



St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

Loving, serving and growing together with Jesus

Pentecost Term

Newsletter June 2017 Issue No.3

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe that we are already approaching the end of the school year, however, the final weeks are packed with a wide range of exciting events and celebrations. I hope that you are able to take full advantage of the opportunities offered to you and your children. Please see the date section at the end of this newsletter for all the details.

Sports Day groupings will be slightly different this year with FS2 joining Y1 for their event, Y2 joining Y3 and finally Y4, 5 and 6 joining together. FS1 have their own special Special Sports Day. We do hope that you will be able to join us to cheer on your child and his/her house group.

2017 is already proving to be a fabulous year for sports at St Bernadette's. We had a wonderful Fun Run earlier this month; all pupils and staff took part and parents provided fabulous support either by encouraging the runners or by bravely taking part - thank you to you all. Y5 pupils won the brand new Catholic Schools' Tag Rugby Shield and our Y4/5/6 team won the Catholic Schools Sports Day which we haven't won for four years. I could not have been prouder of the children; I was provided with glowing reports not just of their sporting prowess, but also of their excellent sportsmanship - they stood out consistently for their positive, encouraging attitudes. What wonderful ambassadors for our school - thank you children! We look forward to the Stantobury Finals where our children will compete against all primary schools in Milton Keynes.

The Annual Speech Cup takes place this week and I am very excited to hear the class winners speak at the final competitions. Public speaking is such a vital skill for success in our world and it is wonderful that our pupils can speak confidently in front of others.

Living our mission in mind, body and spirit

Congratulations to all of our pupils who celebrated their First Holy Communions this term. We were delighted to join at Mass with the children, their families and Fr Paul to celebrate this incredibly important step along the children's faith journey.

If you want your child to celebrate their First Holy Communion in the coming academic year, it is essential that you communicate with your local parish priest; whilst we provide support for the children at school, full preparation for the sacraments takes place within the parish.

We look forward to welcoming you to the school hall to join Y3-6 for Mass on 30th June to celebrate the Feast Day (29th) of St Peter and St Paul.

The Awards Season is upon us and I am beginning to receive the nominations for the Achievement and Progress Awards, in addition to the much coveted St Bernadette Awards which go to the ambassadors of the school for consistently living our school mission. It will be extremely difficult for the teachers to choose from so many outstanding examples from our pupils within each class.

As a faith school, our Governors have extremely important roles in setting the strategic direction of the school and providing support and challenge to the Leadership Team. At the end of term we will be saying farewell to three long serving governors. Mr Brandon and Mr Gordon have been part of the Governing Board for 13 years, since before the school was even built and Mr Morris has been on the board for 9 years. We are all extremely appreciative of the hard work and wisdom they have provided our school community over the years.



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Educational Visits

Year 1 pupils have had a fabulous visit to Warwick Castle and Year 4 were truly inspired by their trip to the British Museum, particularly enjoying the Egyptian mummies. They were commended for their excellent behaviour by staff and the coach driver.

Unfortunately I had to cancel two educational visits this term due to lack of parental consent and financial contributions. As a school we provide the majority of curriculum enrichment opportunities for your children at no additional cost. I am sure that you are aware that school budgets are reaching a crisis point nationally and therefore we are unable to subsidise all visits. I urge you to make financial contributions to the visits our staff plan for your children. They provide unforgettable educational experiences at prices often much lower than they would be for you to attend as individual families. Many families who happily contributed were bitterly disappointed that their children missed out on these fantastic opportunities due to the lack of collaboration from others.

Transition Day

Transition Morning takes on 12th July.

Below are the details of the teachers and classes for September:

New Class Sept 2017	Class Teacher(s)	Previous class
Nursery	Mrs Morris	
R Saplings B	Mrs Fisher	
R Saplings L	Miss Zahedi	
Y1 Seahorse	Miss Squibb	Saplings L
Y1 Starfish	Mrs Lazzari	Saplings B
Y2 Turtle	Miss Dixon	Seahorse
Y2 Dolphin	Miss Antony	Starfish
Y3 Panda	Mrs Perrett Mrs Smith	Dolphin
Y3 Kangaroo	Mrs Patel	Turtle
Y4 Lion	Mr Small	Kangaroo
Y4 Leopard	Miss Rodricks Mrs Rodricks	Panda
Y5 Eagle	Mr Collins	Leopards
Y5 Falcon	Mrs Molloy Mrs Romans *	Lions
Y6 Comet	Miss Bond	Falcon
Y6 Meteors	Mrs Pughe	Eagles

Staffing Updates For September

I feel truly blessed to have such a supportive, hardworking team of staff at St Bernadette's and I am delighted that we have new additions to our Senior Management Team (SMT). Mrs Pughe is our new RE Leader, Miss Antony is Leader of Basic Concepts and Mrs Fisher is our Leader of Teaching and Learning in Foundation Stage (FS). They join Miss Bond (maths), Mrs Perret (English) and Mrs Molloy (Creative Curriculum) to make a highly skilled Management Team. I am also delighted to announce that Mrs Morris will be joining the Senior Leadership Team as our new FS Leader. Mrs Smith will continue in her role as Acting Deputy Headteacher and I thank her greatly for all of her hard work, help and support; she has been instrumental in helping me to ensure a smooth transition for the school following Mrs Clewlow's departure at Easter.

We will be warmly welcoming three new staff members to St Bernadette's - Miss Zahedi, Miss Squibb and Miss Dixon. We congratulate Miss Ford*, our Inclusion Manager, on her forthcoming marriage this Summer; in September we must remember that her name will be Mrs Romans.

Congratulations also go to Mrs Perrett on her pregnancy; our school family continues to grow! Mrs Homer and Mrs White will take over as Panda class teachers in December when they return from Maternity leave. Mrs Smith will teach them in the interim and will provide continuity and support for Panda Class pupils during these periods of transition.

We also have some fond farewells. We wish our student teacher, Miss Jones, well as she begins her teaching career. We also thank our long term supply teachers Miss Harrison and Mrs Offer and also Mrs Tweneboah who leaves nursery. We will be sorry to see Miss Smith go but wish her the very best of luck in her new role as a maths leader. We wish Miss Nash, our music teacher well as she also marries and moves on to a full time position. Mrs Llewellyn has contributed much to St Bernadette's and we also wish her the very best in her new role.

Finally, Mrs Baggaley joined St Bernadette's on the same day as me, nine years ago, and has contributed such a great deal to our school community. She has been an outstanding Foundation Stage Leader and will be greatly missed by so many. We wish her the very best as she moves to Yorkshire to spend her free time cycling up hill and down dale!

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Diocese of Northampton

Milton Keynes Council



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Remaining Events for Pentecost Term

Tuesday 27 th June	6pm New Acorns (FS1) Parent Information Evening
Wednesday 28 th June	9:15 Nursery (FS1 am) Speech Cup Final 12:45 Nursery (FS1 pm) Speech Cup Final 2:30 Reception Class (FS2) Collective Worship - school chapel
Thursday 29 th June	9:00 FS2 and KS1 Speech Cup Final 1:45 KS2 Speech Cup Final
Friday 30 th June	2pm Mass for St Peter and St Paul. Join KS2 pupils in the main school hall
Wednesday 5 th July	Year 4-6 Sports Day. Am field events, PM (1:20pm) track events
Thursday 6 th July	9:00 - 10:15 FS2 and Y1 Sports Day 10:30 - 12:00 Y2 and Y3 Sports Day
Monday 10 th July	10:00 Welcome Assembly for pupils and families joining St Bernadette's FS2 in September
Tuesday 11 th July	9:00 Dalcroze Concert for Y3 pupils and their parents 6:00 pm Summer Concert
Wednesday 12 th July	2:20 pm FS2 parents' Afternoon Tea - come and meet the Year 1 staff 6:00 pm Year 6 Leaver's Mass
Friday 14 th July	6:00 pm Year 6 Leavers' Party
Monday 17 th July	Acorns (FS1) Sports Days
Tuesday 18 th July	9:15 am Y6 Performance for families with young children 6:00 pm Y6 Performance
Wednesday 19 th July	6:00 pm St Bernadette's Achievement Awards Ceremony
Thursday 20 th July	2:00 pm St Bernadette's Award Ceremony
Friday 21 st July	End of the school year - school closes 2:15 for FS and KS1 pupils 2:30 for KS2 pupils. There will be no afterschool Care Club on this day.

Hot weather

As weather the continues to be warm, but thankfully not as hot as last week, please remember to send your child to school with a named water bottle, sun hat and sun cream applied. The children may come to school without a tie, but the same high standards still remain. I remind you that nail polish, oversized hair bows and earrings other than simple studs are not permitted.

Presentation from September

In keeping with other local schools, **from September**, shaved patterns or lines in the children's hair, colourful hair extensions and colourful weaves will not be permitted. Please make use of the summer holidays to be as creative as you wish, allowing time for patterns/lines to grow out and colourful weaves/extensions to be removed before returning to school. I thank you for your support with these matters.

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