



# *St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School*

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## *Newsletter – November 2018*

### **Attendance**

At St Bernadette's we pride ourselves on our excellent attendance record each year. The last available full year statistics in 2016-17 placed our attendance as 97.2% (National Average 96.0%) which is considered to be "outstanding". The Department of Education (DFE) continually scrutinises school attendance and any considerable lapse in attendance is cause for concern. Therefore we urge you to continue to support us in maintaining these high standards by making sure your child attends school regularly and absences can only be authorised for "exceptional circumstances"

Please note that if a child's attendance is 90% or below then they are considered to be a "persistent absentee" and therefore a cause for concern (an attendance of 90% is equal to 20 school days or 4 weeks out of school over a year). Such an absence has a considerable impact on the child's education and therefore if you have worries or concerns regarding attendance then please do not hesitate to contact us at school.

Thank you.

### **The Year of the Eucharist**

Pope Francis has announced this year as the "Year of the Eucharist" so that we can focus on our core belief that Christ is present with us in the Eucharist. This year will begin on the Feast of Christ the King next Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> November and end the following feast day in 2019. The children will be involved in many activities with other schools throughout the year and we will begin with all classes taking part in the Adoration of the Eucharist next Friday morning, 23<sup>rd</sup> November in Church.

## **ELF RUN IN SUPPORT OF ST JOHN'S HOSPICE**

All the children will be involved in an Elf Run around our school field track on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December to raise funds for St John's Hospice. Each child will receive a sponsor form shortly and an Elf Hat to add to the occasion. We ask that you support this worthwhile venture. Thank you

### **Christmas Cards**

Our Christmas Post Box will be available for the children to post Christmas cards during the first week of Advent on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. However, what about donating some money (no more than £1.00) instead of writing cards to our St John's Hospice fundraising appeal?

## **CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME**

This year's pantomime is Cinderella and will take place in the school hall on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 9am. Once again any parents and younger siblings are most welcome to attend and we ask for a donation of £2.00 for each child towards the cost.

Thank you.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	Eucharist Adoration in church – am
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	KS1 Judges Lodgings visit – Victorian Christmas – am
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	Christmas Fair in School 6:30pm – 8:30pm
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Cinderella Pantomime in school – am
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Sponsored Elf Run on the school track
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	School Discos in the Hall KS1 – 6:15 -7:15pm KS2 – 7:30-8:30pm
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Party Day (non-uniform)
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Nativity “Born in a Barn” in church at 2pm Ks2 Carol Service in school at 6:30pm
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Nativity “Born in a Barn” in church at 6:30pm
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Children’s Christmas dinner.
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Advent Service in the hall at 1:15pm School closes for the Christmas holidays at 2pm

Mr G H McKevitt  
Headteacher