

# St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

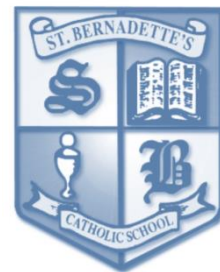
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Newsletter 12  
6 March 2020

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

## Parents' Evening

Parents' Evening, with an English focus, will take place on either Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March or Wednesday 18 March from 3.10pm – 6pm. Appointments will be available to book online with your child's English teacher from **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March**. Please ensure that you book an appointment as soon as you can to ensure you get a time slot that suits you best.

Please be advised that your child's English Setting teacher will share with you, information regarding the frequency of your child's reading at home. We still have a number of children who are not reading regularly enough at home and are therefore not making the required progress. Staff in KS1/FS will share the results of recent phonics tests and provide you with information so that you can support your child at home.

## Author Visit

Last week, the children from Year 2 – 6 had the pleasure of a visit from Author Jennifer Killick, creator of the Alex Sparrow series and Mo Lottie and the Junkers. The children learnt all about how to become writers and were each given a sneak preview of her new book 'Crater Lake' which is released on 19<sup>th</sup> March.



## St Patrick's Day

To mark the feast of St Patrick on **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March** the children are invited to wear green and donate 50p to charity.

## Mother's Day

In order to celebrate Mother's Day, Nursery would like to invite the Mothers of children in Nursery to a special Mother's Day breakfast at 9.00am on **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March**. Mother of children in Reception are invited to a special picnic at 1.00pm on 20<sup>th</sup> March.

## KS1 Mass

There will be a Mass for children in Year 1 and 2 on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March** at 9.00am in school. Parents are warmly invited to attend this service.

## Book Fair

The book fair will take place from 3pm on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March until the morning of Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March. Children will be allocated slots to visit and parents are welcome before and after school on these dates.

## Diary Dates

### 11<sup>th</sup> March

9am – Year 2 Mass (School)

### 12<sup>th</sup> March

Year 4 Confessions

RPF – out at Eco Park pm

### 17<sup>th</sup> March

Feast of St Patrick (children to wear green – 50p)

Parents Evening (English Focus)

### 18<sup>th</sup> March

9am – KS1 Mass (School)

Parents Evening (English Focus)

### 19<sup>th</sup> March

Feast of St Joseph (RSD own clothes)

Year 6 Confessions

REF – out at Eco Park pm

### 20<sup>th</sup> March

Nursery – 9am Mother's Day Breakfast

Reception – 1pm Mother's Day Picnic

### 24<sup>th</sup> March

3TK and half of 3EH First Confessions (Church) 5pm

### 26<sup>th</sup> March

Feast of St Margaret Clitherow (3EH to wear own clothes)

RSD – out at Eco Park

3EG and half of 3EH First Confessions (Church) 5pm

### 1<sup>st</sup> April

9.30am Whole School Mass

Decorate an egg competition Year 1-6

2pm – Parents' Forum

### 2<sup>nd</sup> April

9am – EYFS Easter Bonnet Parade

RPF – out at Eco Park

100% Attendance – own clothes

### 3<sup>rd</sup> April

Break up for Easter

### 20<sup>th</sup> April

Children return to school after Easter Holidays

Year 5 Charity

Feast of St Bernadette's for 18<sup>th</sup> – Nursery own clothes)

### 22<sup>nd</sup> April

9.30am - Whole School Mass

### 23<sup>rd</sup> April

St George's Day – Whole School own clothes 50p

9am – Reception Behaviour Assembly

### 24<sup>th</sup> April

9am – Year 3 Behaviour Assembly

### 27<sup>th</sup> April

9am - Year 4 Behaviour Assembly

2pm – 3EG - RE Inspire (Sharing a meal)

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## Reflection

"We must always walk in the presence of the Lord, in the light of the Lord, always trying to live in an irreprehensible way".

**Pope Francis**

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## Year 3 Condoover Hall Residential

Well done to the children in Year 3 who participated in the residential to Condoover Hall. The children had a fantastic time challenging themselves and learning teamwork and competitive skills. A special thank you to the staff who attended the visit and gave up their time to make the visit happen.

## Congratulations Mr. Wayne

A massive congratulations to Mr Wayne, who was recently awarded a Good Citizens Award for his dedication towards raising the profile around the impact of knife crime. He has turned his own traumatic experience into something positive through education, fund-raising and campaigning and we are incredibly proud of our inspirational teacher.



# Thank You

A thank you to Mrs. Rooney for donating a violin to school.

We would also like to extend a special thank you to TOA taxis, who came to our aid this week when we had an injured pupil.

A special thank you to the driver, Mohammed, who was incredibly kind and went out of his way to help us.

## EYFS Easter Bonnet Parade

Children in Nursery and Reception classes are invited to create an Easter Bonnet for a parade to be held on **Thursday 2nd April**. Prizes will be awarded to the best designs. Have fun making your creations and good luck in the competition.

## School Closures Due To Snow/Bad Weather



If there is bad weather, and in the unlikely event that the school needs to close, please listen to the local radio station. The school texting service, school website and school Twitter feed will also be used to inform parents. If you do not receive a text by 8am then assume that the school will be open as normal. If there is a blanket closure by Birmingham City Council, then we will close. Please note: school will do a risk assessment of the site when making the decision. It is up to you as parents to risk assess your journey to school to ensure the children arrive safely.

## Attendance

Well done to the following classes for having the best attendance in their Keystage: **FS/KS1 2COT KS2 4CM**. Remember to keep attending school to be in with a chance of winning the prize for best class attendance or to be entered into the prize draw for 98% + attendance.

## Keystage 2 – Book Club

George in Year 4 is reviewing the 'Rise Up' book.



4th March 2020

### 4LC read it aged 8 to 9

Do you like inspirational stories? What makes the ordinary extraordinary?

If you want to be inspired, learn how to live life to the max and see nothing as an obstacle, this is the book for you!

Rise Up is a collection of real life stories about remarkable girls and boys who have overcome challenges to achieve phenomenal things.

Tales such as Mohamad Al Jounde's, a Syrian refugee, who had a particularly tough life, were so uplifting. Despite his difficult circumstances, a passion triggered by a camera changed his perspective and gave him a whole new vision of the world that helped him alter his life forever.

Another exceptional person was Joel Kioko, a 13 year old boy who had a passion for ballet. He had to overcome teasing and mocking from those around him to fulfil his dreams to be a dancer.

These stories left me feeling proud of the amazing children and inspired me to pursue my own dreams.

A must read for anyone and everyone, from age 1 to 101!

## Swimming Gala

We wish the swimming team all the best as they compete in the Birmingham Catholic Primary school's Swimming Gala at Wyndley Swimming Baths on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March. Good luck to all talking part.

## Special Educational Needs Parents Evening Appointments on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March or Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020

For parents who have an option available to book a brief meeting with Mrs Bhella when you login to the appointment booking system, please note, you only need to book an appointment if you need to discuss the Support Plan which you received just before half term break or if you have any other concerns about Special Educational Needs. The appointment with Mrs Bhella is optional.

## Lenten Charity

During lent we as Christians are asked to give alms. We therefore as a school support the diocesan charity Fr Hudson's Care – Good Shepherd Appeal. Your child will be given a collection box to collect any loose change. Once this is filled please return it to school. Money raised through the appeal help to sustain a number of projects within the Birmingham Archdiocese. If you want to find out more information about this charity and the important work it does please see [www.fatherhudsons.org.uk](http://www.fatherhudsons.org.uk).

## School Dinner Menu

The school dinner menu will shortly be changing. Children in KS2 will be able to make their own choices in school but we request that parents of children in KS1 and FS complete the menu choices at home and return them to school no later than Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March.

## Secondary School Offers for September 2020

You should have received confirmation of the secondary school that has been offered to your child this week. The offer letter should explain how to accept or refuse the offer that has been made. If your child has been offered a place at a secondary school in Birmingham, you should return the acceptance slip to that school. If your child has been offered a place at a school outside Birmingham, you should return slip to school admissions.

The deadline for acceptances is Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

You are strongly encouraged to accept the offer, so that your child has a guaranteed place for September 2020. By not accepting the offer, you could risk losing the place as this may be given to a child on the waiting list for that school. Accepting the offer will not affect your child's waiting list position for any of your higher preferences schools or influence the outcome of any appeal you may submit.



The children in REF learnt about their class Saint on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February. Olivia wrote about Saint David.



## World Book Day

A big thank you to all who supported World Book Day yesterday. The children looked fantastic in their costumes, dressed as a book character. Thank you to those parents that made an extra effort making, buying and creating the costumes for their children. Hopefully the day reminded the children of the enjoyment reading can bring and of its importance.

## ParentPay

<https://www.parentpay.com/>

**After school clubs** have gone onto ParentPay and spaces are still available. Please note that these clubs are optional if you wish your child to take part.

**Dinner money** – please check ParentPay for any outstanding balances and keep your account up to date. Thank you.

## Parent Questionnaire

Each year we ask parents to complete a questionnaire regarding school. We value the views that parents have of how school can improve and welcome as many responses as possible. The questionnaire is available online at <https://www.stberns.co.uk/parent-questionnaire> or it can be completed in the computer suite during parents' evening.

## First Confessions

First Confessions for children in Year 3 who are participating in the First Holy Communion programme will take place on **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March** at Holy Family Church at 5pm for children in 3TK and ½ of 3EH.

Children in 3EG and the rest of 3EH will make their First Confession at Holy Family Church at 5pm on **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March**.

## World Oceans Day

We will be holding a day on 9<sup>th</sup> March dedicated to the world oceans and the effects of pollution in them. Children in Rec – Year 6 will be looking at the problems that are caused by human activity that lead to ocean pollution. Children will look at how we can reduce the impact on the environment through simple changes in behaviour. During the day we will have a visiting author and also some life size models of marine creatures for the children to experience. It is hoped that it will be a thought provoking day with fun activities which will encourage us to think more about human impact on the environment.



## Special Certificates

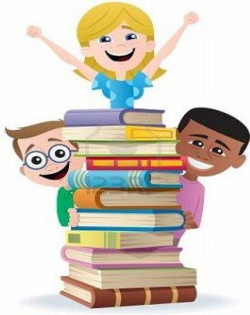
Each week a child from each class is nominated to receive a special certificate through the post. The pupils who are awarded these certificates have shown that they really understand what it means to live as Jesus taught us, perhaps by being particularly kind or helpful. Well done to the following children:

Nursery (Blue)	Imaan	For great counting.	Nursery (Red)	Sh'Kyah	For trying hard in RE.
Nursery (Green)	Shaydon	For super retelling of our story this week.	Nursery (Yellow)	Rubie-May	For trying hard in Nursery.
REF	Pixi	For amazing writing!	3TK	Maya	For trying hard with her written work.
	Armani	For always trying so hard.		Gerline	For beautiful behaviour at all times.
RPF	Keira	For super writing in handwriting lessons.	4AH	Saoirse	For excellent work in Maths.
	Muhammed	For making good choices.		Lorraine	For always being polite.
RSD	Mollie	For being a super helper.	4CB	Kyran	For excellent contributions in lessons.
	Tyler-Jay	For trying his best in Literacy.		Niall	For trying hard with writing.
1SF	Sh'Kyah	For trying hard in RE.	4CM	Lola	For super effort in English.
	Alisa	For always being so polite.		Nicholas	For improved effort in English.
1SJ	Edward	For working hard in Maths.	5AB	Malika	For being caring, helpful and kind at all times in school.
	Kaiden	For working hard in RE.		Isabelle	For a brilliant attitude all the time.
1SMCG	Artemisia	For working so hard in Maths.	5EB	Beatrice	For showing improved focus in all lessons.
	Jasir	For super English work.		Scarlet	For making good contributions in lessons and PE.
2COT	Zayd	For super Science answers.	5JR KS	Mubashar	For super effort in Maths.
	Rayn Manna	For super contributions in RE.		Darnell	for super effort in Maths.
2EL	Eleanor	For being such a kind hearted girl.	6AMJ	Rihann	For being a courteous child.
	Lilly	For being thoughtful and kind.		Masooma	For trying her best in every lesson.
2RW	Ava	For trying her best.	6KL	Kian-Thomas	For displaying excellent manners.
	Delna	For always being helpful.		Dennis	For displaying excellent behaviour.
3EG	Anniyah	For being sensible.	6ZB	Ella-Marie	For trying hard in Maths.
	T'Yana	For being polite.		Shayan	For always being polite.
3EH	Katees	For being an excellent role model.			
	Dar'Cee	For trying all activities with enthusiasm at Condover Hall.			

# Accelerated Readers

Reader of the Month: February

Surina – 413,111



## Ready Reader:

Essie-Mae Octavia	Chloe-Ann Anthony	Ocean Muhammad	Shayan Kimani	Noel Nidhaan	Bailey Rachel	Georgie	Joyce
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## Independent Reader:

Paris Grace	Ava-Grace Mason	Ellie-Louise	Dior	Jeremiel	Macey	Georgie
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## Rising Reader:

Logan Montini Muhammed Montaha Abigail	Kye Alexa Mischa Somaya	Sienna Haris Niamh-Amelia Grace	Lacey Isam Miley-Ava Ailbhe	Jersey Jakub Muhammad Iirish	Shay Alexa Aara Joshua
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## Super Reader 3:

Aleksander
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## Advanced Reader:

Khyla	Riya	Hermon	Erin	Amanda	Billie-Jo	Halima
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## Star Reader:

Jewel	Maira
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## Classic Reader:

Dennis	Tanya	Abel
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## Millionaire Reader:

Abel	Tanya	Surina
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## House word reading totals so far

<b>Blyton</b> 6,620,967	<b>Horowitz</b> 8,339,371	<b>Morpurgo</b> 6,233,235	<b>Strong</b> 6,472,176	<b>Wilson</b> 7,215,829	<b>Zephaniah</b> 6,204,071
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# Parent Newsletter

Living faith  
within our families

March 2020



## “Listen to that Feeling!”

The beginning of March sees the beginning of Lent, a time in the Church calendar when we take time out to reflect and prepare for Easter. In the first week of Lent, children learned in assembly about temptation: the desire to do something, even when you know it is the wrong thing to do. Below is the script from an animation played in schools during the week commencing 2nd March:

Hello, I'm Jack and I'm ten years old. Let me tell you about yesterday.

I was walking to school with mum and I saw a big puddle. I thought it would be great to jump in and make a big splash. Mum said I shouldn't

do it because I'd get my clothes wet, but it looked like so much fun. I thought about it but then just jumped right in. Bad idea! The puddle was deeper than I thought, and the splash went everywhere, all up my trousers, my school bag and my homework.

Then at lunch time I had a nice meal: sausage, mash, peas and then jelly. I was nicely full. But then someone offered me some syrup sponge, mmm. My belly was full and seemed to be saying, "No, don't eat it." But it looked good and my mouth seemed to say "eat it". So I ate it. Bad idea! It was tasty but I felt sick all afternoon.

And then in the evening before bedtime I was playing computer games and Dad asked me not to play for more than ten minutes. It was a good game though and I

wanted to play more and more. I thought about turning it off and felt like I should, but it was so much fun I played for ages. Bad idea! I was so tired, but I couldn't sleep for ages because the game kept going around my head!

I've decided that today when I get that feeling that maybe I shouldn't do something, I think I'm going to listen to that feeling and not do it!

### Prayer

Dear God,

*Jesus trusted in you, and I choose to trust in you too.  
Help me to say "NO" when I am tempted to do something that I know I shouldn't.  
Help me get to know you better through your word, the Holy Bible.*

Amen

## It is Written

Children learned in the same assembly that when Jesus was fasting in the desert, the devil came to Him and tempted Him to do things that God the Father didn't want Him to do. But Jesus trusted in God and believed that what God wanted was best. Just like Jack learned to 'listen to that feeling' and say 'no' to it, every time Jesus was tempted by the devil, He said 'NO' and said a line

from the Bible. Children learned that they too can trust in God's word, and use it to help them resist temptation, just like Jesus did!

On the 5th March, we celebrated World Book Day and the power of stories to exhilarate and inspire. In a special Ten Ten assembly, children learned that God's word, the Bible, is often described as 'the greatest story ever told' and uncovers a treasure trove of wisdom, comfort and advice which is as relevant for us today as it

was when it was first written:

*"Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God." **Matthew 4: 1-11***

Why not take a moment to read a Bible story with your child this week?



## The Year of the Word: Reflection 6



Your Word is a lamp for my steps  
and a light for my path.  
Ps 118 (119): 105

On Ash Wednesday, the 26th of February, we entered the Season of Lent with all its customs, practices and observances that make it a remedial season of grace. This time is brimming with great potential, it is a gift given to us by the Lord, but we have to unwrap it and apply its remedial and healing prescriptions; by undertaking and completing our Lenten Journey we will receive that much needed grace offered and be made ready to celebrate the Resurrection. God does not need Lent, we do!

The 40 Days of Lent are a classroom in which we learn to conquer "the world, the flesh and the devil" so we are able to live differently, beginning now. The Lord in whom we now live through Baptism, is Risen from the Dead. He is walking through time now, in his Body, the Church. He wants to save us and set us free as we live our lives in that new world which is the seed of the Kingdom to come. Therefore, He offers us another chance to look at our lives and to make changes for the better; He desperately wants us to accept His offer. However, we must remember that "Lent won't work unless you work it!"

This ancient practice of setting aside 40 days in order to enter, metaphorically - with and in Jesus - into the desert places in our own daily lives and confront the temptations and struggles we face is a gift that will help us overcome the devil in order to achieve change and transformation that will benefit everybody. It comes from the Lord and is offered through the Church who is our mother. The Church as mother and teacher knows just what we need. We all know this is the truth and need to be honest, particularly during Lent. We should take the time to open our eyes, ears, minds and hearts to God and His call: return to the little things, the simple things that can make a great impact the more we do them; display the Gospel values and strengthen the Christian virtues throughout Lent; learn how to be humble by using the Saints, like St Francis of Assisi as our role model, for it is God who has given us everything. All that God achieved in creation was good and was given to us as a gift. But mankind has fallen and squeezed the primacy of the Creator out of daily life. We have succumbed to the seduction of the modern world and we have given ourselves over to the idolatry of self. Yet, Lent offers us the chance to change all this, gain redemption and Eternal Life with Our Father in Heaven. We should remember it is not a time to be sad and downcast, to show off or to be a hypocrite by demanding or saying one thing but practising another but a time of preparation and renewal, a time of self-denial and self-growth, a time to deepen our knowledge and understanding of God and our relationship with Him. If we welcome Lent and make the best use of it then it will benefit not just ourselves but also our families and friends, and our local, national and global communities.

We all struggle with disordered appetites and unconverted ways of thinking and living. We also demonstrate in our daily lives a lack of charity in our relationships with others. We have developed unhealthy habits which cause us untold sadness and impede our progress in virtue. None of these set us free or help us to flourish as human persons. They are the bad fruit of sin. Therefore, the desert of Lent invites us to journey with and in Jesus, so that we have the strength to abandon wrong and to start a new life, just as Jesus did when He left the desert. It is here, in that place of struggle or on the field of engagement, where we can learn the root causes of our challenges and be equipped with the weapons of our warfare to fight what the Scriptures and Tradition refer to as "the world, the flesh and the devil." It is where we are given the opportunity to learn to conquer them through the One who both shows us the Way and is Himself the Way.

The temptations Jesus, the Word made Flesh, engaged in the desert are the prototype of all of the challenges we face as we respond to the continuing call to conversion. After all, the Christian vocation is just that - a continuing call to conversion. It is up to us if we respond the Lord's invitation. The first temptation Jesus faced was to His identity. After all, he IS the Son of God! We, through our Baptism, have also now become Sons (and Daughters) of the Father in Him. The next temptation was to idolatry. We regularly commit the horrid sin of idolatry, succumbing to its lies almost on a daily basis. Like the Christians in ancient Rome, we live in an age which has "exchanged the truth of God for a lie, worshipping created things rather than the Creator. (Rom. 1:25) Finally, there was the subtle but deadly temptation to violate integrity, to use the gifts and power of God improperly and put the Lord to the test. How clearly this poisonous serpent lurks in our daily life!

Yet, in each of these encounters with the Tempter, Jesus shows us the method to defeat sin by, by confronting the lies of the truth of God's Word. He is the Living Word, and we, through our Baptism, now live our lives in Him - that is how we enter the desert IN Him; we do this by living within the communion of the Church which is His Risen Body on Earth. The Church is not something but Some - One. There, in the Lord, we find the resources we need to grow in holiness and struggle against the lingering effects of sin. There we embark on the journey of holiness, becoming what the Scriptures call "perfected" or completed in Jesus Christ. His Divine Life (Grace) is mediated to us through the Sacraments, in the Living Word and the Communion of Love in which we now live.

So, we are invited during these 40 days to take every gift, every grace, offered to us. We are invited to learn to wield the weapons of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. By these practices we grow in freedom by putting away the "old man/woman" and putting on the "new man/woman", created anew in Jesus. It is Jesus in His Sacred Humanity who fully reveals that new man. He is the model, showing us the method we can use to defeat anything we are faced with. In His Divinity He is Himself the Means. In Him we are redeemed. We are also capacitated to grow in holiness and virtue by overcoming temptation. Through His Saving Life, Death and Resurrection, he makes it possible for us to live new lives, in Him - beginning now and leading into eternity.

The best source to use to support us is by reading the Bible or other religious books of Scholars that explain the Word - praying, meditating on their meaning and putting into action the message of Jesus' teaching will ensure that we really do work Lent! Scripture shapes our actions, our choices and how we relate to God, to ourselves, to our neighbours and to our world. It guides all our relationships and how we live our lives. Scripture teaches us how to live in society, to respect each human being and to work towards the common good. The Scriptures inspire us to put faith into action, living God's word and doing God's word.

GOD NEEDS YOU!

How can we live God's Word?  
In what good ways do we live God's Word?  
Where are there gaps?  
Is anyone excluded?  
What new ways and opportunities are open to us?

We can live God's word by:  
Cherishing life at every stage.  
Using and sharing our resources fairly.  
Protecting the weak, the poor and the marginalised.  
Being the best version of ourselves all the time.



Readings for Reflection  
from the Gospels

Matthew 4:1-11 The Temptation in the Desert  
Matthew 18:21-22 The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant

Podcasts to listen to St Matthew's Gospel in Lent  
<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/series/reading-matthew-in-lent/>



Adam was expelled from the earthly paradise, the symbol of communion with God.... Now, in order to return to that communion and thus to eternal life we must pass through the desert, the test of faith. Not alone but with Jesus (the second Adam) who proceeds us and who has already conquered in the fight against the spirit of evil.

### Prayer

Father,  
through our observance of Lent,  
help us to understand the meaning of your Son's death  
and Resurrection,  
and teach us to reflect it in our lives.

Amen

### FOOTPRINTS IN THE SAND

One night I dreamed I was walking  
along the beach with the Lord.  
Many scenes from my life flashed  
across the sky. In each scene I  
noticed footprints in the sand.  
Sometimes there were two sets of  
footprints, other times there was one  
only. This bothered me because I  
noticed that during the low periods of  
my life, when I was suffering from  
anguish, sorrow or defeat,  
I could see only one set of footprints,  
so I said to the Lord,  
"You promised me Lord,  
that if I followed you, you would walk  
with me always. But I have noticed  
that during the most trying periods of  
my life there has only been one set of  
footprints in the sand.  
Why, when I needed you most, have  
you not been there for me?"  
The Lord replied,  
"The years when you have seen only  
one set of footprints,  
my child, is when I carried you."

Will you make Lent work, give up, not bother  
or say it's not my job?

This is a little story about four people  
named Everybody, Somebody,  
Anybody, and Nobody.

There was an important job to be  
done and Everybody was sure that  
Somebody would do it.

Anybody could have done it, but  
Nobody did it.

Somebody got angry about that  
because it was Everybody's job.

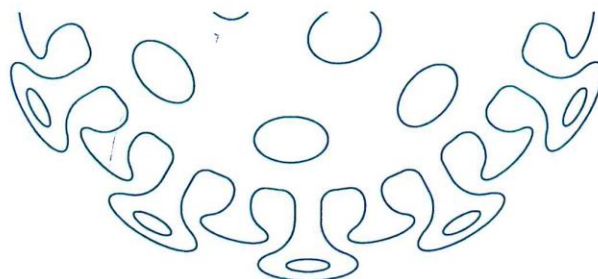
Everybody thought that Anybody  
could do it, but Nobody realized that  
Everybody wouldn't do it.

It ended up that Everybody blamed  
Somebody when Nobody did what  
Anybody could have done.





Public Health  
England



# Advice on the coronavirus for places of education

## How serious is the coronavirus?

- it can cause flu-like symptoms, including fever, cough & difficulty breathing
- the infection is not serious for most people, including children
- there is currently no vaccine
- most people get better with enough rest, water to drink and medicine for pain

## How likely are you to catch the virus?

- you can only catch it if you have been close to a person who has the virus
- the chance of being in contact with the virus is currently low in the UK
- if you have travelled to areas where many people are infected, your chance of catching the virus is higher, i.e. China and any affected areas

## How can you stop coronaviruses spreading?

### If you need to cough or sneeze



Catch it  
with a tissue



Bin it



Kill it  
by washing  
your hands with  
soap & water or  
hand sanitiser

### You should wash hands with soap & water or hand sanitiser



After breaks  
& sport  
activities



Before  
cooking  
& eating



On arrival at  
any childcare  
or educational  
setting



After using  
the toilet



Before  
leaving  
home



Try not to touch your  
eyes, nose, and mouth  
with unwashed hands



Do not share items that come  
into contact with your mouth  
such as cups & bottles



If unwell do not share items  
such as bedding, dishes,  
pencils & towels



Stop germs spreading with our e-Bug resources on hand and respiratory hygiene lesson plans for KS1, 2 and 3: [campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/schools](https://campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/schools)

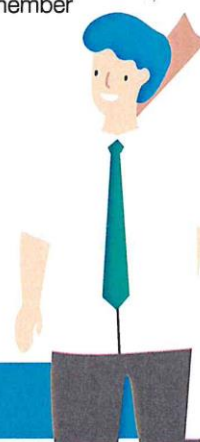
## What should you do if you feel unwell?

Keep away from others and stay at home to stop the infection spreading. Avoid public transport if you think you have symptoms of coronavirus. If you become unwell at a place of education, tell a member of staff and let them know if you have travelled to any other countries in the last 14 days.

If your staff member or parent thinks you have symptoms of coronavirus, they should call **NHS 111** for advice. Follow the UK Government advice for childcare or educational settings [gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19](https://gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19). Parents can visit **NHS.UK** to find out more information. Teachers and support staff should follow the UK Government advice.

Staff, students and pupils who have returned from Iran, specific lockdown areas in northern Italy, special care zones in South Korea or Hubei province China (returned in the past 14 days) should self isolate, and NOT attend education or work for 14 days. See **NHS.UK** for advice on coronavirus.

**If there is an emergency, call 999 immediately**





# PARENT LINK OFFICERS



## WHAT IS A PARENT LINK OFFICER?

As a parent or carer of a child with special educational need or disability, it can be difficult to know who the best person is to get help and advice from.

A Parent Link Officer is a member of Birmingham Local Authority whose job it is to help parents to identify and make links with the right person, at the right time.

Their role is not to replace other parent support services already in place, but to ensure that parents have an easy and simple way to find the best support service to meet their needs at the exact point they need it.

### Ways Parent Link Officers can work with families include:



Telephone and text



E-mail



Letter or written information



Home visit



Support at meetings



Family forums and drop-ins

### THE PARENT LINK OFFICER AIMS TO:

- To support a range of inclusion support services, local drop-ins and forums for families of children and young people with disabilities and special educational needs.
- Support parents and families in ensuring children with special educational needs and disabilities have their needs met within their local community as early as possible.
- Work closely with a team of professionals within a local area, supporting schools and families to improve communication and participation of parents, children and young people.

## MEET THE PARENT LINK OFFICERS:



**GILL LEACH**  
PARENT LINK CO-ORDINATOR

### ABOUT ME:

I am a mother of two and nanny of two. I have dedicated my whole working life to supporting children, young people and families both in the UK and Kenya.

Inclusion is my big passion and my experience will help to ensure that families know who to turn to for help as soon as they need it.

In this role, I am hoping to coordinate a team of people who can ensure a positive experience of education and support for children, young people, families and professionals across Birmingham.



**KATIE FOLEY**  
PARENT LINK CO-ORDINATOR

### ABOUT ME:

I am a mum of 3 who has 30 years' experience of working with children, young people and families in Birmingham. My eldest child has a disability, so I understand, from both personal and professional experience, ways to help families gain support through a wide network of professionals in education, social care and health.

My aim in this role is that we can find solutions by working together and ensuring that each child and young person is at the centre of everything we do.



**JUANITA MURRAY**  
PARENT LINK CO-ORDINATOR

### ABOUT ME:

I am a parent of one and know, from experience, how to find help and get advice and support when your child has additional needs.

I am passionate about learning and helping people to develop. I aim to help understand the needs of those I am working in partnership with and be the link between them.

In this role, I am hoping to support parents, carers and professionals to feel listened to, valued and able to make changes that will support the children and young people in Birmingham with SEND.





# PARENT LINK SERVICE CONTACT LINE



## WHAT IS THE PARENT LINK SERVICE?

As a parent or carer of a child with special educational need or disability, it can be difficult to know who the best person is to get help and advice from.

A **Parent Link Officer** is a member of Birmingham Local Authority whose job it is to help parents to identify and make links with the right person, at the right time.

## WHAT IS THE CONTACT LINE FOR?

The contact line is a central phone line that parents can call, ask questions, talk about things that are concerning them and then be given advice on what the best next steps could be.

### NEXT STEPS COULD INCLUDE:



A follow up  
**phone call**



Attendance at one of our **family forums** in your local area



A follow up **email**



A **home visit**



Some **written information**



Support at a face-to-face  
**meeting**

## PARENT LINK CONTACT TELEPHONE LINE:

# 0121 303 8461

Monday: 9.00am – 5.00pm

Tuesday: 9.00am – 5.00pm

Wednesday: 9.00am – 4.00pm

Thursday: 9.00am – 5.00pm

Friday: 9.00am – 5.00pm

### OTHER WAYS TO CONTACT US:

Email: [ParentLinkService@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:ParentLinkService@birmingham.gov.uk)



BIRMINGHAM  
CHILDREN'S TRUST





# FAMILY FORUM MEETINGS

## SPRING 2020

AREA	VENUE	DATE	TIME
West	<b>Handsworth Fire Station</b> Rookery Road B21 9QU 0121 380 7517	05/03/2020	13.30 – 14.30 pm
West	<b>Ladywood Community Fire Station</b> Icknield Port Road B16 0RA 0121 380 7537	06/03/2020	13.30 – 14.30 pm
South	<b>Northfield Fire Station</b> South Road B31 2RB 0121 380 7536	11/03/2020	13.30 – 14.30 pm
West	<b>Ladywood Community Fire station</b> Icknield Port Road B16 0RA 0121 380 7534	09/03/2020	18.00 – 19.00 pm
East	<b>Ward End Fire Station</b> Washwood Heath Road B8 2HF 0121 380 7515	09/03/2020	10.30 -11.30 am
North	<b>Erdington Fire Station</b> Orphanage Road B24 9HR 0121 380 7539	09/03/2020	13.30 – 14.30 pm
North	<b>Hollyfield Centre, Erdington</b> Woodacre Rd B24 0JT 0121 373 1018	02/03/2020	13.30 – 14.30 pm

Are you a parent or carer with a child or young person who has additional needs, a disability or who needs extra help and support?

If so come along to one of our friendly Family Forum Meetings.

The purpose of these meetings is to provide a welcoming space for parents and carers to meet up in similar situations and share experiences over a cup of tea or coffee.

These meetings will also give you a chance to learn more about what's on, tips and advice and other information that families who have children with additional needs may need.

These meetings also give you the chance to let the Parent Link Officers know your thoughts on what you feel is needed to support families in Birmingham.

**CONTACT DETAILS: 0121 303 8461 - [parentlinkservice@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:parentlinkservice@birmingham.gov.uk)**



BIRMINGHAM  
CHILDREN'S TRUST





# SHOW ME THE HONEY!



**Did you know that beekeeping is not just an exciting hobby but it's good for the environment too and you get to make delicious honey!**



**We are looking for kids aged 9-14 and their families to take part in a beekeeping competition for CBBC filming in spring and summer 2020.**

**If selected to take part, you'll be given your own bees, a hive and all the necessary equipment. Our beekeeping expert will teach you and your family everything you need to know.**

**You can keep bees almost anywhere, even in a busy city! All you need is outside space of at least 2.5m x 2.5m.**

**If you think you have what it takes to become a first time beekeeper then we want to hear from you.**

**IF YOU WANT TO APPLY, YOU MUST FIRST GET PERMISSION FROM YOUR PARENTS OR LEGAL GUARDIANS.**

**Please ask your parent / guardian to download the application form here:**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/joinin/be-on-a-show-show-me-the-honey>

**They can also email [contact.KPL@keshet-tv.com](mailto:contact.KPL@keshet-tv.com) and they will receive an application that can be returned by email or post to:**

Show Me The Honey,  
Keshet UK  
Lincoln House Studios,  
296-302 High Holborn,  
London,  
WC1V 7JH



**PLEASE APPLY ASAP! Application Deadline: March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2020**



**Please see here for **Contributor Privacy Notice**: <https://www.keshet-uk.tv/privacy-policy-non-scripted/>**

**Applicants who are contacted are not guaranteed a place on the show.  
Thank you and good luck!**

**IS YOUR CHILD BORN  
BETWEEN SEPTEMBER  
2016 - AUGUST 2017?  
IF SO, HAVE YOU  
APPLIED FOR OUR  
NURSERY**



**This is a lovely nursery  
and everyone, both staff  
and children, really care  
for each other'**

**Ofsted: Children in the early  
years achieve well, particularly  
in early literacy and  
mathematics. In both the Nursery  
and Reception classes, children  
thrive and develop into  
enthusiastic and happy learners.**

**Please visit our school website  
and Twitter page to learn more  
about St Bernadette's Catholic  
Primary School and Nursery and  
see all the fantastic learning  
opportunities that are available  
to children that attend.**

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

[www.twitter.com/StbernsPrimary](https://twitter.com/StbernsPrimary)

**Teachers are great and they're  
always happy to help'**

**Speaking and Listening**

**Playing and exploring**

**Learning Numbers and Letters**

**Social Skills and Making Friends**

**ST BERNADETTE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY**

**For more information, please contact the school office on  
0121 783 7232**

**Admission policy applies.**