



St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

Loving, serving and growing together with Jesus

Newsletter March 2017 Issue No.99

Diary for the Lent Term

Friday 10 th March	'Sports for Schools'- keep up with the sponsoring and encourage your children to participate on the day.
Friday 10 th March- Friday 17 th March	Science Week- Lessons about scientific change and a competition for the children.
Wednesday 15 th March 2:40	Starfish Class Collective Worship in the Small Hall
Thursday 16 th March-Tuesday 21 st March	Book Fair- In the Small Hall after school.
Wednesday 22 nd March 2:40	Seahorse Class collective Worship in the Small Hall
Thursday 23 rd March 3:30 and 6 pm	Maths Workshop for Parents- come along and find out how your children learn division. See children in action using the maths strategies.
Thursday 30 th March 2 pm	Lent Passion Mass for Years 3-6, Parents welcome.
Friday 31 st March	Last Day

Dear Parents and Carers,

Lent started in our school with a beautiful service of Ashes provided by Sr. Yvonne and the Children's Chaplaincy Team. We were all provided with an opportunity to think of the road ahead, with the 40 days of Lent. Sr. Yvonne challenged the children to think about what to say 'no' to but also what they could do by saying 'yes'. I hope children have taken this on board and will have come home proudly displaying the symbol of love on their foreheads. I hope they can tell you how they can say 'no' to the treats and then 'yes' to the good deeds that they could adopt for this period of time. As we listened to the Gospel at mass on Sunday we learnt about the temptations Jesus faced. In our lives we are faced with temptation. Saying 'no' is difficult but put your trust in God to lead you to make the right decisions and choices. Teach your children to be patient. As in 1 Corinthians 13; 4-8 'Love is patient and kind'. During Lent help your children to say 'yes' and take on acts in which they can show kindness and love.



Come along to the Stations of the Cross on Tuesday mornings at 8:15 in the Chapel

Led by the Children's Chaplaincy Team

St. Bernadette's Catholic Primary School, Tewkesbury Lane, Monkston Park, Milton Keynes, MK10 9PH
Tel: 01908 692438 Fax: 01908 691739 Email: stbernadettes@milton-keynes.gov.uk www.stbernadetteschool.com

Headteacher: M M Clewlow BEd Hons NPQH NLE Deputy Head: Jane Zamora BA PGCE NPQH



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Staffing

You will be aware that some of our teachers have started their maternity leave. Mrs White had her baby and we welcome a beautiful baby girl to St. Bernadette's community. Mrs Cattigan and Mrs Dalton have both started their leave and I trust that the staffing changes have been smooth. Please do not hesitate to discuss any concerns with the new teachers as they will not know your children that well. Care has been taken to put in place some time for a handover and so I hope you will be reassured by the changes that have been made. I would like to say a thank you to our Nursery parents who have extended such a warm welcome to Mrs Harrison. She has commented upon how welcoming and friendly our parent community is and she explains that this is not the case in all the schools she has covered in. It is always so heart-warming to hear, thank you.

World Book Day

Fun was had by all during the day with the children spending time looking at the works by different authors. There are two displays in school with work from the book day. We have our Book Fair on the 16th-21st March and your child will also have the £1 voucher to contribute towards any of the books. Encourage your children to come along and buy a book. Reading is so important in life and these events really engage the children, bringing an excitement and joy of reading.

Stay and Play



Wednesday mornings 8:45-10:00. If you have toddlers or just want to come along and have a coffee with parents of children in the school. It is a time to chat and get to know other parents. The group is run by parents for parents.

Building Works

Thank you for your patience with the Year 6 pathway closure. Hopefully the gate will be open this week. The path is much wider and has less of a sharp turn which should help with buggies. Our Prayer Garden is now complete and ready for adding the features. We are hoping to put in statues of Our Lady and St. Bernadette. The flower beds will gradually be filled but the main construction is now complete. The garden should provide a quiet area for children, staff and families to reflect and pray. Thank you to Parents for their fundraising over the last few years and your contribution has enabled the project to go ahead.



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Medical Appointments

I have written about this in previous newsletters but we are still getting many children leaving school for doctor and dentists' appointments. We are aware that hospital appointments are booked in advance and often fall during the day but routine doctor and dentist appointments should be booked outside of school hours. Your children are missing school and staff are then required to go up to the classrooms to collect the children. Please ask your practice for appointments outside of the school day.

Attendance

Group	% Attend		
Acorns B	91.0	It is important that we set good habits for the future and try to attend Nursery every day.	
Acorns L	89.0		
Saplings B	95.8		
Saplings L	96.0		
Starfish	96.9		
Seahorse	96.5		
Dolphin	96.9		
Turtle	97.8		
Panda	97.7		
Kangaroo	96.6		
Lion	96.7		
Leopard	98.3		1 st Well done! 
Eagle	97.6		
Falcon	97.6		
Meteors	96.9		
Comets	97.6		
Totals	97.2		

Congratulations to Leopard Class and well done everyone on reaching above 97%. Now can we keep this up!

Some events to look out for next term:

- Friendship Mission: Week beg 24th April
- Internet Safety Talk for Parents run by the NSPCC 11th May 2pm