



## Newsletter November 2024

Advent Term 2

Virtue: Compassion

CST: Human Dignity

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you so very much to the many families, staff members and governors who supported the special Mass on 10<sup>th</sup> November at Christ the King church in celebration of our Catholic Schools. I was quite overwhelmed by the level of support. It was lovely to see so many children present, all smartly dressed in their uniforms. They read and sang beautifully and were a real credit to their families and to our school. Your support with events such as this is greatly appreciated.



I do hope to see lots of you at our annual **International Evening** on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November at 5:30pm. It is certainly one of my favourite events in the school calendar!

There are many special events planned for the remainder of this term - please see the dates page at the end of this newsletter to be sure not to miss anything.

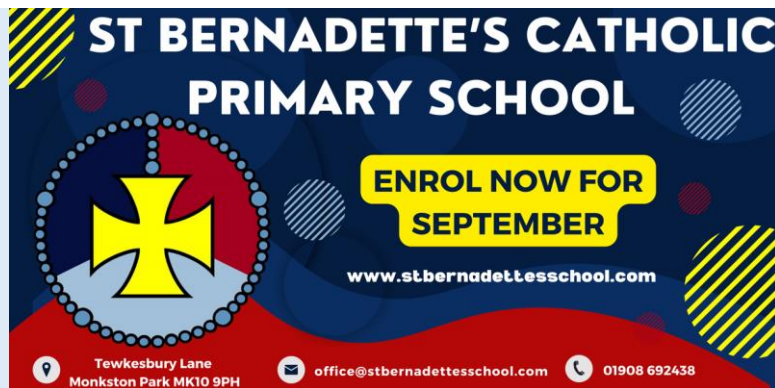
Kindest regards,  
Mrs Zamora



*live simply*

# St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

Loving, serving and growing together with Jesus



Please do encourage any of your friends or family members with young, pre-school aged children to attend one of our tours on 2<sup>nd</sup> December. They start promptly at 10:30 am or 5:00pm. Please book a place via the school office 01908 692438 and remember to provide the office with a contact number

The registration process for admissions to our lovely school and nursery for September 2025 is currently open; applications must be made by 15<sup>th</sup> January. To apply for a place in Reception (FS2 - children born between 1st Sept 2020 and 31st August 2021), there are two necessary processes. Applications MUST be made via the council <https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/schools-and-lifelong-learning/school-admissions/starting-primary-or-juniormiddle-school-september> Additionally, supplementary forms should be completed and returned directly to St Bernadette's - You can find out more and download our Admissions Policy and supplementary forms from our website <https://www.stbernadettesschool.com/school-admissions/>

## Our Fabulous School Choir



Our school choir continues to grow from strength to strength and the termly performances for their families have become greatly anticipated events in the school calendar.

A smaller group of the choir members performed on Saturday at the Christmas Lights Switch-on in the City Centre. We were the only school choir invited to perform at the event and it was a true privilege to hear the children sing at such a special event in front of such a large audience. Many thanks to the children and family members who supported this, and special thanks to Mrs Abiola for preparing the children so well. If you missed that performance, don't miss them singing at the Woburn Sands Christmas Fayre, this Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November at approximately 4pm.

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

Email: [office@stbernadettesschool.com](mailto:office@stbernadettesschool.com)

[www.stbernadettesschool.com](http://www.stbernadettesschool.com)

**Headteacher: Jane Zamora BA Hons PGCE NPQH**  
Diocese of Northampton

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



# St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

Loving, serving and growing together with Jesus

*live simply*



We were honoured that representatives from St Bernadette's were invited to take part in the Children's Remembrance Day service and parade at the Woughton War Memorial. Our children read the Remembrance poem so beautifully and they were extremely respectful when laying wreaths at the memorial.

The rest of the school gathered on the school playground to respectfully observe two minutes of silence.



## December Mufti Day

As mentioned in the October newsletter, the children voted to focus their initial fundraising on a month of a malaria prevention programme in Ayensuako, Ghana in support of the Humanitas School. The last day of this term - 20<sup>th</sup> December, we will have a whole-school Mufti Day to start off our fundraising. Donations can be made via your Gateway Account or through a cash donation on the day.



Advent commences on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December and we will join together for a special service on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. It will be led by our Prayer Mini Vinnies, who will explain the symbolism of the different parts of the Advent wreath which we will construct during the service. We will light a new candle each week as we prepare ourselves for Christmas.

CAFOD provides the opportunity to sign up for daily reflections straight into your in-box during Advent. You can find out more here: <https://cafod.org.uk/pray/advent-calendar>

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

Email: [office@stbernadettesschool.com](mailto:office@stbernadettesschool.com)

[www.stbernadettesschool.com](http://www.stbernadettesschool.com)

**Headteacher: Jane Zamora BA Hons PGCE NPQH**  
Diocese of Northampton

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



## International Evening

### Share and Celebrate Your Cultural Heritage

Please do come to our fabulous PTA International Evening on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November at 5:30pm. Bring your traditional food to share (please note down the ingredients used to avoid allergies); dress in traditional clothing or colours; bring your music or instruments to play and songs to sing, but, most importantly, come and have fun together as one school community. If there is any specific music you would like us to play or photos for us to display from different countries you represent, please email them to the school office.



On Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November (weather permitting), we will be taking part in a Santa Dash challenge! The Santa Dash is a fun run that the children will complete with their class during the school day. All children are welcome to wear a Christmas-themed item to complete the run, such as a Santa hat or tinsel if they wish. However, all children must wear their PE kit and trainers that day. Please ensure your child is wearing warm and comfortable PE kit that is appropriate for the weather conditions that day because the run will be taking place outside.

## St Bernadette's PTA Discos

The PTA is arranging Christmas Discos towards the end of term. Please note that they will take place across two days, straight after school:

- Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 3:15 - 4:15 FS2, Y1, 2 and 3
- Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December: 3:20 - 4:20 Y4, 5 and 6

Information from the PTA regarding ticket sales will soon be available. All children can come to school in their party clothes on the day of their disco, whether or not they will actually be attending the disco. Party clothes will need to be comfortable and appropriate to be worn during the school day, with sensible footwear. Do not forget coats, gloves and hats for use at playtimes and lunchtimes.



# St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

Loving, serving and growing together with Jesus

*live simply*



**caritas**

diocese of northampton

**Bags of Kindness**

**Love  
CHRISTMAS**

As last year, for our Christmas Charity appeal, we want to bring some joy to vulnerable families who are not able to provide their loved ones with a treat this Christmas. We will again be working with Caritas and Northampton Diocese on the Love Christmas campaign. We will provide a bag of simple Christmas treats and gifts for families and individuals in need. The Diocese is working with a range of organisations to ensure that our **Bags of Kindness** reach the families most in need.

### **Suggested Gifts**

*This list is for suggested gifts and to provide ideas. Anything that you would give as a gift to a family member or friend will be suitable and will be distributed to someone in need locally.*

*Suggested Gift Ideas: Chocolates, shortbread, luxury biscuits, selection boxes, games and toys, puzzles, dolls, craft sets, action toys, fidget toys, balls, playing cards, family games, activities, board games, winter clothing (scarves, gloves, socks and blankets). Nail varnish, hand cream, toiletries, colouring books, crayons, pens, notebooks, stationary set, books, playing cards, make-up, hair accessories, hairbrush, crayons, pens, notebooks, stationary set, Christmas crackers, Christmas lights, Christmas activities games, toiletry gift packs, Play doh.*

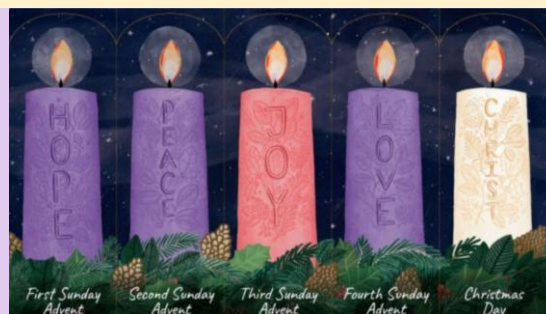
*Suggested Additional Gifts for babies and toddlers: Cuddly toy, bath toy, building blocks, animal figures, musical toys, socks, gloves, and blankets.*

*Suggested Additional Gifts for Elderly People Individual Christmas pudding, Christmas cake, lap blanket, insulated mug, gloves, scarf.*

Any gift/treat would need to be new (not used). We would be so grateful if you could support us with this lovely initiative so that we can share as many **Bags of Kindness** as possible this Christmas and bring joy to vulnerable families. Please **do not** wrap any of the gifts you provide.

If you know of a family who would benefit from receiving some of our **Bags of Kindness** then please contact me in confidence with their details. Self-nominations are of course warmly welcomed.

[ZamoraJ@stbernadettesschool.com](mailto:ZamoraJ@stbernadettesschool.com)



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

Email: [office@stbernadettesschool.com](mailto:office@stbernadettesschool.com)

[www.stbernadettesschool.com](http://www.stbernadettesschool.com)

**Headteacher: Jane Zamora BA Hons PGCE NPQH**  
Diocese of Northampton

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



# St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

Loving, serving and growing together with Jesus

*live simply*

Dates for Advent Term	
Virtue = Compassion. Catholic Social Teaching Principle = Human Dignity	
Tues 19 Nov	Anglia Water assembly - World Toilet Day (!) Y4 Leopard Class Collective Worship in Chapel 2:45 with their parents
Wed 20 Nov	3:30 - 4:00pm FS/KS1 phonics parent workshop
Thurs 21 Nov	9:00 - 9:30am FS/KS1 phonics parent workshop FS2 Saplings Book Sale 3:00 - 3:30
Fri 22 Nov	PTA coffee afternoon 2:15 small hall
Wed 27 Nov	International Evening 5:30 - 7:30 - have fun sharing your traditional food, dress and music
Thurs 28 Nov	Santa Dash School Council Meeting - St Paul's
Fri 29 Nov	Y5 Educational Visit - Bletchley Park Y4 Lion Class Collective Worship in Chapel 2:45 with their parents
Mon 2 Dec	Advent Wreath Assembly Tours for prospective parents/pupils: 10:30 and 5:00 pm - book a place via the school office
Wed 4 Dec	2:15 pm Rocksteady performance for their parents
Thurs 5 Dec	FS2 (Saplings) Nativity for their families 2pm Main Hall
Mon 9 Dec	Year 1 Nativity for their families 2pm Main Hall
Wed 11 Dec	Y5 & Y6 Carols and Readings 9:30am and 6:00pm Main Hall
Thurs 12 Dec	9:15 FS1 (Acorns/Nursery) Christmas songs for their families - Small Hall Christmas Lunch - please book via St Paul's wise pay 4pm School choir concert for their parents
Fri 13 Dec	PTA Christmas Shop
Tues 17 Dec	Year 6 Wow Day - Africa - donations via the School Gateway PTA Christmas Disco 3:15 - 4:15 FS2, Y1, 2 and 3 (All children in these year groups can come to school in party clothes whether attending the disco or not)
Wed 18 Dec	PTA Christmas Disco 3:20 - 4:20 Y4, 5 and 6 (All children in these year groups can come to school in party clothes whether attending the disco or not)
Thurs 19 Dec	Celebration party for all the Spirits of St Bernadette from this half term
Fri 20 Dec	Mufti Day for Humanitas School, Ghana Last day of term - Early close and no after-school care club on this day. KS1 and FS2 (Saplings, Y1 and Y2) close at 2:20 pm. Nursery and KS2 (Acorns, Y3, 4, 5 and 6 close at 2:30 pm).
Mon 6 Jan	Children return to school

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

Tel: 01908 692438

Email: [office@stbernadettesschool.com](mailto:office@stbernadettesschool.com)

[www.stbernadettesschool.com](http://www.stbernadettesschool.com)

**Headteacher: Jane Zamora BA Hons PGCE NPQH**

Diocese of Northampton

**Deputy Head: Melanie Smith B.Ed. Hons**

Milton Keynes Council