



St. Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

A Catholic Voluntary Academy, Part of
Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust, Cookgate,
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Head Teacher: Mr P. Conway

Our Vision

Be courageous and inspire each other to excellence, shining in the light of Christ and making a positive impact in our world.

February 2019 Newsletter

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

Happy New Year! Thank you to all the children for coming back to school with such a spring in your steps – it has been wonderful to witness such excellent attitudes and commitment to being the best you can be – keep it up!

Thank you to everyone who attended and volunteered at our Christmas Fayre, we raised a fantastic £2661. A special thank you to Bev Wildmore who raised an additional £1000 with matched funding from Barclays Bank.

Term dates

A reminder that our 2017-18 dates remain unaltered by 2019-20 Trust wide holiday dates.

This term we will have one week off in February W/c 18th February 2019, one week off at Easter W/C15th April 2019, and 2 weeks at the end of May/beginning of June W/C 27th May 2019. The Trust dates for 2019-20 with PD days are attached with this newsletter. All information regarding dates are on the website: *Our School / school dates and times*

Diary dates – February/Early March 2019

Date	Event
W/C 4 th February 2019	Reception stay and play week
Monday 4 th February 2019	E-safety presentation – School Hall 9.30am (parents/carers welcome)
Wednesday 6 th February 2019	Y4 & Y6 Wheelchair basketball
Thursday 7 th February 2019	Y1 Phonics meeting for parents 2.30pm
Friday 8 th February 2019	E-safety presentation parents/carers – School Hall 8.30am and 2pm
Wednesday 13 th February	Y4 Assembly
Wed 13 th February 2019	Y4 & Y6 wheelchair Basketball
Wed 13 th February 2019	FHC Meeting – Church 5.30pm (Parents only)
Thurs 14 th February 2019	Valentines Disco – School Hall EYFS/KS1 4.30pm KS2 5.30pm (Volunteers needed)
Friday 15 th February 2019	Clitherow Day (children in Clitherow may wear own clothes, with an element of blue)
Friday 15 th February 2019	Last day of term – Pupils in school
Monday 25 th February 2019	School Re-opens – Pupils in school
Tuesday 26 th February 2019	Y2 Sportshall Athletics
Wednesday 27 th February	FHC Meeting – 5.30pm Church (Parents and children)
Wednesday 6 th March 2019	Y3 Racquet and Ball Festival
Thursday 7 th March 2019	World Book Day – children are encouraged dress as a character from a film related book or wear pyjamas.
Thursday 7 th March 2019	P.T.A Cushion Club - details to follow
	Sports Activities for selected pupils
5 th February 2019	Y5 Basketball – Outwood Academy

Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust

Company No: 09203984

Registered Address: Trinity Catholic College, Saltersgill Avenue, Middlesbrough, TS4 3JW

Uniform

Please continue to support us with encouraging the children to have their full uniform and PE kits. Our uniform shows that we are part of St Bernadette's Primary School community, and we have the highest expectations from our children with regards to school uniform. Could we ask that particular attention is given to the following: all uniform to be clearly labelled with the child's name; shirts to be tucked in; small bows may be worn in hair; skirts should be of an appropriate and modest length; haircuts to be appropriate (natural colour, no tramlines or patterns and long hair tied back) and ties to be worn with shirts.

School attendance

Every day in school is precious and I would thank you for your commitment to your children's attendance across the school this term. We have had excellent attendance since January in many classes. Thank you! Of particular note there was 100% for the following classes for the full weeks as indicated below:

- WB 7.1.19 - Reception, Y2, Y3 and Y5
- WB 14.1.19 - Reception and Y5

Punctuality

Since January, the children go directly into their classrooms from 8.30am to avoid the cold weather. In class, their teachers and support staff are there to meet them. Teachers have activities prepared for the children before the registration at 8.40am.

In recent weeks, a number of children are arriving to school after registration meaning they are missing out on vital work and reading time. This is also disruptive for the rest of the class. Please can we encourage you all to support us in supporting your children be the best they can be by ensuring they are at school between 8.30-8.40am. Thank you in advance for your understanding and for your commitment to your children's punctuality.

E safety

E-safety continues to be at the forefront of our minds as we prepare our school children for the online world of today and tomorrow. We aspire to take every opportunity to inform and support, not only our pupils, but also our parents, Governors and all other stakeholders at St Bernadette's School. In view of such we would like to invite you to a presentation for adults by Cleveland Police on Friday 8th February: 8.30am or 2pm in school. We would also like to invite you to a theatre production which will be performed for our children in the school hall on Monday 4th February at 9.30am.

January Events

Governor support

Our Governors are a dedicated group of volunteers who regularly visit school to support, monitor and challenge school performance. This month we have had several Governors to school:

- Mrs Mary Bilous, our Chair of Governor, meets weekly with Mr Conway to discuss whole school developments and she is also a Class Governor and recently visit Y2
- Mrs Laura Cutler comes into school weekly to work with Miss Brady and all teachers as part of her Catholic Caring Community role.
- Mr Paul Benfield met with Mrs Stoker to visit Y6.

We thank all our Governors for their time and commitment and look forward to further visits next month.

Y5 Assembly

Our Y5 children presented an excellent and lively assembly on Wednesday 16th January summarising all their History knowledge on their Autumn term topic. We were delighted to be joined by so many friends and family.

Webwatchers

Our Year 5 Webwatchers have been very busy in school with Mr Lynn last term. Each week they update information about memorable class topics and events for each Year group. You can read about what's been going on in the Autumn term by visiting our school website: *Class pages* section.

Called to Serve

This month the children have been discussing further ways they can serve in our community as we continue to act justly in our 'Called to Serve' year. Each class now has a dedicated group in the community which they will reach out to and support – all classes are decorating their doors as a daily reminder to the community group they will serve.

World Youth Day

Last week, hundreds and thousands of young people travelled all the way to Panama in South America, for World Youth Day. In school, children learnt about World Youth Day in Whole School Collective Worship and in through some creative activities in class.

World Youth Day is all about celebrating young people, how much God loves each and every one of us, but most importantly of all, how all the young people who attend WYD have the courage to share their faith with the world and say 'yes' to being as close as they can be to Christ.

Sporting Events

KS2 Cross Country

Mrs Davies, who runs our twice weekly Cross country club, selected over 30 children to represent our school at the Trinity College Cross Country competition. In cold but sunny weather they performed admirably. Our Y5 and Y6 Boys teams returned with runners up and winner's trophies respectively. Particular well done to the following children: 1st place Jack S and Daniel R. 2nd place Joseph R.

Y6 Football

Mr Bourner took a team of Y6 boys to play football at Middlesbrough Sports Village to participate in the Middlesbrough Football Club Primary Schools Cup. They played 5 games and gained 3 positive results. We were proud of their application, fair play and effort.

Future events

PTA News

The PTA met on Wednesday 23rd January to discuss and plan future events. This term the PTA will need your support in organising the Valentine's Disco; a Cushion Club and the Easter Egg Raffle.

The disco will be on Wednesday 14th February, 4.30pm for EYFS and KS1 children and 5.30-6.30pm for KS2 children. Tickets will be on sale from 1st February costing £2 per ticket. Schools Out will be open as normal and any children remaining in Schools Out at 4.30pm will be taken to the disco.

SATs meetings (Phonics Year 1)

Thank you to all the parents who came to the Year 2 and Year 6 SATs information presentations. We have also facilitated a meeting a Year 1 meeting to support parents in helping their children with Phonics. In Year 1 children have a statutory test - the phonics screening in June.

Year 1 parents information meeting: Thursday 7th February 2.30-3pm.

Stay and Pray

Each week in school children lead thoughtful and prayerful class collective worships. Teachers welcome you to join us in our class Stay and Pray liturgies – please ask your child's class teacher or your child for further details.

And finally,

I am delighted to formally announce that Mrs Mannion is expecting her second child. Mrs Harris, currently teaching in Nursery and providing Year 6 support, will assume full time class responsibility in Year 1 when Mrs Mannion's maternity leave begins around Easter. Miss Dandy has been appointed to teach in Nursery for 3 days. Miss Dandy is familiar to St Bernadette's and we welcome her back to the school following a previous maternity cover in Autumn 2017.

Please find attached to this letter an update from the Autumn term: a Governor and school council update as well as the 2019-20 dates.

Mr. P. Conway
Head Teacher