



St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

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Newsletter – January 2020

Welcome back to school and we wish everyone a happy and fruitful 2020.

School Uniform

Our school uniform is such a distinctive feature of our school and we thank you for the high standards that you maintain for the children. We remind you that the children must wear only sensible black footwear (not boots or trainers) and no jewellery (ear rings, studs, rings and bracelets) other than watches. Long hair must be tied back with hair bands (not flowers or scarves) in the appropriate school colours of blue, white or black.

Thank you

Attendance – A New Year's Resolution

Last term we were very impressed with the number of children who achieved 100% attendance. Therefore, this term we challenge all children to achieve the highest possible attendance and prompt start (8:55am) to the school day. We believe that high attendance instils high standards for later in life and improves their well-being as it allows them to make good progress academically and socially.

Next week (Monday 13th January – Friday 17th January) will be our Attendance and Prompt Start Challenge for all classes.

CAFOD “Live Simply Challenge”

This year, we are working towards meeting the Live Simply Challenge to live simply, live in solidarity with the poor and in sustainability with our world.

We have been working towards this in a number of ways:

- Reducing plastic use (eg using reusable durable drinking cups and not using disposable plastic cups and straws)
- Recycling other plastics eg pens, rulers etc. in our special collection bin
- Recycling paper, cardboard etc
- Food composter to recycle food waste
- Crisp packets are collected in our special bin and sent to Animal Care to be recycled.
- Air Source Heat pumps installed to reduce our use of fossil fuels.
- Fairtrade Achiever Award gained to raise awareness of Third World inequalities and use of Fairtrade products in school.
- Eco-Schools Green Flag Award in recognition of our efforts to make our school environment more eco-friendly.
- Fundraising activities eg Lenten charities, food donations and Mary’s Meals, to support those less fortunate than others.

In addition to this, we intend to introduce greater energy efficiency, such as LED lighting, into our school.

Therefore we ask you to support us in our efforts by:

- Providing packed lunches with reusable containers for sandwiches etc and not single use plastics eg wrapping.
- Providing reusable drink containers eg plastic bottles and not cartons with straws.

Thank you for your support in this very important matter.

Parents' Evening

This will take place after school on Thursday 30th January and is a very important opportunity to discuss your child's progress with their class teacher.
A letter will be sent home shortly.

Students in School

This term, we welcome back Mrs J Ryan who is completing part of her teacher training with the Catholic Teaching Alliance in Willow Class and Mr J Baerna (from Madrid) who is working in Oak Class. In addition to this we have Chinese students running workshops in each class to inform the children about Chinese culture and French students will be joining us in the near future. We believe their time with us will enrich the children's education and support the students in their ongoing training.

St Bernadette's Parish Refugee Family Support

Thank you for your fantastic donations at the KS1 Nativity. You managed to raise £270.19 for the St Bernadette's Parish Refugee Family Support.

Thank you

Mr G H McKevitt
Headteacher