



St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

Loving, serving and growing together with Jesus

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February 2026 Newsletter

Newsletter February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Lent Term 2

Virtue: Perseverance

Catholic Social Principles:

Human Dignity

I hope that you found it helpful to discuss your children's progress and review their targets with the class teachers before the half-term holiday.

The PTA Annual General Meeting (AGM) takes place on Tuesday 3rd March at 2pm in the Small Hall. All are welcome. The PTA is 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. A key focus for the current fundraising is to contribute towards the costs of replacing the MUGA on the school field.

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

Kindest regards, Mrs J Zamora

Sporting Update

On 13th February, we were delighted to welcome Team GB Olympic volleyball athlete, Peter Bakare. He led the children through fun fitness circuits with all children enthusiastically taking part. He then held an assembly where he shared his journey from childhood to Olympic athlete. The children and staff alike were greatly inspired by his motivational speech about resilience and determination and his key message, 'You can't YET'. Thank you for all who took part in sponsoring the children to take part in the fitness circuits.

Our Year 2 and Year 3 students thoroughly enjoyed the MOTUS Dance performance and workshops which looked into the use of movement and dance to express emotion. We are grateful to MOTUS for providing this wonderful opportunity.

Throughout January and February, the year 3/4 boys football team competed in the Milton Keynes School Boys' Football League. This was a fiercely competitive league and the boys gained great confidence as the weeks went on and finished in 3rd place in the league. They won 9 matches, drew 2 and lost 3. Their very impressive performance saw them go on to compete in the top-level finals night and they came 8th overall against the strongest teams across MK. Congratulations to the boys - they have demonstrated great skill and resilience.

The girls' football league commences this half term - good luck girls!

We are now looking forward to our own Football Festivals:

Y5/6 boys' festival: 24/03/2026, Y3/4 boys' festival: 05/05/2026, KS2 girls' festival: 19/05/2026 matches 3:45 - 6:00 pm on our school field.

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!

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

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Deputy

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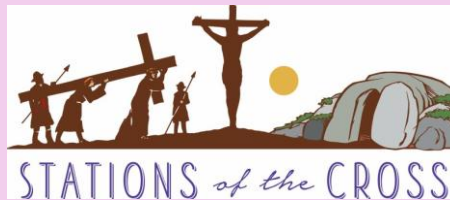
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Lent is the period of 40 days before Easter in the Christian calendar; it is a time of reflection as we prepare to remember the passion and death of Jesus and his glorious resurrection on Easter Sunday. Our observance of Lent began on Ash Wednesday, which was during the holidays this year.



Please come and join us for STATIONS OF THE CROSS, led by our Prayer Mini Vinnies in the chapel on Friday mornings during Lent, starting on 27th February. (8:10 am - 8:30 am). This is a beautiful, reflective way to start the day and we would be very glad to share it with you.

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 2026. 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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Children's Mental Health Week

Children's Mental Health Week 2026 (9-15 February) focused on the theme "This is My Place,". The week in school began with key stage assemblies and throughout the week the children took part in a number of tasks to support emotional well-being. Each child across the school was also given an opportunity to write and draw about themselves which will be turned into a whole-school mosaic display. On Tuesday 10th February it was also Internet Safety Awareness Day. All KS2 pupils participated in an online safety session and have completed a quiz on how to keep themselves safe online.

World Book Day

We encourage pupils and staff to come to school dressed as their favourite character on Thursday 5th March! To celebrate World Book Day, children will have the opportunity work with different teachers across the school to explore this year's theme: 'Step into Reading'.

Books Over Breakfast

On the morning of Tuesday 3rd March 2026, we are 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 Friday 27th February

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 of their classmates' poetry performances in their classrooms before the best ones are chosen to perform in the school final on Thursday 19th March. As a school, we will then decide who will go forward to the national round of the competition.

Laurissa, one of our own pupils was the national winner last year! You can see one of her winning performances here: <https://poetrybyheart.org.uk/the-competition>

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Half Term Holiday

New Virtue: Perseverance

New Catholic Social Teaching Principle: Human Dignity

Mon 23 Feb	Back to school
Tues 24 Feb	Y3/4 Badminton tournament at St Paul's
Fri 27 Feb	8:10am Join us for Stations of the Cross in the school chapel
w/c 2 nd Mar	Poetry by Heart Heats in Class Y3-Y6
Mon 2 Mar	Y7 school offer day for Y6 pupils Y5 Prayer Space day with Bridgebuilder Trust
Tues 3 Mar	8am Books over Breakfast - book your place via the School Gateway PTA Annual General Meeting 2pm Small Hall
Thurs 5 Mar	World Book Day - come dressed as your favourite book character Girls' Football League matches
Fri 6 Mar	8:10am Join us for Stations of the Cross in the school chapel
Mon 9 Mar	British Science Week commences St Paul's science visit to Y6
Tue 10 Mar	Drop in sessions with Mrs Lazzari - Inclusion Manager Year 2 Turtle Class Collective Worship - Parents and welcomed to join them in the Small Hall - 2:45pm Y5/6 Basketball Tournament at St Paul's
Wed 11 Mar	St Bernadette's Delve into Science Day
Thurs 12 Mar	Y6 Victorian Wow Day
Fri 13 Mar	Y3 Panda group Forest School session 8:10am Join us for Stations of the Cross in the school chapel
Tues 17 Mar	Y2 Dolphin Class Collective Worship - Parents and welcomed to join them in the Small Hall - 2:45pm Y3/4 Basketball Tournament at St Paul's
Wed 18 Mar	Wednesday Groups Rock Steady Rockstar performance for their parents 2:15pm Main Hall
Thurs 19 Mar	School Final Y3-Y6 of Poetry by Heart Competition Forgiveness & Renewal Service for children Y5/6 Football League matches
Fri 20 Mar	8:10am Join us for Stations of the Cross in the school chapel
Mon 23 Mar	Y4 Easter Reflection for their parents 2pm Main Hall
Tues 24 Mar	Tuesday Groups Rock Steady Rockstar performance for their parents 2:15pm Small Hall 3:30 - 6:00 Y5/6 Boys - St Bernadette's Football Festival - come and cheer on the team!
Wed 25 Mar	Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord Choir Easter Performance for their families
Thurs 26 Mar	Y1 Seahorse Class Collective Worship - Parents and welcomed to join them in the Small Hall - 2:45pm Y5/6 Girls' Football League matches
Fri 27 Mar	Mufti in aid of CAFOD world Gifts and our aim to fund a community water supply. Y3 Kangaroo group Forest School session End of term. Early Close: FS2 (Saplings) & KS1: 2:15pm. Nursery & KS2 2:30pm

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