

St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

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Newsletter 16

20th May 2022

At St Bernadette's we are fully committed to safeguarding our children. We expect all staff, parents and visitors to share this commitment.

Palm Sunday Reading and Reflection

The Gospel of St John will be shared with us at mass on Sunday this week.

John 14: 23 - 29

Jesus said to His disciples: "If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and make our home with him. Those who do not love me do not keep my words. And my word is not my own: it is the word of the one who sent me. I have said these things to you while still with you; but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you.

Peace I bequeath to you, my own peace I give you, a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. You heard me say: I am going away, and shall return. If you loved me you would have been glad to know that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. I have told you this now before it happens, so that when it does happen you may believe."

A reflection on Sunday's Gospel for our children and parents

In this Gospel story, Jesus is talking to his disciples before he will be leaving them to join his Father in Heaven. Jesus gives his disciples a very special gift - the gift of peace. And, though he knows their lives will be in turmoil when he is gone, he tells his disciples not to be afraid; he will still be with them through the Holy Spirit.

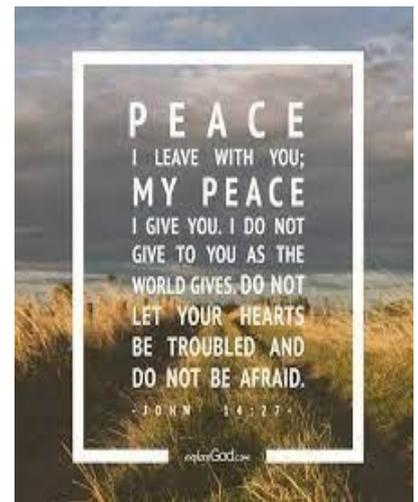
In a few weeks, we will listen to the scripture story of Pentecost in which the Holy Spirit propels the disciples to spread the Good News. But in this week's Gospel, the disciples will be worried and uncertain. They have travelled with Jesus, so now, in his impending absence, he leaves them with what they need to continue this work. Jesus gives the disciples and all members of his church, his peace and presence always.

Jesus knew that we would be in need of guidance in our lives, so he promised to send his Holy Spirit. What title does Jesus use when referring to his Holy Spirit? (Advocate). An advocate is a helper. Jesus gives us his Holy Spirit to be our advocate - our guide - so that we do not get lost on our journey to Heaven. Children, we can benefit from the guidance of the Holy Spirit through prayer. So pray often to the Holy Spirit for help and guidance.

Jesus tells us that although he is going back to his father, he will not leave us orphans. He says he will always be with us and when he comes back to us, our hearts will be full of joy.

On Thursday 26th May, we will celebrate the Ascension of the Lord, when Jesus was taken to Heaven to sit at God's right hand. Jesus had completed his mission on earth and returned to his Father again. But this was not the end of his mission; before Jesus returned to Heaven, he assigned that mission to the Apostles.

So the Church, through its bishops who are the successors of the Apostles, and its priests who are the bishops' assistants, continues what Jesus began. Jesus continues to be present after his Ascension but in a new way. Now he is present in the Church and to help to continue his mission he pours out his gifts on individuals in the Church. We can all spread the good news by always treating others with love and respect. We can try to make the world a better and fairer place for all people to live in.



Diary Dates

Please note dates may be subject to change at short notice depending on the current COVID situation.

Diary Dates

Tuesday 24th May

9.00am Year 2 behaviour assembly

Tuesday 24th May

2.30pm Year 6 behaviour assembly

Wednesday 25th May

5.00pm First Holy Communion meeting for Year 3 children and parents

Wednesday 25th – 27th May

Year 4 residential trip

Thursday 26th May

Feast of Ascension KS2 mass Holy Family Church 10.00am

Friday 27th May

Vocations day

Friday 27th May

School closes for Half term



The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

On **Thursday 9th June** the children of St Bernadette's will be celebrating the **Queen's Platinum Jubilee** in school. The children will be involved in a number of Art activities in the morning and will have a 'Street party' in the afternoon on the playground. This will involve dressing up and we would ask that all children bring in a plate of party food on that day for the event. We are inviting the children in each year band to dress up in the style/fashion of a different decade. The following year bands have been allocated the following decades:

Years 1 and 2 - 1950's- Rock and Roll/Grease

Years 3 and 4- 1960/1970's Retro/Hippies/Girl power etc.

Years 5 and 6- 1980/1990's- Aerobics/Back to the future

Nursery and Reception – 2000+- Rugrats, SpongeBob, Bob the Builder, Art attack, Chuckle vision.

We have provided a few examples of costumes for inspiration which are attached below this letter. We kindly ask for a 50p donation to raise money for vital art resources for the school.



Year 2 Charity Walk

A huge well done to Year 2 for raising £463.05 from their sponsored charity walk on Monday 4th April. The money raised will be going towards Holy Family Church. Thank you for your generosity.

Year 5 Wales Summer Camp

If anyone has any old/spare good quality tea towels/towels/waterproofs jackets or trousers /good quality swimwear for boys/girls aged 9/10/11 that you could donate for our Year 5 Summer camp trip, we would really appreciate them. Please give any items that you can spare to Mrs McCartan in Year 5 or Mrs Kerrigan in Year 6.

Reception 2022/23

If your child is due to start Reception in September 2022, they will be joining their Reception classes on Tuesday 5th and Wednesday 6th July 2022.

Please note if your child is not due to attend the St Bernadette's Reception, Nursery will be closed on these dates.

Half Term Break

School will close for half term today, Friday 27th May and the children will return to school on Monday 6th June.

Vocations/Citizenship Day

Next Friday 27th May, we will be celebrating Vocations and Citizenship Day. We are really pleased that we have P.C. Matt Kay, Sister Maura, Father Fretch, SIFA Fireside, Guide Dogs and some of our parents visiting to talk about their chosen vocations and maybe give our children some ideas about what their future vocations could be. Other parts of the day will focus on what we can do to become good citizens within our communities. We thank all our visitors and parents for giving up their precious time to come in and talk to us.

Paris Residential Trip



This week a group of our Year 6 pupils, who have just survived SATs week, have been in Paris for their final residential trip at St Bernadette's. From what we can see on Twitter, it seems like they have been having an amazing time. Many thanks to Miss Lakin for organising the trip and for Mr Carroll, Mrs Kerrigan and Mrs Perry for accompanying the children. We can't wait to hear all about it!

School Uniform

Just a reminder that children can now wear their Summer school uniforms. This consists of the following:

- a light blue gingham dress
- grey shorts
- a white polo shirt.

There are also still a number of children who do not have their PE kits in school. In this warmer weather, the children really need to be wearing a different set of clothes for PE as they get quite sweaty running around in these lessons. Please ensure that they have black shorts, a white round-neck t-shirt and black pumps in school each week for these lessons. They should not be wearing their school shoes for PE.

Finally, just a reminder that for safety and hygiene reasons, girls with long hair should be wearing it tied back each day.

First Holy Communion Dates



The children in Year 3 will be receiving the very special sacrament of the Eucharist when they make their First Holy Communion after the half term break. The dates for Holy Communion which will take place at Holy Family Church are :

Saturday 11th June at 9:15am – 3TK and 1/2 3EH Surname A-J

Saturday 18th June at 9:15am – 3SJ/LC and 1/2 3EH surname K-Z

Wednesday 22nd June at 9:00am - Going Forth Mass in school – all of Year 3. The children will be invited to wear their Holy Communion dresses and sashes in school for this very special celebration

On the day of their First Holy Communion, each child will be allocated a bench to seat 6 guests (not including the child).

Please note that the red sashes and ties for the boys are available for parents to purchase on Parent Pay at a cost of £10. They will be given out closer to the date of the communions.

Too Good to Go

The Too Good to Go app lets you buy and collect food at a great price so it gets eaten instead of wasted. Check it out!



Physical Health Days

There will be a physical health day for all year bands from Nursery to Year 6 in the coming weeks. Please note the date for your child's physical health day below:

Years 3 and 4 will be attending the Ackers Adventure Centre.

There are information forms for Y3 (14th June) and Y4 (20th June) on Parent Pay that need to be completed as soon as possible please. Please also note that these dates have changed from the original ones due to Ackers being unable to accommodate us on those dates. There is also information on Parent Pay about what the children need to wear for these days.

Other year groups will be having a range of physical activities in school and can wear their own track suit/active wear and trainers.



Nursery - 23rd June
 Reception - 30th June
 Year 1 - 27th June
 Year 2 - 16th June
 Year 5 - 21st June
 Year 6 - 20th June

Water bottles and sun safety



Water bottles and sun safety

As the weather warms up, it is really important that the children have water bottles in school that they can refill using the water stations so that they can remain hydrated throughout the day. It is a good idea for children to wear a sun hat to school to protect them when they are outside at playtimes. Please also ensure that you apply sun screen to your children before sending them to school each day.

Attendance

It is essential that children attend school regularly each day as poor attendance has a serious and long lasting impact on your child's development and education. Vital learning is missed when your children are absent from school so please ensure they are present each day.

Last week's attendance figures can be seen below. Well done RSD & RPD for the best attendance in Foundation Stage. Also a big well done 2SF for the best attendance in KS1 and to 3TK & 5LC to for the best attendance in KS2 and in the school.

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
86%	RSD 95% ★	1OB 94%	2SF 95% ★	3EH 93%	4CB 96%	5EB 94%	6KL 94%
	RND 93%	1EG 94%	2SH 91%	3TK 96% ★	4CM 94%	5KH 93%	6AMJ 94%
	RPD 95% ★		2COT 93%	3EL 94%	4RW 93%	5LC 96% ★	6ZB 94%



Last week the Earth Ambassadors had fun planting some early Charlotte potatoes, in the Nursery garden. These will grow and the kitchen staff will use them in a potato salad later in the term. We also planted dill plants to add a herby flavour to your food. The Earth Ambassadors are Year 6 children who meet every Tuesday after school to learn what actions we can take to improve our planet. When you reach Year 5 or 6 next year, you will be very welcome to join us. Well done guys! You are already changing your world!



Disability Swimming Sessions



Every Saturday 2:00pm – 3:00pm
All ages and disabilities
are welcome!

Ladywood Leisure Centre, Ladywood Middleway,
Ladywood, Birmingham B16 8TR

Reading in School and at Home

Reading in School and at Home

Why is reading so important?

Of all the subjects taught in school, reading is first among equals – the most singular in importance because all others rely on it. Excellence in almost any academic subject requires strong reading. People who read lots attain more. They also develop: general knowledge; vocabulary; a better attitude to writing; higher overall attainment; emotional awareness; a wider understanding of the world and greater expression through speech and writing.

There are many little ways to enlarge your child's world. Love of books is the best of all.

–Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis



There is a significant correlation between reading ability and GCSE results across all subjects. Children who are weak readers will struggle as much in maths and science at GCSE as they do in English and in arts subjects.

Benefits of reading with your child:

- Reading to your child helps you bond with them and this gives your child a sense of intimacy and well-being.
- The intimacy of reading to your child is such a pleasurable experience to them that they will have a positive attitude towards reading as they grow up.
- It calms your child, especially when they are fretful and restless.
- It promotes increased communication between you and your child.
- It promotes longer attention span, which is an important skill for your child to be able to concentrate.

How can you support?

- Read every day with your child for at least 15 minutes a day.
- Encourage your child to read a wide range of reading material - fiction, non-fiction, poetry, newspapers and magazines.
- Use our Top 20 or Book of the Month suggestions to help explore a wider range of authors and genres.
- Talk to your child about what they are reading.
- Create a Toppsta profile and enter giveaways to win new books for your child to review – encourage them to share their opinions about what they have read.
- Take your child to the library.

Special Certificates

Each week a child from each class is nominated to receive a special certificate through the post. The pupils who are awarded these certificates have shown that they really understand what it means to live as Jesus taught us, perhaps by being particularly kind or helpful. Well done, to the following children:

CLASS	NAME	REASON	CLASS	NAME	REASON
Nursery (Blue)	Aairah	For trying her very best in our Phonics lessons.	Nursery (Red)	Imae	For her wonderful artwork depicting the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
Nursery (Green)	Lennon	For super subitising!	Nursery (Yellow)	Aseed	For excellent understanding of the life cycle of the caterpillar!
Nursery (Orange)	Amelia-Rae	For being so imaginative on the creation table.	3TK	Aliza	For being a wonderful role model to her classmates.
				Samantha	For her wonderful sensible attitude at all times.
RND	Harvey	For completing fantastic writing in Literacy this week!	4CB	Yusha	For amazing narrative writing!
	Myra	For her amazing creative creations this week!		Sean	For fantastic work in gymnastics!
RPD	Adam	For trying hard in our phonics lessons. Good boy, Adam!	4CM	Ava	For always listening carefully and being a great role model to her peers.
	Kiera	For beautiful manners! You're a star, Kiera!		Lucas	For being super helpful to his peers and teachers.
1SD	Jake	For settling well into year 1.	4RW	Rhivae	For trying to improve her behaviour in class.
	Jacob	For settling well into year 1.		Ibrahim	For trying really hard in English.
1EG	Amelia-Rose	For always helping others in need.	5EB	Abigail	Sharing her extensive knowledge in RE lessons.
	Micah	For trying very hard with his sounds.		Mohammed Imran	For being a role model each day in all lessons.
1OB	Paisley	For trying hard in Maths.	5KH	Shannon	For always being so helpful
	Adonay	For his beautiful work in RE this week!		William	For making positive contributions in lessons.
2COT	Muhammad Noah	For working hard in all lessons and having beautiful manners.	5LC	Sean	For being polite and helpful.
	Carmel	For working hard in all lessons and having beautiful manners		Raees	Working hard at the Eco-Park.
2SF	Leo	For working hard in every lesson.	6AMJ	Alayna	For excellent effort and great partner work in her DT lessons.
	Olivia	For working hard in every lesson.		Filip	For showing perseverance and teamwork whilst making his Titanic model.
2SH	Archie	For being a helpful and caring member of the class.	6KL	Surina	For making excellent contributions in her DT lessons.
	Melody-Rose	For always being a kind and respectful member of the class.		Eren	For trying so hard with his Titanic project.
3EH	Nuala	For her wonderful efforts in RE and being an excellent role model for her peers.	6ZB	Alayna	For excellent effort with her DT project.
	Hijab	For always working hard and being a respectful member of the class.		Exauce	For being extremely helpful and polite.

3EL	Isla-Mae	For her improved handwriting in English. You are trying so hard!		Aliza	For being a wonderful role model to her classmates.
	Kyle	For his wonderful writing in English (Wolves in the Wall).		Samantha	For her wonderful sensible attitude at all times.

Dear Parents and Guardians,

On Thursday 9th June the children of St Bernadette's will be celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The following year bands have been allocated the following decades. We have provided a few examples of costumes for inspiration. We kindly ask for a 50p donation to raise money for vital art resources for the school.

Year 1 and 2 - 1950's- Rock and Roll/Grease



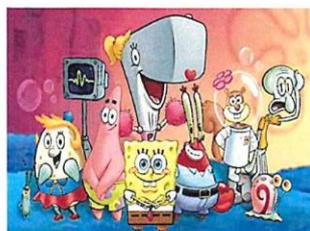
Year 3 and 4- 1960/1970's Retro/Hippies/Girl power etc.



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Nursery and Reception - 2000+- Rugrats, SpongeBob, Bob the Builder, Art attack, Chuckle vision



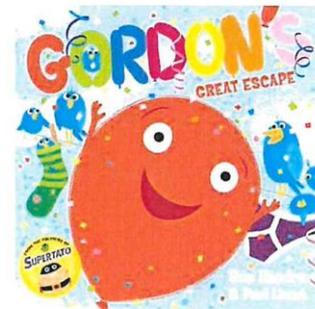
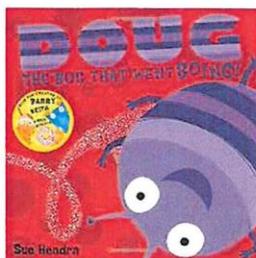
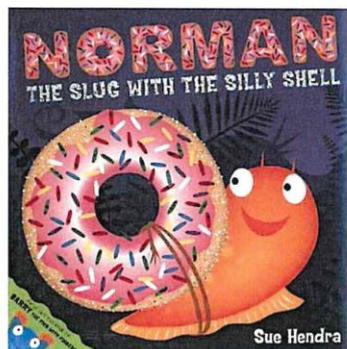
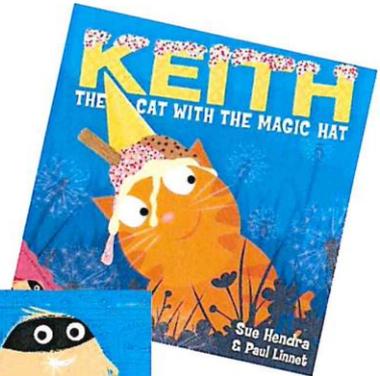
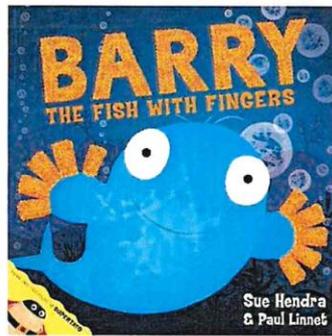
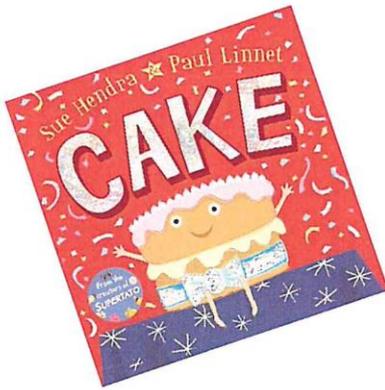
Sue Hendra 'Book in a Box' Competition

Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

We will be holding a 'Book in a Box' competition on 26th May. We are asking the children to bring in a shoebox with several items that represent their favourite book by the author, Sue Hendra. The children have been reading so much this year so this will be a great chance to share their most loved Sue Hendra books, as well as developing their creativity.

On 26th May, Sue Hendra will be visiting school and will be judging the entries. The lucky winners and runner ups will each receive a signed copy of a Sue Hendra book.

All entries must be in school on Wednesday 25th May.



You can purchase some of the above books on Parentpay.

This competition is open to Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children only.
Thank you for your continued support, Miss Finnegan