



St. Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter December 2013 Issue No.53

Loving, serving and growing together with Jesus

For the Diary see the website:

http://www.stbernadetteschool.com/calendar_full.htm



**I know that
Advent is a
time of
refection in
preparation
for Christmas**

**Remember
Wednesday
15th January
at 5 pm is the
closing date
for the
application
for
Foundation
Class
September
2014.**

**Apply on line
and don't
forget
Supplem-
entary Forms
from the
School Office**



Dear Parents and Carers,

Crazy Hair Day

Was a great success raising £455! Well done to everyone and fun was had at the same time.

Christmas Fair

May I say a huge thank you to all those who came to the Christmas Fair on Saturday. Your support and the hard work of the Parents' Association made the Fair a huge success. There was a super atmosphere and fun was had by all. It has started the season of Advent off in joyous fashion! Your children are busy preparing for the Christmas Nativity plays and Carol concerts. I hope you will support your child by coming along to the school. Please be mindful of the spiritual nature of our performances and try to think sensitively about others when holding iPads and similar when you want to record your child's precious moments. We ask that any such recordings are limited for family use and not put up on You tube or Face book. To check dates follow the link above to the school diary.

REMINDER: The chapel will be open to families for quiet prayer and reflection on Wednesday mornings during advent from 8am to 8:40 am

Carols and Readings Years 5 and 6

The Carols and readings in the evening on the 19th December will be in dim light so we ask that no recordings or flash photography takes place. We are also putting on a performance on the 18th December at 9.30 for the local community. If you know of anyone who lives locally that may be interested then please do pass on the information to local groups or grandparents who may not have been able to come along to the Thursday evening performance. **RSVP is required so please email the school.**



The Giving Tree

In the front reception there is a 'Giving Tree'. Each gift tag hanging on the tree has a food gift written on it. Take a tag and return a wrapped up present of the named gift. Place it under the tree. It is a lovely way for your child to give to others. Please make sure you only give food as these gifts will go to the Milton Keynes Food Bank.

First Holy Communion Meeting

Your child must be in Year 3 or older. Come along to an introductory session on Monday 9th December, 5.30 at Christ the King Church, Kents Hill. A chance to learn more about the preparation sessions for your child.

Sporting Achievements

Well done to our Year 3 and 4 Basketballers who got to the final. They worked so well as a team but were sadly beaten. A great effort, well done. Children across Year groups represented the school well at the Cross Country tournament with medals won for individual achievements. The Year 6 boys team won their class with Kiylen Nurse getting overall 2nd place. Superb!

St. Bernadette's University

Once again we are offering a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities after school in the Spring and Summer Terms. A variety of St. Bernadette's University letters will be coming your way. We hope that every child will attend at least one club after school by the end of the year. Please take advantage of the 'Extended School' opportunities which will extend the day and provide additional child care in the form of sporting activities. If your child is staying for St. Bernadette's University for free they can then stay the additional hour at a small cost.

Parent View



Although we conduct our own survey each year there is growing pressure from Ofsted to encourage parents to use the official Ofsted Parent View website. I feel we get a good response from our questionnaires and I am appreciative of your helpful and supportive comments. I do urge you, however, to leave a response on Parent View as Ofsted will look at it prior to any inspection. We have a huge amount to be proud of in our school and it is important to leave positive comments as well, as it being used as means to make one's dissatisfaction known. I hope you all feel that my 'door is always open' and I try to be out on the gate most mornings when I am happy to talk or make future appointments. I trust that any concerns can come to me before being made very public on a website.

Follow the link to leave your views.

<http://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/how-to-use>

Attendance to end of November.

Well done everyone. It is currently running at 97.1 % and I hope families will not be taking children out early, cutting short the term. It is a great shame when everyone else is contributing so well to achieving this high figure. I'll put out the 'scores on the doors' in the December newsletter.

The Extension

You will have noticed that the extension, although bigger, is running behind schedule. Without going into too much detail we have had a number of technical issues to resolve. The roof should be going on this week and then hopefully we can see the end in sight. Apologies for prolonged inconvenience. Expected finish will be nearing the end of January.

And finally, my prayers with you all during Advent. God bless. Mrs. Clewlow

Maths Survival Kit 2 – The Time

Child: Can you tell the time using a clock with hands? Can you use the 24 hour clock?

Parents: Do you have a traditional clock with hands on view in the house?

For older children try using bus and train timetables when making a journey. Show them how it works. Ask them how long it is until.... or how long will the journey take.