



St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

live simply

Loving, serving and growing together with Jesus

Newsletter January 2025

Lent Term 1

Value: Courage

Catholic Social Teaching Principle: The Dignity of Workers

Dear Parents and Carers,

I do hope that 2025 has started well for you and all your loved ones.

A reminder that there will be no Afterschool Care Club or any other afterschool club on Monday due to Mrs Enright's Memorial Service taking place at the school at 5pm. All members of our school community - past and present - are welcome to attend. Please note that children must be accompanied by an adult.

This half term is a short one, we break up for the half term holiday on Friday 14th February with normal end of day timings. We return on Monday 24th February.

Do please check the dates page at the end of this newsletter to see a range of events planned for the remainder of this Lent term.

Kindest regards, Mrs Zamora

Staying Healthy and Well

You will be aware from the national and local news that there are many bugs circulating at the moment. Please do not send your child to school if they have a temperature or have vomited or experienced diarrhoea in the last 48 hours. Our website has helpful information for parents: <https://www.stbernadettesschool.com/attendance-and-absence-procedures/>

Parent Consultations

Spring Term Parent Consultations are taking place on 11th and 13th February this year. We are following the same approach as we did in October, with the option to choose **either** a remote session via Microsoft Teams on Tuesday 11th February **or** a Face-to-Face meeting at school on Thursday 13th February. Please look out for the email prompting you to sign up to a session which will be sent from *Primary Site* (our website provider). It will only be sent to **one** of your child's primary emergency contacts. If you experience any difficulty signing up for a slot, please liaise with the school office by phone (01908 692438) rather than via the class teacher because the office staff maintain the sign-up registers.

St. Bernadette's Catholic Primary School, Tewkesbury Lane, Monkston Park, Milton Keynes, MK10 9PH
Tel: 01908 692438

Email: office@stbernadettesschool.com

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Headteacher: Jane Zamora BA Hons PGCE NPQH
Diocese of Northampton

Deputy Head: Melanie Smith B.Ed. Hons
Milton Keynes Council





Safe and Respectful Parking

I have received numerous complaints from local residents about parents parking in or blocking their private driveways. Please do park carefully and with consideration for our neighbours. Please also take care not to park on the grass verges or anywhere where there are double yellow lines.

Staffing Update

Mrs Potter will be commencing her maternity leave at the end of next week - we wish her and her husband every blessing as they prepare to welcome their second child into the world. Our St Bernadette's family continues to grow!

A reminder that Mrs Smith has taken on the role of interim Inclusion Manager until Mrs Lazzari joins us in March.

Children's Mental Health Week

Children's Mental Health Week 2025 will take place from 3rd - 9th February. The theme this year is 'Know Yourself, Grow Yourself' We will be encouraging the children to discover how getting to know who they are can help them build resilience, grow and develop.

Starting Nursery in September 2025?

The application process for 15hrs and 30hrs places at our nursery for September 2025 is open for children born between 01/09/2021 and 31/08/2022. Applications for nursery places should be made directly to the school.



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The Eco Mini Vinnies, along with the STEAM team are working towards gaining the Anglian Water Eco Advocates Award. As well as our in-school assemblies and work that we do as part of our learning in Science, Humanities and Catholic Social Teaching, we would like to encourage you at home to think about ways in which you can protect the environment by using less water. You may wish to participate in the water use at home activity with your child (link attached); work with your child to create a poster or a written explanation of how you save water at home; write a song or a poem that reflects water conservation or simply take photographs of your own methods of water conservation at home. In school, we are trying to get the message across to our children (and their adults) about the importance of conserving and using less water - we would love your help and participation with our project. Please email or hand in any evidence to Mrs Bond or Mrs McGinn before the February half-term so that the work can be uploaded to the award evidence portal.

<https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/contentassets/a4c2aa7fe9784577b4420d369b1d3cb1/aw-education-pack-lesson-3-water-use-in-your-home.pdf>



Lent begins this year on Wednesday 5th March - Ash Wednesday.

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.

To mark the beginning of Lent, we will be holding an Ash Wednesday Prayer Service on Wednesday 5th March for Y3-6. FS and KS1 pupils will take part in a simple service in their classrooms. Our Prayer Mini Vinnies will lead the administering of the ashes to all pupils.

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A number of prayer Mini Vinnies will also lead weekly Stations of the Cross before school on Fridays in the chapel during Lent. More information will be sent out nearer the time but we do hope as many as possible will join us for this very special, prayerful and reflective tradition.



World Book Day is on Thursday 6th March.

We have some lovely reading-related activities planned for the day - look out for further information that will be emailed to you.

We also encourage pupils and staff to come to school dressed as their favourite book character! The PTA will be running a pre-loved costume and book sale on 6th February after school. Watch out for further information from the PTA.

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

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Events for Lent Term 2025

New Virtue: Courage

Mon 20 Jan	Year 4 Egyptian WOW Day 5:00pm Mrs Enright's Memorial Service 5pm at school. All families past and present are welcome to attend. Children must be accompanied by an adult. There will be no After School Care Club or any other clubs after school on this day.
Thurs 23 Jan	2:40 Y6 Comet Class Collective Worship with their parents in the chapel/small hall Y3/4 Boys' Football League - Glebe Farm
Tues 28 Jan	2:50 Y3 Kangaroo Class Collective Worship with their parents in the chapel/small hall
Wed 29 Jan	Launch Assembly of the Jubilee Year - Pilgrims of Hope
30 - 31 Jan	Pilgrims of Hope focus activities in class Thurs 30 - Y3/4 Boys' Football League - Glebe Farm
w/c 3 Feb	Children's Mental Health Week, including an additional focus on online safety
Tues 4 Feb	2:50 Y3 Panda Class Collective Worship with their parents in the chapel/small hall
Thurs 6 Feb	3:30 PTA Book Day Costume Sale and Book Sale - Small Hall Y3/4 Boys' Football League - Glebe Farm
Tues 11 Feb	Feast Day of Our Lady of Lourdes 3:30 - 6:00 Parent Consultation Evening - Remote Meetings via Microsoft Teams
Thurs 13 Feb	3:30 - 6:00 Parent Consultation Evening - Face-to-face meetings in Main Hall
Fri 14 Feb	Last Day of Half Term - normal home times.

Half Term Holiday

New Virtue = Forgiveness

Mon 24 Feb	Start of new half term
w/c 24 Feb	Poetry by Heart Heats (KS2) - watch out for further information
Wed 26 Feb	Y3-4 Badminton - St Paul's 3:45 - 5pm
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
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
Tues 18 Mar	2:45 Y2 Dolphin Class Collective Worship with their parents in the chapel/small hall

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Wed 19 Mar	Y3-4 Basketball - St Paul's 3:45 - 5pm
Thurs 20 Mar	Poetry by Heart Final (KS2)
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
Thurs 27 Mar	Bridgebuilder Trust Assembly
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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