diary dates in the children's reading records were produced and printed before the summer holidays, and as social distancing restrictions and safety guidance for schools still remain in place, many of the events published will be unable to take place at the present time. Therefore, all meetings for parents within school will be cancelled until further notice. Instead, a PowerPoint of information will be produced and distributed to parents where appropriate (this will include welcome meetings that were scheduled for next week). In addition to this, all school trips (including swimming) will no longer take place in the Autumn term. Currently, it is also likely that all Christmas events (Year band nativity plays, carol services etc.) will also not be permitted until restrictions have eased. Unfortunately, this is beyond our control and the school must follow guidance that has been issued to ensure we all remain safe. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

SEPTEMBER 2020	
Tuesday 1 st	Term begins (7 weeks, 4 days) Year 3 charity Nursery closed New Reception group 1
Wednesday 2 nd	Nursery children begin New Reception group 2
Thursday 3 rd	New Reception group 3
Friday 4 th	Year 5 Welcome Powerpoint available Feast of St Teresa of Calcutta (for 5 th – 6KL own clothes)
Monday 7 th	Year 4 Welcome Powerpoint available Swimming cancelled for Autumn term
Tuesday 8 th	Year 2 Welcome Powerpoint available
Wednesday 9 th	Year 3 Welcome Powerpoint available
Thursday 10 th	Year 1 Welcome Powerpoint available EcoPark visits cancelled for Autumn term
Friday 11 th	Reception Welcome Powerpoint available
Monday 14 th	Nursery Welcome Powerpoint available
Wednesday 16 th	9.00 am – Year 6 Mass (School) – Inscription Mass
Thursday 17 th	RSD out at the EcoPark (pm)
Friday 18 th	Year 6 Welcome Powerpoint available
Monday 21 st	Phonic and Reading Powerpoint for Reception parents
Thursday 24 th	Macmillan Coffee Morning – any donations to be sent in with child - no event to take place.
Friday 25 th	Inset Day – School closed
Wednesday 30 th	9.00 am – Year 5 Mass (School)

OCTOBER 2020

Thursday 1 ST	Feast of St. Theresa of Lisieux (3TK own clothes)
Monday 5 th	Feast of St. Francis of Assisi – (for 4 th - RND own clothes)
Monday 19 th	International Week
Thursday 22 nd	Feast of St John Paul II (4CB own clothes) RSE Powerpoint for Y6 parents
Friday 23 rd	Feast of St. Jude (for 28th -5KH own clothes)
Monday 26th	Half Term Holiday
Tuesday 27th	Half Term Holiday
Wednesday 28th	Half Term Holiday
Thursday 29th	Half Term Holiday
Friday 30th	Half Term Holiday

November 2020

Monday 2 nd	Inset Day - School closed Term begins (7 weeks 2 days) Year 4 Charity
Thursday 5 th	Photographer in School - Family and individual
Wednesday 11 th	Remembrance Assemblies throughout day 10.00am - New Parents Meeting
Friday 13 th	Powerpoint for Parents concerning FGM & CSE
Monday 16 th	Anti-Bullying Week
Thursday 19 th	1:00pm - Yr6 Confessions (in preparation for Confirmation)
Friday 20 th	Feast of St. Cecilia (for 22nd 2RW own clothes)
Monday 23 rd	1:00pm Year 6 to cover FGM & CSE
Wednesday 25 th	9:00am - Yr4 Mass (School)
Monday 30 th	St Andrew's Day (50p -all to wear blue or white) 9:00am - Advent Service in school throughout the day

December 2020

Thursday 3 rd	1:00pm - Yr5 Confessions
Monday 21 st	Christmas party afternoon
Tuesday 22 nd	Toy day 100% attenders own clothes Feast of St. John the Apostle (for 27th) 4CB own clothes Finish for Christmas