



St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School, Lancaster.

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Newsletter

January 2012

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Welcome back to everyone and we wish you all a very happy and fruitful 2012.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

The New Year is an appropriate time to make a fresh start and we would be extremely grateful if you could help us with the following.

A PROMPT START TO THE SCHOOL DAY

School starts at 8.55 am and it is important that all children are in school at this time (10 minutes late each day adds up to nearly 7 school days lost over a year). A prompt start to the day instils good habits for future life and lateness is not only embarrassing for the children but inevitably means they miss valuable teaching and learning time.

Next week we are holding a "Prompt Start" challenge for the school in order to promote these good habits and your support is crucial. Thank you.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Attendance at our school is very good indeed with many children achieving 100% attendance and we work hard to maintain these standards throughout the year.

Therefore we urge you to ensure that your children attend school regularly (90% attendance is equivalent to missing half a day a week or four school weeks). If a child's attendance is 90% or lower then this is a cause for concern and may result in the involvement of outside agencies.

We do not intend to be too alarmist but we feel you need to be aware that the consequences of late arrival and poor attendance can greatly affect your child's progress. Thank you.

Please note that if your child is absent it is important to let us know **on the first day of absence** either by telephone or e-mail. Thank you.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Our school uniform is such a distinctive and unifying feature of our school. Therefore please help us to maintain these good standards for your children by ensuring they wear the correct uniform (i.e. school jumper, shirt and tie etc) and especially sensible black shoes (no trainers, boots or high heels). Thank you.

PARKING ON THE ZIG-ZAG LINES AND PAVEMENT OUTSIDE SCHOOL

We have received a number of complaints about parking on the zig-zag lines and pathway outside school, particularly in the morning. As you are aware, this is not only a pathway but a cycleway and therefore cars parking in this area pose a considerable risk to pedestrians and cyclists. **Cars should not park on the zig-zag lines outside school.**

As a parent, I am more than aware of the pressures on parents to get their children to school on time yet parking within these areas is not an option. Therefore I urge you to use our parish car park or surrounding areas to park as most parents do successfully. Please see the separate sheet for more information from Lancashire County Council.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2012

Parents with children age school Year 3 and upwards are invited to enrol their child for First Holy Communion preparation. Enrolment forms are available in the Church Porch.

CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS

Our school kitchen will be serving the following menu, to celebrate the Chinese New Year, on Monday, 23rd January 2012. If your child doesn't normally have a school dinner and would like to have one on this day, please either see Mrs Postlethwaite in the School Office or send a payment of £2.00, in a clearly marked envelope, with your child. **Please note, the closing date for booking this lunch is Monday, 16th January to enable Mrs Johns to order the necessary quantities of food from our kitchen suppliers.**

MENU

Sweet and Sour Chicken
or
Chinese Chicken Curry
with
Boiled Rice or Noodles
and
Vegetable Spring Roll
followed by
Mandarin Royale

SCHOOL NURSE

The School Nurse, Anita Sloane, will be in school on Monday, 30th January 2012 from 8.50 am until 9.30 am for a 'drop in' session should any parents/guardians wish to discuss any concerns or seek advice from her.

MR G H MCKEVITT
HEADTEACHER