



Blessed Dominic Catholic Primary School Great Strand Colindale London NW9 5PE

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Friday 19th January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

This week, we received a letter of congratulations from Damian Hinds, the newly appointed Minister for Schools. The letter acknowledges the achievements of our school in the 2023 multiplication check completed by last year's Year 4 cohort, now the current Year 5. Our average pupil score of 24.2 out of 25 makes Blessed Dominic Catholic Primary School one of the top 200 performing schools in England for the multiplication check. I would like to congratulate the children and staff involved for their tremendous commitment and hard work. We are incredibly proud of you. Well done everyone.

A reminder that next Friday 2nd February 2024, we are taking part in the NSPCC Number Day. This is a day where we celebrate the importance of numbers and the children are going to take part in a range of different number and problem solving activities. More information will be sent to you next week.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Mrs Pears

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

Gospel -Mark 1:14-20

On Sunday we hear about how Jesus called his disciples to follow him. They left what they were doing and went with him straight away.

Lord Jesus, lead us to join together with other people across the world in helping others, especially those who are poor, so that all people may know that we are your followers.

Amen.



E Safety Workshops

On Monday 29th January we are holding Internet Safety Workshops and assemblies by Open View Education for E-Safety week.

Open view Education provides theatre based training, workshops and performances in educational settings and specialises in Internet Safety Workshops and assemblies.

Their mission is to equip students with the self-confidence and knowledge on how to stay safe online, they have also developed a collection of resources and videos to support parents and carers keep their children safe online.

You now have access to these resources please click the link below.

[Access Parent E-Safety Resources Here.](#)



Friday 2nd February 2024



The NSPCC need our support more than ever. By raising money, we can help to fund their vital services such as Childline – the helpline that's always there for children and young people whatever their problem or concern.

To help raise money for the NSPCC, we are asking for a **suggested donation of £2**, and we'd love everyone in the school to take part in this special event by dressing with a number on their clothes. Please see the separate letter for more details.



School Meals



All Primary school children in state-funded schools in London get free school meals for the 2023-24 school year.

The Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan provided the funding as an emergency cost of living support measure recognising that families are in urgent need of support and the meals will help families with the spiralling cost of living, making sure that children in state-funded London schools will receive free school meals in this academic year.

We are happy to confirm that the Mayor is extending the funding for Universal Free School Meals for another academic year 2024-25

Please do not pay for school lunch on Parent pay

GOVERNORS' FUND WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Thank you to everyone who has responded this term with either a termly or complete payment for the year. The Governors would like to thank you for your generosity and support. Only **18%** of parents have donated so far this term so please, if you haven't done so already, make your payment on 'Parent Pay'

Your ongoing generosity and support is greatly appreciated. It means that we can continue to purchase high quality resources to support your child's learning and enable us to keep the Breakfast and After School clubs running.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Children in from Reception to Year 6 upwards are able to attend our Breakfast Club, where they are able to eat a filling, nutritious breakfast and prepare for the school day. This runs from 7.55am until 8.30am and the cost is £3 per child.



Parents' Consultation evening

This term, Parents' Consultation evening will take place on:-

Wednesday 7th February - 5.00pm to 8.00pm and Thursday

8th February – 3.30pm – 6.30pm. Next week, you will be able to book your appointments online. It is very important that you attend.



Criteria for Attendance and Punctuality –

From our Education Welfare Officer (EWO).



In an effort to improve attendance and punctuality across the school, we will be implementing the fixed penalty notice scheme for both persistent ABSENCE and persistent lateness.

Recently, our Barnet Education Welfare Officer came to review our attendance. She was disappointed to see that attendance wasn't as high as it used to be pre-covid times.

There are quite a few children who have attendance below **90%**. *This figure is significantly below the national average and is considered as persistent non-attendance.* **96%** attendance is expected by the school and the Education Welfare Team for children to achieve their educational potential. Children who are unwell (e.g., sickness, vomiting or high temperature) should not come to school but children who are slightly under the weather should attend. Please be assured, that if we feel your child is ill, we will send them home.

When your child is absent for **more than three days**, we would expect all parents to substantiate with **medical evidence**. This could include:

- a stamped doctor's appointment card,
- information about the medication your child has been prescribed (a photo can be emailed to the office or brought in on return to school).

As you know, we can administer medication on site (if it is prescribed by the doctor).

The Education Welfare Team from the London Borough of Barnet regularly monitor our attendance. They may contact you if your child's attendance is significantly low (below 90%). This may be a letter or a phone call. Absences before and after school holidays will also be monitored. If there is not a sufficient reason to substantiate the absence, the Education Welfare Team will issue a fixed penalty notice.

Families should also be aware that the London Borough of Barnet will issue a fixed penalty notice to parents if children are consistently arriving late into school. Any 6 incidents of lateness within a four week period could result in this outcome.

If you are experiencing any difficulties with your child's attendance, please contact the school for further guidance.

I would like to thank you for your continued support with regards to attendance.

Lost Property

Please clearly name all of your child's uniform. Anything that is named is returned directly to the children. Lost property is stored in the school office. Children and parents are welcome to search for lost items at the beginning and the end of the day.

Children should be encouraged to look after their belongings and we will positively encourage this attitude in school. Please also do this at home.

CHILDLINE - WHO WE ARE!

Childline is here to help anyone under 19 in the UK with any issue they're going through.

You can talk about anything. Whether it's something big or small, our trained counsellors are here to support you. Childline is free, confidential and available any time, day or night.

You can talk to us:

- by calling [0800 1111](tel:0800 1111)
- by [email](#)
- through [1-2-1 counsellor chat](#)

Whatever feels best for you.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/our-services/childline/>



E-Safety Updates

Please use the following links to keep up to date with online safety and what you can do to keep your children safe online.

[E-Safety: Help & Advice](#)

[Social Media & Mental Health; the positive and negative impact](#)

[Screen Addiction: A Parents Guide](#)

[A Parents Guide to Call of Duty \(COD\)](#)

[FIFA](#)

[FORTNITE](#)

Please click link below for tips, advice, guides and resources to help keep your child safe online

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers>



Our Designated Safeguarding Team

Ms Sulis - Deputy Head (Designated Safeguarding Lead)
Mrs Pears – Head teacher (Designated Safeguarding Officer)
Mrs Sowa – Inclusion Lead (Designated Safeguarding Officer)
Ms Keegan - Assistant Head (Designated Safeguarding Officer)



STARWORKER



Bluebells -Mario
Daisies- Olivia
1B - Neema
1D - Georgina
2B - David
2D- Rafael
3B - Dawid
3D - Abdul
4B - Hannah
4D - Sara
5B - Divine
5D - Elisa
6B - Vanessa P
6D-Sean B

TEAMPLAYER



Bluebells -Afonso
Daisies- Liz
1B - Nicolas
1D - Tymoffi
2B - Audrey
2D- Jason
3B - Isabella C
3D - Asia
4B – Julia
4D - Makaiya
5B - Alexi
5D - Raphael
6B - Gabby
6D-Leonel

STARWRITER



Bluebells -Cortez
 Daisies- Omalley
 1B - Isabelle
 1D - Kevin
 2B - Osias
 2D- Joanna
 3B - Alexandra
 3D - Carly
 4B - Felicity
 4D - Gabriela
 5B - Maria
 5D - Sofia
 6B - Joel
 6D-Sarah

Attendance this Week



Bluebells 98%
 Daisies 96%
 1B 97%
 1D 93%
 2B 96%
 2D 97%
 3B 99%
 3D 99%
 4B 100%
 4D 95%
 5B 96%
 5D 96%
 6B 96%
 6D 95%

Congratulations to 4B who achieved the highest attendance this week.

Diary Dates

JANUARY

22nd 3D School Trip

ALL DAY

29th E-Safety Workshops

FEBRUARY

2nd Feast of Candlemass

6th Parent Consultation Evening

5.00pm – 8.00pm

7th Parent Consultation Evening

3.30pm - 6.30pm



Monday 12th – Friday 16th – FEBRUARY HALF TERM. Pupils return on Monday 19th February.

14th Ash Wednesday (Half term)

22nd Bike ability Workshop 4D

29th Feb World Book Day

MARCH

7th – Dance Festival

7.00pm

13th International Evening

18th Year 1D School Trip

25th Year 1B School Trip

26th Years 3 and 4 Easter Service

9:15am

27th Years 3 and 4 Easter Service

9:15am

28th Break up for Easter End of Term

1.30pm

APRIL

17th-19th 5B SPEC

24th – 26th 5D SPEC

MAY

6th Bank Holiday

13th – 16th Year 6 SATS WEEK

27th – 31st – MAY HALF TERM

JUNE

10th Year 6 PGL Trip

Year 3B Visited the Natural History Museum

to find out more about fossils and support their learning class.

