



St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

Loving, serving and growing together with Jesus

live simply

February 2025 Newsletter

Newsletter February 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I do hope that you enjoyed a restful and happy half-term break.

Thank you to all of the parents who took the opportunity to meet with the class teachers, either in person or remotely before the holiday. I hope that you found it helpful to discuss your children's progress and review their targets.

The PTA Annual General Meeting (AGM) takes place on Thursday 6th March at 2pm in the Small Hall. All are welcome. The PTA are always looking for new members to help plan and provide enriching events across the school year and to help with their crucial fundraising to support the school.

This half-term is very short but full of exciting enrichment opportunities. You can find the details on the dates page at the end of the newsletter.

Kindest regards, Mrs J Zamora

Lent Term 2

Virtue: Forgiveness

**Catholic Social Principles:
Solidarity & Peace**

Sporting Update

Throughout January and February, the year 3/4 Boys Football team competed in the Milton Keynes School Boys' Football League. There were eleven teams in our fiercely competitive league. The boys gained more confidence as the weeks went on and finished in 7th place in the league.

We then took part in a *Finals Night*, where all the games were incredibly close. We agonisingly just missed out on 3rd place via a penalty shootout defeat, but the boys can be incredibly proud of their efforts, determination and excellent sportsmanship.

We are now looking forward to the Year 3/4 Boys Football Festival, which will take place after school on Friday 2nd May.

The Y5/6 Boys' Festival takes place after school on Friday 21st March and the Y4-6 Girls' Festival takes place on Friday 16th May.

Many schools from across Milton Keynes have signed up to our St Bernadette's Football Festivals which are now so popular they are oversubscribed. Good luck to all our pupils taking part – do consider coming along to cheer them on!



We are delighted to announce that our St Bernadette's family continues to grow with the birth of Mrs Potter's baby girl - Penelope. Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Potter!

St. Bernadette's Catholic Primary School, Tewkesbury Lane, Monkston Park, Milton Keynes, MK10 9PH

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Headteacher: Jane Zamora BA Hons PGCE NPQH

Head: Melanie Smith B.Ed. Hons



Deputy



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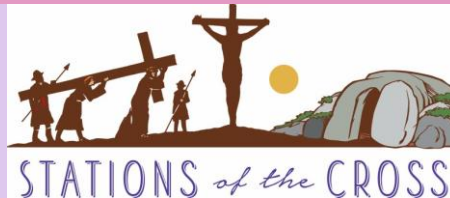
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Lent is the period of 40 days before Easter in the Christian calendar; it is a time of reflection as we prepare to remember the passion and death of Jesus and his glorious resurrection on Easter Sunday.

Our observance of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (Wednesday 5th March) with a very special service for Y3-6 pupils led by our Prayer Mini Vinnies. FS and KS1 pupils will take part in a simple service in their own classrooms. The Prayer Mini Vinnies will then distribute the ashes to all pupils and staff. Our Mini Vinnies take their roles very seriously and provide an excellent role model of service and commitment.



Please come and join us for **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**, led by our Prayer Mini Vinnies in the chapel every Friday morning during Lent. (8:15am - 8:30 am)

As a school, we are carrying out 40 Acts of Generosity throughout the 40 days of Lent. There will be one child from each class carrying out an act of generosity each day. These acts can be carried out in school or at home. Please ask your child about this activity and support them if they have selected one of the acts to carry out at home.

St Bernadette's Nursery



We are currently accepting applications to enrol in our nursery for September 2025. Please collect admission forms from the office or access them via the school website: <https://www.stbernadettesschool.com/nursery/> There are currently morning (15hr) and full time (30hr) places available. Please visit the school website for more details: - and do encourage friends and family to consider our warm, welcoming nursery. Reception Year Baseline Assessments consistently show the positive impact on skill development that attending our school nursery has for our pupils.

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World Book Day is on Thursday 6th March

We encourage pupils and staff to come to school dressed as their favourite character on Thursday 6th March! To celebrate World Book Day, children will have the opportunity in mixed year groups to visit different teachers and hear them read parts of their favourite adventure books. In these sessions, they will also complete activities based on these books.

Books Over Breakfast

On the morning of World Book Day (Thursday 6th March 2025), we are also inviting parents/carers to join their children to read books over breakfast. This will take place in the small hall and will begin at 8.00am and end at 8:30am. Parents are welcome to enjoy a breakfast pastry and a drink with their children whilst reading from the selection of school books provided. If you would like to join us on that morning, please book and pay £1 per person attending on school gateway by Monday 3rd March 2025



BRITISH
SCIENCE
WEEK 2025



We are looking forward to celebrating British science week from 10th-14th March. The children will be engaging in activities on the theme of *'Change and Adapt'* and looking at how we can make changes to look after our planet. This ties in beautifully with our Pilgrims of Hope pledge and our Catholic Social Teaching Principle of caring for God's creation. There is a national poster competition that we would encourage you to work on at home with your children. Posters could include how plants and animals adapt to changing seasons or surroundings, or how humans have adapted to changing technology. You could also focus on climate change and how we can adapt our behaviours to protect the environment or carry out and explain a science experiment and how it shows change. Our children have an excellent understanding of 'sustainability' through our Catholic Social Teaching, science lessons and a recent visit to school from Mrs Donnelly from Anglian Water. Creating a poster together would be a wonderful opportunity for the children to share their learning with you at home.

if you wish to create a poster at home with your child, please submit it to Mrs McGinn by Friday 14th March 2025. We will have an in-school competition and all entries will also be sent to the British Science Week Foundation for judging.

If you have any questions, offers of help or ideas for our British Science Week provision, please get in touch with Mrs McGinn - McginnJ@stbernadetteschool.com.

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POETRY BY HEART

Poetry by Heart is a free-to-enter **national poetry speaking competition** with a chance to perform at Shakespeare's Globe, London. If your child is in KS2 (years 3-6), we would like them to choose **two poems** from the Poetry by Heart website: poetrybyheart.org.uk learn them by heart and perform them out loud in school. **One poem must be published in or after 1914, and one from before 1914.**

The children will listen to all their classmates' poetry performances in their classrooms before the best ones are chosen to perform in the school final on Thursday 20th March 2025. As a school, we will then decide who will go forward to the national round of the competition. The national winners will be chosen to perform on stage at Shakespeare's Globe, London on Monday 7th July 2025.

PRAY
IS LOVE FOR GOD
FAST
IS LOVE FOR YOURSELF
GIVE
IS LOVE FOR OTHERS

PrayRay.com

A Prayer for Lenten Grace

Loving God,
During the sacred season of Lent, bring me closer to you.
Prepare a place in my home and heart for silence and solitude, so that I may re-discover the grace of a prayer-full life.
Help me to fast from those things that threaten the well-being of body and soul and remind me of the grace of simplicity.
Enlarge my heart so that I give to those in need and, in so doing, re-discover the grace of gratitude and generosity.
May this season be a grace-filled time to rekindle my love for and faith in you.
Amen.



Please see the following page for the events planned for the remainder of this term.

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Events for Lent Term 2 2025

New Virtue: Forgiveness		Catholic Social Principles: Solidarity & Peace	
w/c 24 Feb	Poetry by Heart Heats (KS2) - watch out for further information		
Fri 28 Feb	Bridgebuilder Trust Assembly		
Wed 5 Mar	Ash Wednesday - Service for KS2 2:15pm Y5-6 Badminton - St Paul's 3:45 - 5pm		
Thurs 6 Mar	World Book Day - come to school dressed as your favourite book character Books over Breakfast (£1 via School Gateway) Girls Football League - Tattenhoe Pavillion		
Fri 7 March	British Science Week commences 8:15 Stations of the Cross in Chapel		
Tues 11 Mar	2:45 Y2 Turtle Class Collective Worship with their parents in the chapel/small hall		
Wed 12 Mar	Y5-6 Basketball - St Paul's 3:45 - 5pm		
Fri 14 Mar	8:15 Stations of the Cross in Chapel Safari Stu - Year 1 St Paul's Science Visit For Y6		
Tues 18 Mar	2:45 Y2 Dolphin Class Collective Worship with their parents in the chapel/small hall		
Wed 19 Mar	Y3-4 Basketball - St Paul's 3:45 - 5pm 2:15 Rock Steady Performance for parents of our Rock Stars		
Thurs 20 Mar	Poetry by Heart Final (KS2) Girls Football League - Tattenhoe Pavillion		
Fri 21 Mar	8:15 Stations of the Cross in Chapel 3:34 - 6:30 St Bernadette's Y5/6 Boys' Football Festival		
Tues 25 Mar	2:45 Y1 Seahorse Class Collective Worship with their parents in the chapel/small hall		
Wed 26 Mar	Y4 Easter Reflection/Performance for Y4 parents 2pm Y3-4 Badminton - St Paul's 3:45 - 5pm		
Thurs 27 Mar	Bridgebuilder Trust Assembly Girls Football League - Tattenhoe Pavillion		
Fri 28 Mar	8:15 Stations of the Cross in Chapel		
Tues 1 st Apr	2:45 Y1 Starfish Class Collective Worship with their parents in the chapel/small hall		
Wed 2 nd April	Y6 Victorian WOW day		
Thurs 3 April	Forgiveness & Renewal Service		
Fri 4 April	MUFTI day for Humanitas Last Day of Lent Term - early end of day: KS1 & FS2 2:20pm. FS1 & KS2 2:30pm. No Afterschool Care Club on this day		

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