



# St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

Loving, serving and growing together with Jesus

Lent Term

## Newsletter March 2018 Issue No.11

Dear Parents and Carers,

I'm delighted that there are finally signs of Spring and hopefully we have seen the last of the snow. For the first time, no child arrived at school on the morning of a snow day which I think is a good reflection of the effectiveness of the School Gateway communication system. I was a little premature in asking for help to clear the site and had not anticipated how sudden the thaw would be. I am most grateful to those who were prepared to come when asked and to those who came anyway just to make sure the site was safe for all to use.

Thank you to all those who have returned the updated consent forms, supporting us in being fully compliant with the new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) which comes into force in May. If you have not yet returned the forms, please do so as soon as possible.

I hope that you found the Maths at Home workshops helpful; they were well attended and feedback has been very positive, I thank the teachers and the Math Team, led by Miss Bond for the work they put in to providing the sessions for you. The snow unfortunately put a stop to the Y1/2 session which will now take place on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April.

We had great fun dressing up for World Book Day (although I was worried when my attempt at Dennis the Menace was mistaken for Tarzan!) The children particularly enjoyed sharing their favourite books with children in other year groups. Please remember to visit the Book Fair in front on the chapel on 13<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> March after school. Remember to bring your book voucher; the book fair can be accessed via the main entrance on those days whilst the Values Mission will be in the Small Hall. We hope that you also encourage your child to take part in the Sponsored Reading event which was launched today. This is a great opportunity to inspire a love of reading whilst at the same time helping the school to acquire more books to support reading at school.

You may have noticed that the school's CCTV cameras have been upgraded and a sign erected. They have been upgraded on the advice of the police who, when responding to an incident in the locality, found that the images were unclear and therefore unhelpful in their investigation. The cameras are located on the outside of the building and the reception area are there to promote the safety and security of the school and the local community.

At 2pm on 20<sup>th</sup> (Kangaroo and Leopard) and 22<sup>nd</sup> (Panda and Lion) of March, Y3/4 will be presenting their Easter Reflection - a re-enactment of the events of Holy Week and Easter Sunday. This is a very moving presentation and I know that the staff and pupils have been working hard to ensure that this is a very special experience for their families.

Please do join Y3-6 for a Mass of celebration of Easter at 2:00 pm on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> April. Our Masses have been so well attended by our school community this academic year; we are always delighted to be able to celebrate Mass at school with parents, friends and relatives.

A reminder that there will be no After School Care Club on the last day of term and that we close early on that day - 23<sup>rd</sup> March. KS1 and FS2 (Saplings, Y1 and Y2) close at 2:15 pm and Nursery and KS2 (Acorns, Y3- 6) at 2:30 pm.

Kindest regards, Mrs J Zamora

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



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## *Our Current Value is Justice*

## *Living our Mission in Mind, Body and Spirit*

### *Charity Work - Make a House a Home*

Thank you to you all for your generosity on MUFTI day - we managed to raise £453 for the SVP charity *Make a House a Home*. This is more than we have ever raised on a MUFTI day and we are extremely grateful for your support. There will be more events arranged by your children in the Summer term which will help to support families with basic household items when rehoused following periods of crisis and homelessness.

### *Values Mission - Justice*

Do please join us for the Values Mission focussing on Justice. This takes place in the small hall on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March (FS/Y3), Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March (Y1 & Y4) and Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March (Y2, Y5 & Y6). Visit with your child after picking them up at the end of the school day. There will be a Fair Trade Café and a range of activities including one run by CAFOD. The theme of the Mission is Justice and our role in making our world a fairer place for all. Please don't miss this very special opportunity. My grateful thanks go to Mrs Fisher, Mrs Pughe, Mr Penny and Mrs Bland for their hard work and creativity in organising this wonderful event.

### *Lenten Promises*

It is often by this stage in Lent that we begin to falter in our Lenten promises; it can be difficult not to fall into temptation and eat that bag of crisps or that bar of chocolate. We may forget that we are trying to be more patient or considerate as we tire due to work or family pressures. Prayer can help at these times; a good source of prayerful support can be found at <http://www.catholic.org/prayers/prayer.php?s=27>

You can also follow CAFOD's 2018 online Lent calendar to reflect, pray and take global justice actions throughout the season of Lent. It is an excellent way to pray and reflect together as a family. You can find it at: <https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Lent-Calendar>

### *Junior Road Safety Officers (JRSOs)*

You cannot have failed to miss our JRSOs as they patrolled before and after school earlier in Lent term. It was quite notable how much calmer the carpark was on the days they patrolled which shows that when we work together, the carpark can be a safer, calmer place.

After Easter the JRSOs will be displaying their own posters promoting safe parking and designing their own logos. They will lead an assembly about car seats, educating pupils and families about the heights required in order to travel without a car seat. They will be patrolling again next term with the Council Road Safety Officer who has been extremely complimentary about the enthusiasm and commitment of our wonderful team. I thank the children in this team for giving their own time to promote the safety of our school families. I am extremely proud of them and the support they receive from Mrs Lowe and Miss Thompson.

With this in mind, I would like to remind you to be considerate and sensible when parking in the carpark and local area. Some parents are choosing to park on the roundabout which is clearly unsafe and illegal. We anticipate unannounced visits from the Community Police and Thames Valley Police who would take action if they witness such dangerous parking.

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*Don't forget to join us for our final Stations of the Cross session at 8:15 on 20<sup>th</sup> March. I thank the Prayer Minni Vinnies Team who have led these sessions in such a prayerful, mature manner. Thank you to all from our school community who have attended.*



## Football Festival

On Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March we are hosting our inaugural football festival. Please come along and show your support. 9:30-12 for Year3/4. 13:30-16:00- for Year5/6.

*Go Team St Bernadette's!*

## Internet Safety Evening

The feedback from the Internet Safety Evening for Parents was overwhelmingly positive and those who attended were provided with many helpful strategies to keep their children safe online.

The evening was deliberately planned to coincide with Film Night in order to support parents and carers with child care so that they could attend this important event. We had 79 children at Film Night but only 15 parents at the Internet Safety Session. This was terribly disappointing since the session was arranged as a direct response to concerns raised about many of our pupils' unsupervised internet access and exposure to unsuitable content at home.

I will circulate some of the materials shared via the School Gateway and I urge you to speak with parents who did attend the session for further information.

### Contacting the School

Please note that the school email address has changed and is now in line with staff email addresses:

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

## St Bernadette's Nursery

We are now accepting applications to start our Nursery in September. We have 14 morning-only (15 hours) places and 16 full-time (30 hours) places. Nursery places are for children who turn 4 between Sept 2018 and Aug 2019. Children with working parents can claim the 30 hours nursery places for free with an eligibility code, otherwise there is a charge for the additional 15 hours per week. Application forms can be collected from the school office; the deadline is April 25<sup>th</sup>. Please see our website and the following website for more information. <https://www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs/free-childcare-and-education-for-2-to-4-year-olds>



Diocese of Northampton  
**YEAR OF PRAYER**  
and **VOCATION**  
2017/2018



During Lent, we are encouraged to examine our conscience and make amends for the times we have hurt others or failed to act in a kind, compassionate manner. Catholics are encouraged to repent for our sins through the act of confession; the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

**O my God, I am very sorry  
that I have sinned against you,  
because you are so good,  
and with your help,  
I will not sin again.**

Three of our Y6 pupils - Prayksha, Alyssa and Vanessa - have won second place in a Coding Competition which was open to youngster from across Northamptonshire and its neighbouring counties. The challenge was to design a game based on the theme of '**healthy lifestyles**' using the coding programme Scratch.

You can see their entry at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zyxT6Nxb3UU&feature=youtu.be>

*Congratulations girls!  
What an achievement!*



# St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

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## Events for Lent Term 2018 and Pentecost Term 1

Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Y5 Parks Trust Day
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> March and Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2018.	Sponsored Listen/Read - support your child's love of books whilst enhancing the school's reading resources
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> (FS/Y3), Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> (Y1 & Y4) and Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> March (Y2, Y5 & Y6)	3:00 - 3:45 Values Mission in Small Hall and Chapel based on our value Justice. Join your children to learn more about what this value represents for us and people around the world past and present.
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	2pm Parent Association Planning Meeting for May Fair - All parents and carers and welcome and encouraged to attend
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Our First Football Festival Y3/4 9:30-12:00, Y5/6 1:30 - 4:00. Many local teams will be involved come and help, support and have fun! Essence Catering will have a range of tasty snacks available throughout the day.
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	2 pm Y3/4 Easter Performance - Kangaroo and Leopard Classes
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	2 pm Y3/4 Easter Performance - Panda and Lion Classes
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	3:30 pm Adult Chaplaincy Team Meeting - All welcome
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	LAST DAY OF LENT TERM - EARLY END TO THE DAY KS1 and FS2 (Saplings, Y1 and Y2) close at 2:15 pm and Nursery and KS2 (Acorns, Y3, 4, 5 and 6 close 2:30 pm) THERE WILL BE NO CARE CLUB ON THIS DAY
Easter Holidays. Back to school on Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> April (Feast of the Annunciation)	
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Celebration Mass 2pm Join Y3-6 to celebrate the most important event in the Christian calendar.
Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> April	Saturday Activity Morning
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	Primary School Offer Day
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	St Bernadette's Feast Day
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	Y1/2 Maths at Home Workshop - pick up your child from 2:30 and visit the workshop together.
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	Class Photo Day
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Y5 Greek WOW Day
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	2:50 Seahorse Class Collective Worship in Small Hall - parents and families and warmly welcomed to join us
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	2:50 Foundation Stage 2 (Saplings) Collective Worship in Small Hall - parents and families and warmly welcomed to join us
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 Prayer Day
14 <sup>th</sup> - 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 SATs test week - formal statutory testing week with breakfast club for Y6 pupils
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	May Fair - join us 3:30 - 5:30 for friendship and fun!
21 <sup>st</sup> -23 <sup>rd</sup> May	House Dance Haka Competition -Final on 24 <sup>th</sup> May- Health Community Week (more info to follow)
21 <sup>st</sup> - 25 <sup>th</sup> May	Y2 SATs week - informal testing to inform teacher assessments
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	Family Fun Run - Come and join us - let's keep fit together!
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> - last day of half term. Pupils return on 6 <sup>th</sup> June following 2 INSET days.	

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