



Dear Parents and Carers,

As another academic year draws to a close, I would like to thank you all for your incredible support, kind words, prayers and generosity of spirit throughout the year. I am very grateful to be part of such a wonderful school community.

Please remember that the school year ends tomorrow with an early close and no after-school care club.

KS1 and FS2 (Saplings, Y1 and Y2) close at 2:20 pm, Nursery and KS2 (Acorns, Y3, 4, 5 and 6 close 2:30 pm).

I hope that you enjoy a restful and happy summer holiday.

May God bless you and all your loved ones,

Mrs Zamora.

It has been such a busy yet successful year for our school and our children have achieved so much - we are so proud of them! Here you can read about just a few of their successes:

Sporting Heroes!

We have taken part in a wide range of sporting events and competitions across the year and we have won many of them, including Y3/4 netball, Y5/6 Netball, Y3/4 basketball, Y3/4 badminton, the Y5/6 Football Festival, a girls' friendly football match, 13 medals at the Stantonbury Athletics finals (the most we have ever won) and the coveted Catholic Schools Sportsday Shield! Having won the shield for the 7th occasion since the competition's inauguration in 2005, we have now won more often than any other school involved.

Thank you to all those who braved the heat to join our various sports days. It was lovely to see so many of you there and the incredible speed of our parents in the parent races shows where our children get their sporting talents from!

Musical Marvels

Our school choir goes from strength to strength. They have taken part in numerous memorable performances across the year and are now gathering recognition and acclaim across Milton Keynes. A particular highlight was when we were invited to be the only school choir to sing at the MK City Lights Switch-on. Well done children - your singing can brighten the dullest of days! Many thanks to Mrs Abiola for the skills and commitment she brings to leading the choir.

The Diocesan Choral Director continues to provide singing lessons to Y3 and the Music Hub provide percussion lessons to Year 4 - both year groups have provided beautiful performances for their families this year.

Our school Rock Steady Rock bands have entertained and astounded in their fabulous rock concerts and our recorder and ukelele players have made fantastic progress in playing their instruments.

This year's Year 6 end of year musical was a feast for the eyes and ears! It was really poignant for me to reflect on how these wonderful young, talented students have grown and developed during their time at St Bernadette's - many having started in acorns at the age of 3! The performance was of such high standard - definitely many stars of the future I am sure!



POETRY BY
HEART

National
Champion!

Laurissa, our Year 6 pupil won the 'Poetry by Heart' national final, beating many thousands of entrants to prove she is England's best poetry performer! The Poetry By Heart competition culminated in a grand finale at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre on 7th July. Laurissa won the competition after reciting her poems to a panel of seven poet judges and for a full house of 800 in the theatre. Congratulations Laurissa - we are so proud of you!



St Bernadette's Speech Cup and Poetry Recital Competition

Our annual poetry and speech competitions were incredible, inspiring events.

Our nursery finalists - Thea, Sophia and Naomi brought great joy to us all, with Naomi winning the competition with her beautiful sung performance.

Congratulations to all the FS2 - Y2 poetry recital finalists - FS2: Wiktorcia and Kimberly, Y1: Elijah and Emily and Y2: Tino and Abena. Our winner, Wiktorcia not only recited *What Is Pink?* by Christina Rossetti, she also presented a beautiful book of the poem that she had created with the support of her family. Her pages can be seen below:



The KS2 speeches were so informative, entertaining and inspiring and of such high standard that the judges from St Paul's had an incredibly difficult job choosing a winner.

Well done to all the finalists - Y3:Laila and Isaac; Y4: Nanapoku and Owen; Y5: Tansia and Abhinav and Y6: Brian and Nonyem. Special congratulations to Nonyem on winning the competition with her speech entitled, *Breaking Barriers, Defying Limits*.



Impressive Academic Performance

Last week we enjoyed a number of award ceremonies celebrating the academic achievements of pupils from across the school - congratulations to all the award winners of 2025!

Whilst full details of national performance in this year's statutory tests are not yet available, we are very proud of the strong performance of children.

- Our Early Years outcomes are notably higher than the national performance of 2024 - 72% of children reached a Good Level of Development compared with 68% nationally in 2024.
- Our Year 1 pupils have done remarkably well in their phonics screening test, with a pass rate of 87% compared with 80% nationally in 2024.
- Our Year 4 pupils have performed brilliantly in the statutory multiplication check, with 75% scoring full marks in the test (25/25) compared with 34% nationally in 2024.
- Year 6 pupils have also worked extremely hard throughout the year and have done the school and their families proud with their performance in the Year 6 statutory SATs tests. Figures in brackets show the national figure for 2024 as we await publication of the national 2025 greater depth standard data.

KS2 Reading	Reading		Writing		Maths		Reading, writing, maths combined		Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar		Science	
	School	National	School	National	School	National	School	National	School	National	School	National
% Expected Standard	81	75	77	72	74	74	61	62	84	73	84	82
% Greater Depth Standard	40	(28)	19	(13)	32	(24)	13	(8)	42	(32)	N/A	

It is important to note that these assessments reveal only a tiny fraction of what goes on at St Bernadette's from day to day. The government does not assess the many other skills, qualities and strengths of our wonderful children. The children at our school receive a broad and balanced curriculum and learn the importance of Christian virtues alongside their responsibilities as citizens of the world. They have many opportunities to contribute to the life of our school and to the lives of the vulnerable in our locality and beyond. These are qualities of St Bernadette's pupils that would be impossible to give a numerical value to or to judge within national league tables, but they are what makes our children so special and unique.

I hope that you found the end of year reports helpful and informative. You can find out more about our curriculum and what your children have been learning via our website: <https://www.stbernadettesschool.com/our-curriculum/> and <https://www.stbernadettesschool.com/curriculum-newsletters/>

I would be extremely grateful if you would follow this link and complete the parental questionnaire if you have not done so already: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JCDBYM5> This helps us to celebrate what is going well and also helps us identify areas for development for the coming year. The outcomes of this questionnaire are shared with our staff and the school's Governing Board. It is optional to include your children's names in your questionnaire response. If you have any specific queries or concerns you would like to raise regarding your own children, please do include their names or



alternatively, please do not hesitate to contact me directly so that I can address them as a priority.

Sensational Year 6 Pupils

Our Year 6 pupils enjoyed a special end of year Mass, celebrated by Fr Francis on Tuesday. Last week they performed an amazing, talent-filled musical full of great humour and on Friday had lots of fun at their end of year party. Our prayers and very best wishes go with Year 6 pupils as they move on to the next stage in their school careers. They have conducted themselves with great maturity, resilience, and positivity, despite the challenges they have faced. I am immensely proud of them.

So many members of the Y6 cohort have taken on leadership roles over the years as Mini Vinnies, Junior Park Rangers and Bully Busters. They have represented the school with great sportsmanship at so many events and tournaments helping us this year to win a wide range of trophies and awards.

Many have worked on the Ministerium Award in their own time, learning more about their faith and carrying out a wide range of acts of service with increasing independence. They have provided a wonderful role model to our younger children.

Y6 pupils also took their role in charitable fundraising extremely seriously and most recently they worked with the Community Mini Vinnies and Ministerium Award pupils, to plan and lead a fabulous, fun-packed *Charity Bash* on 4th July! I could not be more proud of them!

They are a true credit to their families and our school. They have been thoroughly 'St Bernadette-ed' and we hope they will always feel part of the school family, returning to visit us often.

Many of our Y6 pupils are the youngest siblings of families who have been part of St Bernadette's school community for so many years and I think the record has been broken by Mr and Mrs Holland this year as they conclude 17 years as parents of the school, having joined the same year that I did! I thank all the families of our Year 6 leavers for all their support over the years. It is certainly the end of an era in so many ways!

Fond Farewells and Warm Welcomes

At the end of this week, we are saying farewell to Ms Carey. She has given 18 years of loyal service to St Bernadette's within our foundation stage. She has brought great joy, humour and creativity to St Bernadette's and touched the lives of so many children over the years. We also express our grateful thanks to Mrs Richardson who is also leaving our foundation stage team. We thank her for all gentle kindness and hard work and wish her every happiness in her retirement. Finally, we also say farewell and best wishes to Mrs Molloy. We have been so lucky to benefit from her exceptional teaching and musical skills over the years and the Webber Independent School is very lucky to be welcoming her as their new leader of music. We wish them all every blessing and will miss them greatly.

We wish Mrs Irvine best wishes as she commences her maternity leave at the end of the school year. We are thrilled to welcome Mrs O'Brien who brings a wealth of experience to our Saplings staff team and Miss K Rodricks (not to be confused with Mrs C Rodricks!) who joins the Y6 team - we are delighted that she is returning to our staff after a period of time away.



St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

Loving, serving and growing together with Jesus

live simply

End of Year Newsletter 2025



We are providing parents and carers the opportunity to meet with the Year Group teachers early in the new term. We understand that remote meetings are preferable for some parents and therefore we plan to continue to offer the choice of a face-to-face meeting or a remote meeting. **3:30 pm face-to-face sessions will take place in the classroom and a 5pm session will be provided via Microsoft Teams. A link to the Teams meetings will be sent out in September.**

Monday 8th September: Year 1

Tuesday 9th September: Year 4 and Year 6

Wednesday 10th September: Year 3 and Year 5

Thursday 11th September: Reception (Saplings - FS2) and Year 2

The June newsletter detailed the staffing for next year - the information is provided again in the table below.

Class and Year Group from September 2025-26	Current Class (2024-2025)	Class Teachers from September 2025-26	Support Staff (Including SEND support)
Nursery (FS1) Acorns		Miss Fletcher (4 ½ days) Mrs Morris (1/2 day)	Miss Poppy Mrs Perrin
Reception (FS2) Saplings Lourdes		Mrs O'Brien (2 days) Mrs Morris (3 days)	Mrs Tyerman Mrs Saunders & Miss Fajojuto
Reception (FS2) Saplings Bernadette		Mrs Patel (3 days) Mrs Dalton (2 days)	
Year 1 Starfish	Saplings L	Mrs Nelta (4 days) Mrs Evison (1 day)	Mrs Agnel Mrs Rodriguez
Year 1 Seahorse	Saplings B	Ms Sohal (Mon - Wed am 2 ½ days) Mrs Lewington (Wed pm - Fri 2 ½ days)	Mrs Addo/ Mrs Rankin
Year 2 Dolphins	Y1 Seahorse	Miss Hannigan (Mrs Lowe 1 day)	Mrs Julian Miss Bida
Year 2 Turtles	Y1 Starfish	Mrs Crompton (Mrs Lowe 1 day)	Mrs Goddard

Year 3 Pandas	Y2 Turtle	Mrs Bond Mrs Rodricks (1/2 day)	Mrs Kent Mrs Chennan
Year 3 Kangaroos	Y2 Dolphin	Mrs Abiola (Mon-Wed 3 days) Mrs Rodricks (Thurs- Fri 2 days)	
Year 4 Leopards	Y3 Kangaroo	Mr Cowan (Mrs Evison 1 day)	Mrs Dyett Miss Dereva Mrs Denieffe Mrs Saunders (pm)
Year 4 Lions	Y3 Panda	Mr Waghorne Mrs Evison (1/2 day)	
Year 5 Eagles	Y4 Lion	Mr Sangle Mrs Evison (1/2 day)	Mrs Moore Mrs Drakeley Ms Whiting
Year 5 Falcons	Y4 Leopard	Miss McNally (Mon Tues Wed, Thurs am) Mrs Smith (Thurs pm and Friday)	
Year 6 Meteors	Y5 Eagle	Mrs Pughe Miss K Rodricks (Tues pm and Wednesday)	Mrs Perry
Year 6 Comets	Y5 Falcon	Mrs McGinn Miss K Rodricks (1/2 day)	Ms Iskrzynska

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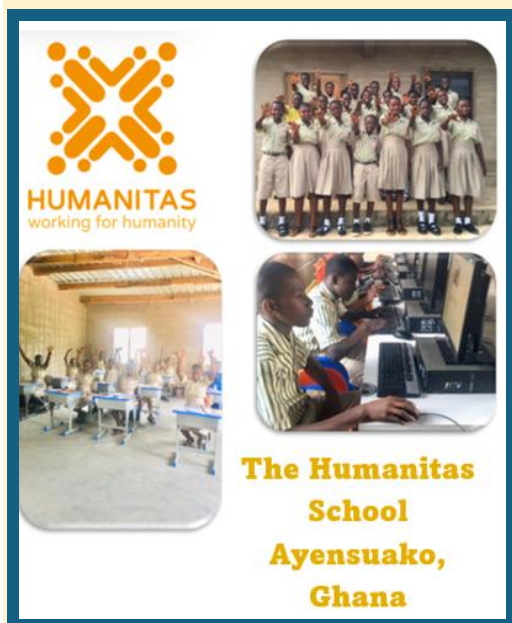
Diocese of Northampton

Deputy Head: Melanie Smith B.Ed. Hons

Milton Keynes Council



Our Charity Work



Thanks to your generosity and the wonderful efforts of our children and staff, we have been able to support the MK Foodbank, St Mark's Meals, Bags of Kindness and of course, the Humanitas School in Ghana this year.

The Humanitas fundraising has raised £2162 over the year which is an incredible amount that more than covers the cost of the 3 projects the children voted to prioritise this year: A year of school meals for 40 children, Writing pads and pens for the students and the costs to fund a month of a malaria prevention clinic in the village. I will be meeting the children tomorrow to discuss their wishes for the remainder of the money they have raised.

Thank you so much to all who have contributed to our charitable fundraising this year.

Thank you to our PTA

Thank you so much to the PTA for all of their efforts this year. They have provided uniform sales, ice-lolly sales, Break the Rules Day, Christmas Shop, discos and much more. They work hard to provide fun activities for our children whilst raising much-needed funds for the school. It would be lovely to see the team of hardworking parents and carers grow in numbers for the year ahead- sharing the load certainly helps.

School Uniform

On return to school in September, please do ensure that your child is complying with the school's uniform policy. Children will continue to come to school in PE kit on their PE days and it is essential that they wear the correct PE uniform - the standards have slipped notably with regards to PE uniform. I would very much appreciate your support in returning to our usual high standards. **Please note that leggings and cycling shorts are NOT part of the school PE uniform.**

When buying school shoes, please make sure that they are appropriate, black, supportive school shoes. Sports shoes are not part of the main school uniform.

For pupils in Year 1 and above, please support us by teaching your child to tie the school tie and fasten shirt buttons. The details of the school uniform can be see below:



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End of Year Newsletter 2025

Boys' Uniform	Girls' Uniform
Jumper with school logo White Shirt (white polo shirt in Saplings Class) School Tie (Y1-6) Navy School Trousers Formal Navy School Shorts if preferred during hot summer months Black School Shoes Plain white, navy, grey or black socks	Jumper or cardigan with school logo White Shirt (white polo shirt in Saplings Class) School Tie (Y1-6) Navy Skirt, Pinafore Dress or Navy School Trousers Formal Navy School Shorts or navy/white checked school dress if preferred during hot summer months Black School Shoes Plain white, navy, grey or black socks or tights

PE Uniform - worn to school on PE days:

Plain navy blue school PE shorts or plain navy blue jogging bottoms
 Plain white t-shirt
 Plain navy blue hoody (in cooler weather).

PE kit with the school logo can be bought from the School Gateway and does look particularly smart but this is not essential. If you choose not to buy the items with the school logo, please ensure that the PE kit worn by your child is smart, fulfils the given description and has no company/brand logo, pattern, lines or additional colours.

Additional Uniform Expectations:

Any hair accessories should be purely functional (e.g. to tie hair back), small and in school colours. Oversized or colourful hair bows/decorations, shaved patterns or lines in the children's hair, colourful hair extensions and colourful weaves are not permitted. Nail varnish should not be worn. Any earrings worn should be small studs and should be removed on PE days.

The PE days for the academic year ahead are as follows:

Class PE Days - children should come to school in smart PE uniform on their PE days

Acorns (FS1) - Tuesday Saplings B (FS2) – Tuesday Y1 Seahorse – Tuesday and Friday Y2 Dolphin – Tuesday and Thursday Y3 Kangaroo –Monday and Wednesday Y4 Lion – Tuesday and Wednesday Y5 Falcon – Monday and Thursday Y6 Comet – Monday and Friday	Saplings L (FS2) – Wednesday Y1 Starfish – Wednesday and Friday Y2 Turtle – Tuesday and Friday Y3 Panda – Wednesday and Friday Y4 Leopard - Tuesday and Wednesday Y5 Eagle – Monday and Thursday Y6 Meteor – Monday and Friday
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Internet Safety

Please do be vigilant regarding content your children may be accessing at home, particularly over the summer holidays. Please see below for a reminder of age restrictions for social media platforms:



Stay connected with St Bernadette's on social media!

We're excited to announce our new Instagram account, where we will share photos from school events and activities.

Please follow us and engage with our posts. We also encourage you to like and follow our Facebook page to keep up with all our updates!

https://www.instagram.com/stbernadettes_catholic_school/#

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100087749677571>



Please see the following page for dates in the first half term of next academic year

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Dates For Your Diary

Wed 16 Jul	3:15 - 4:15pm FS2 - Y2 PTA Disco
Thur 17 Jul	3:20 - 4:20 Y3 - Y5 PTA Disco
Fri 18 July	Last Day of the School Year Early end of day. KS1 and FS2 (Saplings, Y1 and Y2) close at 2:20 pm Nursery and KS2 (Acorns, Y3, 4, 5 and 6 close 2:30 pm). THERE WILL BE NO CARE CLUB ON THIS DAY
SUMMER HOLIDAYS	
New Virtue: Thankfulness New Catholic Social Teaching Principle: Care of Creation	
Wed 3 Sept	First day of new school year for children
Mon 8 Sept	Year 1: Face-to-Face 3:30pm in classroom or 5:00 pm virtual via Microsoft Teams
Tues 9 Sept	Year 4 and Year 6: Face-to-Face 3:30pm in classroom or 5:00 pm virtual via Microsoft Teams
Wed 10 Sept	Year 3 and Year 5: Face-to-Face 3:30pm in classroom or 5:00 pm virtual via Microsoft Teams
Thurs 11 Sept	Reception (Saplings - FS2) and Year 2: Face-to-Face 3:30pm in classroom or 5:00 pm virtual via Microsoft Teams
Fri 12 Sept	Y4-6 Parent visits to St Paul's 9:30am
Tues 16 Sept	Y3/4 Football Tournament - St Paul's
Fri 19 Sept	Y4-6 Parent visits to St Paul's 9:30am
Tues 23 Sept	1:45 Mini Vinnies Commissioning Service Y5/6 Football Tournament - St Paul's
Fri 26 Sept	Y4-6 Parent visits to St Paul's 9:30am
w/c 29 Sept	Pilgrims of Hope Jubilee Year - revisit and renewing our pledges,
29 th Sept - 1 st Oct	Y6 Residential Visit - Rock UK
Tues 30 Sept	Y3/4 Netball Tournament - St Paul's
Thurs 2 Oct	5:00 pm RSHE Parent Information Evening
Fri 3 Oct	Y4-6 Parent visits to St Paul's 9:30am
Sat 4 Oct	St Barnabas Cluster Pilgrimage and Pilgrims of Hope Mass at St Paul' school
Wed 8 Oct	Jubilee Year school grounds pilgrimage of faith
Tues 7 Oct	Y5/6 Netball Tournament - St Paul's
Thurs 9 Oct	1:30pm Harvest Celebration Mass - Parents are warmly welcomed to join Y3-6 for Mass Open Evening for Prospective Year 7 Pupils and Parents 6.00pm-8.00pm St Paul's
Fri 10 Oct	Y4-6 Parent visits to St Paul's 9:30am
Tues 14 Oct	International Evening 5:30 - 7:30 - come and have fun sharing your traditional food, dress and music
Thurs 16 Oct	Individual and sibling photographs taken - full school uniform (not PE kit) on this day
Fri 17 Oct	Y4-6 Parent visits to St Paul's 9:30am
Tues 21 Oct	Parent Consultation Evening 3:30 - 6:00 pm (bookings open nearer the time) Face-to-Face in school hall
Thurs 23 Oct	Parent Consultation Evening 3:30 - 6:00 pm (bookings open nearer the time) Remote Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams
Fri 24 Oct	PTA Break the Rules Day Y4-6 Parent visits to St Paul's 9:30am Last day of half term - normal home times

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