



St. Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

A Catholic Voluntary Academy, Part of
Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust, Cookgate,
Nunthorpe, Middlesbrough, TS7 0PZ
Tel: 01642 310198



E mail: st.bernadettes@mcschools.org.uk

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.

December 2018 Newsletter

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

We are looking forward to seeing you this weekend at our Christmas Fayre. Thank you to you all for your kind donations. The proceeds of the fayre all go directly into improving resources for our children.

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Event</u> |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Saturday 1 st December | Christmas Fayre 10am – 12pm |
| Monday 4 th December | Year 3 Skipping Competition |
| Tuesday 5 th December | Flu Immunisations Rec, Year 1,2,3,4,5 |
| Friday 7 th December | Choir Visit |
| Friday 7 th December | Year 6 Advent Mass 12 noon - Church |
| Friday 7 th December | Dress the Tree and carols Y3&4 2pm School Hall |
| Friday 7 th December | NO SCHOOLS OUT – Friday 7 th December |
| Monday 10 th December | Peter Pan Pantomime Year 2,3,4,5,6 |
| Wednesday 12 th December | Christmas with the Aliens Year1 and Year 2 - 10am & 2pm |
| Thursday 13 th December | The Ugly Duckling pantomime. Nursery, Reception & Year 1 |
| Friday 14 th December | Year 4 Advent Mass 12 noon – Church |
| Tuesday 18 th December | Christmas Lunch |
| Tuesday 18 th December | <u>KS2 Party 2 – 3pm</u> |
| Wednesday 19 th December | Nursery & Reception Nativities 10am & 2pm |
| Thursday 20 th December | Early Years & KS1 Party 2 – 3pm |
| Thursday 20 th December | Last Day of Term |
| Monday 7 th January 2019 | PD Day – Staff only |
| Tuesday 8 th January 2019 | Children return to School |

Staffing

We are sad to announce that both Mrs Williams (Reception Teaching Assistant), who has been with us for over 30 years, and Mrs Allen (Year 4 Teaching Assistant) will leave us at Christmas – they will be sorely missed. Mrs Williams has been with us since 1987 and her knowledge of the school and families, as well as her presence on the playground will leave a huge gap. On behalf of the Governors and the whole school community, I would like to acknowledge our appreciation for her dedicated and committed service at St Bernadette's.

Attendance

Thank you for your commitment to your children's attendance and punctuality across the school this term. Every day in school is precious. Attendance for November was 96.7 %

Each week we will celebrate weekly attendance on our Wall of Fame display. We inform the children of the winning weekly class attendance in our House meetings. In November, the winning classes have been:

W/C 05/11/2018 Year 5 99.3%

W/C 12/11/2018 Rec 99.3%

W/C 19/11/2018 Year 6 100%

Interactive Learning Platform (ILP)

A reminder that lots of information regarding your child's class is uploaded by teachers to the ILP. Please log on using your child's log in details to view up to date curriculum information, homework, general messages and Topic descriptions. Please ask at your child's class teacher if you/your child have forgotten your password.

Parking

You may have noticed there has been a police presence around school recently. Despite a considerable improvement, I have received 2 separate complaints about parking on the yellow zig-zag or unpleasant exchanges at busy times in the last month. This is inconsiderate, upsetting and intimidating – parking or driving irresponsibly around school is putting our children in danger! I cannot be clearer than to say that parking on the zig-zag lines is not permitted and aggressive behaviour will not be tolerated. I urge anyone who sees such irresponsible parking to call the traffic enforcement officers or report more serious problems to the police.

After School Clubs

After school clubs will end on 6th December and resume in the New Year.

Schools Out Closure – Friday 7th December

There will be no Schools Out facility on Friday 14th December. All children will need to be collected at 3pm.

Social networks

Please can we remind you, as we approach our Christmas performances not to upload in-school photos to your own personal social networks. We place photos, with your permission, on our private Twitter feed of your children so you can share in our school experiences however this permission does not extend to you uploading pictures of children in school, other than your own, to your own social networks.

Uniform

We regularly have parents/carers in school searching for lost items of uniform. Please could you help by ensuring that all children's clothing is clearly labelled. Also, can I ask you to check at home to ensure that your child has not accidentally brought any uniform home that does not belong to them.

Outdoor PE Wear

As the weather has become considerably cooler, please could we ask that children have suitable clothing for outdoor PE. School hoodies are available at a cost of £12. Uniform is available to order via a link on the school website, this may then be delivered to school free of charge.

Weather

Should the school ever close for safety reasons because of extreme weather conditions, information will be fed through the school website and local media.

Multiplication tables

Please keep supporting our school initiate of practising key Maths skills in the Reading records with the children. As they are in reading, children are rewarded for their practise with in school displays. In 2020 a statutory test is coming out for all Year 4 children. Year 4 children are expected to rapidly recall all their tables up to x12.

November Events

Book Fair

Thanks to your purchases, 'The Book People' have rewarded us with £174.25 to spend on books in school. We will be further supplementing our school library – so watch out for new and exciting texts to read and borrow!

Y6 Assembly

We were delighted so many parents, carers and family members were able to join us in our Y6 Assembly on Wednesday 7th November. This was a reflective assembly where the Y6 children remembered WW1.

They followed this up on Monday 12th November in leading the whole school Remembrance Liturgy.

Hopefully you will have seen the amazing photographs on Twitter – very moving.

Children In Need

Our own clothes/pyjama day raised £210.00, which has been sent directly to Children in Need Thank you to everyone who brought in cakes.

Smoothie Bike

Mellors, our food suppliers, brought in a Smoothie bike to encourage KS2 children to try a range of fruit on Friday 16th November. The pedalling was hard work but the final tasting was worth the effort!

Parents Consultations

We hope you found this month's parent consultations useful and informative. This year we included a summary report on attainment and effort as well as information on specific targets to support your children with at home. Parents who were unable to attend please contact the school office or your child's class to facilitate an appointment.

Hilda Day Mass

Hilda House day was celebrated in school on Friday 23rd November. Our KS2 Hilda children attended Mass, 12 noon at St Bernadette's Church. Monsignor Hogan explained why Hilda was such an inspirational lady. Each House will attend Mass on their House Day so the children develop a deeper understanding of their respective saints.

Y4 Jorvik trip

Our curriculum is enriched where possible with linked trips for different year groups. On Thursday 29th November our Year 4 children travelled to York to visit the Jorvik Museum. This supported their learning about the Vikings, Anglo Saxons and Romans this term.

'Call to serve' - Year of Serving

On Monday 19th November we launched a Trust wide initiative – 'Call to Serve'. In our whole school collective worship we reflected on what it means to serve and how we can serve. We discussed how we already serve our school, local community and wider world in so many ways and will continue to support initiatives such as CAUSE hampers and CAFOD but we will use 'Call to Serve' to inspire us to wider and greater acts of service in the name of Jesus.

Mini Vinnies

On Thursday 29th November, our newly elected group of enthusiastic and conscientious volunteers –our Mini Vinnies were commissioned at a special school assembly. The Mini Vinnies work hard in school to 'turn concern into action'. They meet throughout the year to say prayers, write letters, make cards and organise special events. They support the parish SVP group wherever possible

Sporting Events

Athletics

All our Year 4 and Year 6 children have enjoyed participating in Indoor Athletics competitions last month. These events provide opportunity for whole classes to represent the school in sporting events. Our Year 4 team finished second at the Trinity event-well done!

Gymnastics

A group of 1/2, 3/4 and 5/6 children took part in the Middlesbrough Primary Schools Gymnastics tournament on Wednesday 21st November. We were very grateful to Mrs Bell, a grandparent in school, who supported Mr Bourner and Mrs Mannion in preparing the children in creative routines involving some complex gymnastic movements. Our Y5/6 team, which consisted of Grace R, Amalie B, Evangeline B, Ruby H, Nieve Sand Joshua S finished in 3rd place. Grace produced a particularly impressive performance, which she received individual gold for!

Christmas Gifts

May we take this opportunity to thank you for your support and respectfully ask that you be mindful of our Gifts policy in the lead up to the end of term. The Trust has a policy whereby gifts must be declared. As a staff, we feel very privileged to teach your children and your kind words and messages are more than enough thanks for the work we do. If you would like further clarification on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact myself or a member of staff.

And finally,

The 2018 data has just been validated and once again we are proud to inform you of highly successful outcomes in Year 6, Year 2, Year 1 Phonics and end of Reception. A breakdown of all the results are available to view on our website in 'Curriculum and Assessment'.

Thank you to all the staff for their dedicated work to ensure all our children achieve their best. Thank you also for all the additional support you provide for the children at home.

Y5/6 Advent Liturgy

We began our Christmas performances earlier than in previous years this week with our Y5/6 Advent liturgy. This liturgy reflected the real spirit of the Advent period and was enjoyed by all.

We look forward to welcoming you in the coming weeks to our other Christmas performances in school:

- Year 3 & 4 – Dress the Tree - 7/12/2018 2pm
- KS1 Christmas with The Aliens - 12/12/2018 10am & 2pm
- EYFS – The Nativity - 19/12/2018 10am & 2pm

Best wishes,
Mr. P. Conway
Head Teacher

