

St Bernadette Catholic Primary School Newsletter Friday 21st September 2018



Getting into the Swing of Things!

The school year is gathering pace, the last two weeks have been a busy time for staff and pupils alike as we all settle back into a routine.

I have been in and out of classrooms most days since returning to school and can happily report that all teachers and pupils have hit the ground running. We truly want the best for the children and in order to achieve this we must keep our expectations high, of both behaviour and class work. They are more than capable of rising to these high expectations and we hope you will continue to support us in maintaining these.

Please can I point you in the direction of updated policies on our school website. These include: The behaviour policy, Child protection, Safeguarding, Anti-bullying, Attendance and Managing Aggressive Adults. These have all been updated inline with statutory requirements from the DFE and many based on Hertfordshire models. I am also attaching to the newsletter, the attendance notice that parents received in June of the last academic year. This highlighted the fining system that has now been put into place inline with Hertfordshire attendance procedures. It is not something that we hope to have to use but unfortunately will need to enforce if required to do so.

It was great to see so many of you at the 'Meet the teacher' sessions, it was lovely to see such a high attendance of parents. It is crucial that we work together in order to enable the children to achieve their best. I look forward to welcoming more of you at future events.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend

Mrs Lavelle-Murphy

Office notices

Please remember that the office is open **from 8.45am** each morning. Office staff will not be available before this time. Please remember that most correspondence can be done through the parents@stbernadette email.



Upcoming Dates

- 26.9.18 – Mass for the new academic year at 1.30pm
- 27.9.18 – Book fair arrives & will be open from 3pm each day for parents and children
- 28.9.18 – Whole school dance workshop
- 1.10.18 – Reception welcome assembly at 9.15am
- 2.10.18 - Reception welcome assembly at 9.15am
- 4.10.18 – Book fair is being collected
- 5.10.18 – Sports Ambassadors day at Cavendish school

New Playground equipment

A huge thank you the FABs team and all of you, the parents, who support the fundraising events. This year using some of the funds raised we have installed new equipment in the KS2 playground. Of course it is designed to be fun but primarily to promote more physical activity. Please remind the children that they are not permitted to play on any of the equipment before or after school as there is not a member of staff present to monitor the activity. Thank you for your co-operation.



St Bernadette students excel out of school!

We are very fortunate to have such wonderful students in our care and are very conscious of the events and activities that they take part in out of school hours. Below is an example of some of the exciting things some of our students and parents have been up to over the past two weeks. Please feel free to share anything with us in the future by sending it to the parents@stbernadette email along with pictures if appropriate.



A huge congratulations to the above pupils and their Dad's on completing The Warrior Adrenaline race. We are all so proud of your efforts.



ITV News meet Jake Longshaw!

Our very own Jake Longshaw, alongside his Mum, appeared on ITV news last week as advocates for a wonderful local charity called ADD vance. The founder of the charity, Anne Ross, was nominated for a lifetime achievement award. For those of you who managed to see the interview, you will notice how articulately Jake spoke, even under all the pressure of the cameras. We are all so proud of him at school. Well done to all!



MARVELLOUS ME!

Just a reminder, if you haven't already, to sign up to this wonderful app. The feedback so far from the children in particular has been very positive. A parent recently commented on how much they too are enjoying this new app. *"Having just received another positive message about my child, I just wanted to say how much I love this app. It actually makes me feel like I know how he's getting on at school without waiting for parents evening or hoping he tells me when I collect him (which he normally forgets). So can you pass my thanks on to his teacher or whoever suggested this as I think it's great."*

Thank you so much for this feedback, we really appreciate it.

Hertfordshire Improvement Partner

This year, Herts have appointed us a new HIP. Today we welcomed, Mrs Massey to our school. Mrs Massey came to talk to myself and Miss Howard and had the opportunity to visit classes. The role of the HIP, is one of a support and critical friend. Something all schools should welcome in order to continue to make great changes and sustain progress.

Mrs Massey was very impressed by what she saw on her first visit and is very much looking forward to working with our school community.

Cross-country success

A huge congratulations to the children in both year 5 & 6 who went to our first cross-country competition yesterday with Ms Bell. All our children took part with great enthusiasm and should all be very proud of themselves. Representing from year 6 was Freddie, Isabella, Emily, Francesca, Dylan, Samuel, Harrison, Tashinga & Alfie. From year 5 we had Massie & Marley

Children missing education : Statutory guidance for local authorities

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/550416/Children_Missing_Education_-_statutory_guidance.pdf

In order to safeguard the children in our care, we ask you to ensure that we have four contacts linked to your child available in the school office, those four includes you as parents. This is to ensure that we can make contact quickly if children fail to attend school without any correspondence. Please email the parent@stbernadette address with these extra contacts.

FORTNITE

We are still dealing with issues that are arising from this game. Children are commenting that in some cases they are not being very kind to one another while playing Fortnite. Please think very carefully about whether your child should be using such a platform. On taking advice, it is not something the school supports the use of.