



St. Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

Growing Together in Faith, Love & Learning

Headteacher: Mrs H. Crowder

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Thursday 2nd November 2023

Welcome Back Letter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back after the October break, we hope everyone had time to relax and recharge! This is a welcome back letter to keep you informed of all the exciting things going on in school and is in addition to the fortnightly newsletter which will continue to be sent out.

Library Developments

We ended the last half term on a high with the children thoroughly enjoying the Monster's Ball. A huge thank you to the Friends of St. Bernadette's (FOSB) who put so much effort and time into organising the event. The money raised will continue to contribute to our new Library within school and provide children with a calm, learning space to enjoy reading. Over the holiday, furnishing and decoration work has started on the room and the children have been working with Mrs Nettleton this week to give their input and help with the design. A huge thank you to members of FOSB for giving up their free time. Today and tomorrow classes are spending time in sensory stations, each based on well-known books to help spark their ideas for their perfect library. Thank you to Mrs Nettleton for coming into school and working with the children. We can't wait to share the finished room with parents and carers once it has been completed.

Staffing Welcome

We are very pleased to welcome our new Year 4 teacher, Mrs Farrell who has thoroughly enjoyed meeting her new class this week. We are in a very lucky position as Mrs Green will stay working in school until Christmas. This will allow for a smooth transition between teachers in Year 4, whilst also giving classes extra support throughout the school. We also welcome Nathan, our lunchtime sports coach, to school. Nathan is from Skillwise and will work on Monday and Tuesday lunchtimes with focus classes for an extra-curricular 'Fun Club'. There is no charge to parents for this club. The focus is to build team work and increase physical activity whilst having fun at the same time. The children have loved it so far this week!

Open Day

We were so proud of the school and our children on our Open Day this week. Our Head Girl and Boy were a credit to you as parents, and our visitors commented on how helpful they were. If you know of someone who missed out on a tour of the school, but wants to see what we have to offer at St. Bernadette's, please contact the school office to make an appointment.

Are you interested in making a difference.....?

The Governors of St. Bernadette's would welcome interest from any potential new parent Governors committed to raising educational outcomes of all children. Potential new governors should have a willingness to:

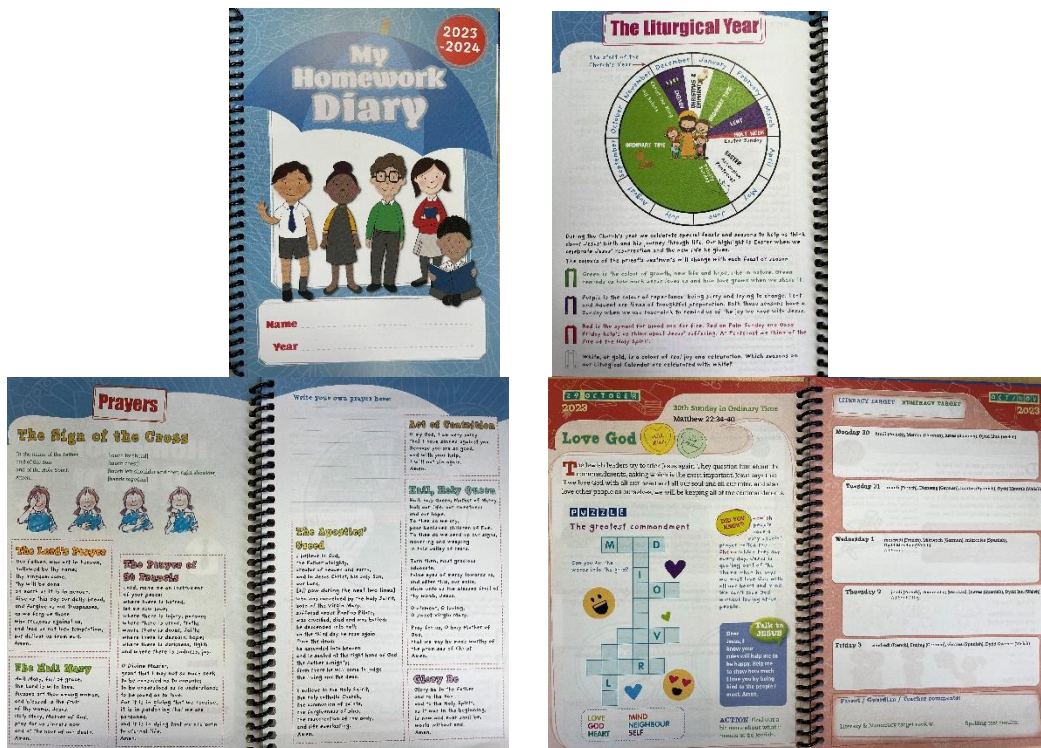
- * Work positively with others as part of a team to provide strategic leadership and challenge to the head teacher.
- * Develop their knowledge and understanding of their role and of the key issues and priorities facing primary schools by attending training, reading papers, attending meetings and visiting the school.

If you would like to find out more about becoming a Governor and how to apply for one of our vacancies, please contact the school office for more information.

New KS2 Homework Diaries

Children in Year 3 to Year 6 will shortly be receiving their new homework diaries. As a school we have invested in these as they are beautiful and reflect our Catholic life and teachings. Please take time to look at these with your child as they include our prayers, description of the liturgical year and also the Gospel reading for each week. These must be looked after as we do not have any replacements.

Children must continue to bring their homework diary to school every day and we would like parents to continue to use them as a communication tool and write comments about their child's reading.



"Growing Together in..." Parent Workshops

We know that many parents are keen to support their children in their learning and want to understand how they are taught in school. We have made arrangements for each class to hold a 'Growing Together in.....' workshop this half term (Sessions will last approximately an hour). Our teachers have designed interactive sessions where parent/carers can come to their child's lesson, 'grow together' and have fun whilst learning alongside them. Grandparents or other family members are welcome to come along if parents/carers are unable.

Nursery – Thursday 16th November 2:00pm

(Nursery will be stay and play open sessions for parents to share in learning. More information will be sent to you)

Year R – Growing Together in...Phonics Tuesday 14th November 2:00pm

Year 1 – Growing Together in...Phonics Monday 13th November 9:00am

Year 2 – Growing Together in...Phonics Wednesday 15th November 9:00am

Year 3 – Growing Together in...Maths Friday 17th November 9:00am

Year 4 – Growing Together in...Maths Monday 13th November 2:00pm

(Also an opportunity for parents/carers to meet Mrs Farrell informally after school)

Year 5 – Growing Together in...Maths Wednesday 15th November 9:00am

Year 6 – Growing Together in...Maths Tuesday 14th November 9:00am

We hope you can join us to get hints/tips on how to support your child at home. Please contact the school if you have any further questions.

Enhancements and Enrichments

Cricket (*separate letter sent out*)

From next week, commencing 6th November 2023, children in Year 6,4,3,2 and 1 will be receiving specialist cricket coaching for 6 weeks. These sessions will all be on a Wednesday and children are asked to come to school on this day wearing their school PE kits. Please see below for PE days up until Christmas only.

Year 5 are swimming this half term and so will not be included in the cricket sessions. We would like them to come to school in their PE Kit on their swimming day to make changing easier.

Class	PE Days (come to school in PE kit)
Reception	Tuesday and Thursday
Year 1	Tuesday and Wednesday
Year 2	Tuesday and Wednesday
Year 3	Tuesday and Wednesday
Year 4	Tuesday and Wednesday
Year 5	Monday and Tuesday (Tuesday bring swimming kit also)
Year 6	Monday and Wednesday

Chester Trip

Year 4 (and the staff!) thoroughly enjoyed their trip to Chester which brought this term's Roman history unit to life. They were a credit to you and the school with their excellent behaviour and sensible questions.

Artist in Residence

We are currently working with Victoria Hough who is a local artist. This week she has been working with children to create a large art piece for our school entrance, based on our mission statement, "Growing Together in Faith, Love and Learning". The children had a great time and the art work created was of such a high standard. Victoria was highly

impressed! It will be pieced together and delivered to school shortly, taking pride of place in the entrance to the school.

Individual Photographs

Please remember school photographs are being taken on **Wednesday 8th November.** Younger siblings can come into school from 8:30am – 9:00am for family photos. Please enter school through the main entrance if you wish to have a group family photo.

Please can children come into school in their school uniform to look smart for photos on this day, and bring PE kit in a bag to get changed into for their PE lesson. This will be for this week only. This includes Year 3 who will be visiting DW stadium and will need to wear PE kit for their activities.

Thank you for your continued support,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "H Crowder".

Mrs Helen Crowder
Headteacher