

We would like to send our heartfelt thanks to Father James Evans, our chaplain, School Governor, representative of Jesus, friend, teacher, entertainer and counsellor.

Father James has been a fundamental member of St Bernadette's community since the very conception of the school. He has been a larger than life character who has brought joy to all of us. Many are the occasions when he has been referred to as "God" or "Jesus" by our pupils.

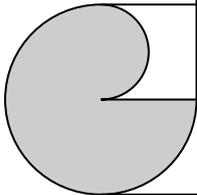
One Y6 pupil recently referred to him as, "the non-biological father to us all".

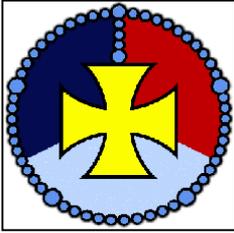
Father James is moving to another parish in Aston le Walls at the end of August. He will be sorely missed by us all but he leaves us with the fondest of memories.

On 11th July he made his last visit to school as our chaplain and we celebrated his impact upon our community and shared memories of the times we have spent with him. We shared gifts, songs, cards, jokes, a dance around the hall and a delightful poem written in his honour by Mrs Harding, drawing on the memories of both pupils and staff.

We are sure that you would wish join us in thanking Fr James and wishing him the very best of joy and peace in his new parish. We will miss him but know that he will take a small part of our school community with him. As we like to say,

"Father James - you have been well and truly St Bernadette-ed".





St. Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

Community Matters



Loving, serving and growing together with Jesus

School Chapel

Since its refurbishment, the chapel has played an integral role as a space for developing spirituality and promoting peaceful prayer and reflection. We would like to thank the Children's Chaplaincy Team for leading the Stations of the Cross and contributing to morning Masses in the chapel during Lent.

Prayer Zone -

During Lent we focused on Lenten promises and used some Cafod resources to help focus our prayers on the basic needs of water, food and shelter. For the final week of the Spring term we took our own walk through the events of holy week using some stations of the cross designed specifically for use with children. These sessions were all very well attended and it was lovely to see the children engaging with the events of Jesus' passion and resurrection.

During the summer term we have been focusing on the Holy Spirit and exploring the fruits of the Spirit in more detail.

Bible focus:

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:4-8

Class Worship

From September, classes from KS2 will be leading collective worships in the chapel on a regular basis. Parents will be warmly welcome to attend these prayerful sessions which will take place at 2:45 on Wednesdays. We will give further details early in the Autumn term.

Congratulations to our pupils who made their First Holy Communion this Summer.

We also congratulate the newly elected members of the Children's Chaplaincy Team for the new school year:

Y3: Stephen and Marie, Y4: Maria and Claudia, Y5: Lesley and Esther, Y6: Ellie and Tiffany

There was a rigorous application and interview process led by our out-going Y6 Chaplaincy Team members. The new team will be instrumental in promoting the spiritual and charitable life of our school.



School Community Prayer Board

We will be introducing a community prayer board into the chapel. Please feel free to send in any prayer petitions or prayers of thanks and praise to be added to the board. These will be referred to during Prayer Zone and class collective worships.

Prayers can be sent in envelopes to the Chaplaincy Team via the school office or via the school email:
stbernadettes@milton-keynes.gov.uk

Charity Update

Our Summer term charity focus has been Cancer Research. As always, every child has been actively involved in fund raising and many imaginative events of been carried out to raise nearly £800 for this worthy cause. Thank you so much for your generosity.

Representatives from NSPCC will be meeting the children's Chaplaincy Team in September to plan events across the Autumn term.

If there is a charity that is close to your heart that you would like the team to consider supporting in the Spring Term, please do not hesitate to contact them via Mrs Zamora.