



# BLESSED DOMINIC CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## Love Learn Believe



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

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### Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am delighted to say that the 'Meet the teacher' meetings have been very well attended this week. Partnerships with parent/carers are very important to us and we look forward to welcoming more of you, next week to our school.

Miss Fint and I had the good fortune to accompany Class 6D to the RAF Museum last Wednesday and attend the launch of Dermot O'Leary's latest children's book 'Wings of Glory'. It was an incredible afternoon and one that the children will never forget. Please see the photographs below.

Please remember to label your child's uniform as we have collected a number of jumpers and cardigans that have been left in the playground with no name.

Wishing you a very happy weekend and make sure you enjoy the last few days of Summer.

Best Wishes as always,

Mrs Pears

**In this week's Gospel** Jesus talks about forgiveness – about how God is always ready to forgive us if we say sorry.

And about how we should try to forgive others if they say sorry to us.

**God of love, help us to share your forgiveness with others.  
Guide us to do what is right and to make this world a fairer place  
for all who live in it.  
Amen.**



# MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

This year, at Blessed Dominic Catholic Primary School, we will be supporting the MacMillan cancer charity by holding a MacMillan fundraiser day on **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September**. Children will be able to buy cakes donated during their morning break. We are asking for a **minimum donation of just £1**. For those who would like to make a donation, please send your child in with an envelope labelled Macmillan donation.

**Please bring donated cakes to the school reception no sooner than the morning of 28<sup>th</sup> September 2023**



## Meet the Teacher Meetings



Meetings for parents /carers of pupils in Years 1 to 6 will begin next week. Please see the dates below:

Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> September -	Y2 – 9.00am
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> September -	Y1 – 2.45pm
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> September -	Y5 – 2.45pm
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> October -	Reception – 2.45pm

## Prospective Nursery /Reception Meeting

For September 2024

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November at 5.30pm

or

Thursday 2nd November at 9.05am

Please see flyer attached below



## Consultation Evening

18<sup>th</sup> October Parent Consultation Meeting 5.00-8.00pm

19<sup>th</sup> October Parent Consultation Meeting 3.30-6.30pm



### Following school uniform policy

It is essential that your child wears their school tie everyday as it is part of their school uniform. Also, a reminder that your child must wear the **school PE kit on their PE day**. Other sports clothing from home is not permitted. Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

**School Uniform** is available to order and buy through our 'Parent Pay' shop

See link below <https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Uniform/Default.aspx?shopid=1131>

## Attendance and Punctuality Update – Please read

**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.**

### Term time holidays

Our Attendance policy follows the policy outlined by the Education Secretary, stating that children are not to be absent from school for holidays or other non-essential reasons during term time. Only in exceptional or mitigating circumstances will an absence be approved.

### Illness

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school or absent from school for any reason, please phone the school on 0208 2053790 before 8.40 am or email [attendance@blesseddominic.barnet.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@blesseddominic.barnet.sch.uk)

We have an answerphone where you can leave a message before the office opens, please speak clearly with your child's name, class and the reason your child is unwell.

You can use the absence line from 8.00am to speak to a member of the office.

If we do not receive any information from a parent/carer in the morning, we will contact parents/ carers asking them to phone the school. If we do not hear from you we will pursue all contacts regarding a child's absence as part of our safeguarding procedures. Please leave a message by 9.00 am each day of their absence.

### Medical and Dental appointments

We ask that you please make every effort to avoid booking medical and dental appointments during school time. Where this is unavoidable, parents/carers should put this in writing to the school office and attach a copy of the appointment card or letter before the date of the appointment. Please also include the time you will need to collect your child. If arriving late, please ensure that your child is accompanied and signed in by an adult at the school office for safeguarding reasons.

### Other Absences

Requests for absence during term time will not be authorised unless there is deemed to be an exceptional circumstance. Local authorities have the power to serve parents with a Fixed Penalty Notice if a child has significant or repeated days of unauthorised absence.

### Being Punctual

School starts at 8.55am each day. It is important for your child to be on time if they are to get the most out of their education. Local authorities have the power to serve parents with a Fixed Penalty Notice if a child is persistently late within a period of one month.

**5 minutes late every day means missing 3 days of school every year.**

Punctuality is continually monitored. The gates open at 8:40am and the school day begins at 8:55am. If your child arrives after this time then they will be recorded as late in the register!

## 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>

## 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:08001111)
- by [email](#)
- through [1-2-1 counsellor chat](#)



Whatever feels best for you.

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

## Parking near the school site and considerate road use

We speak to the children regularly about road safety and keeping safe when crossing the road. You can help us to ensure children have a happy and safe journey into school each morning by considering one of the following:

- Walking wherever possible

Not only is this a healthy way to get some exercise, but it supports the local community with congestion. In addition, it is much better for the environment.

- Parking responsibly

As with the majority of primary schools in the country, we do not have a 'parent' car park. If you do need to drive to drop off or collect your child please park considerately and ensure you are not obstructing drives, garages or access to roads. Please be respectful of our neighbours and remember that parking on zig-zag lines at any time of the day is prohibited.

- Turning off your engine

An idling car can produce up to twice as many exhaust fumes than a moving car, which contain harmful pollutants that significantly affect the local quality of air - putting people's health at risk, affecting children's development and contributing towards climate change.

By reminding parents to turn their engines off whilst parked, we can help protect young lungs and create a cleaner, greener and healthier borough."

**Our children's safety is our main priority and this includes their journey to and from school. We appreciate your support in this matter.**

**Please note the RAF Museum is providing 40 minutes free parking for all our parents/carers to ease the congestion on Great Strand.**

**Please make the most of this facility.**

## Wednesday 22nd September is World Car-free Day!

The day is an annual celebration of cities and public life being free from the noise, stress and pollution of cars.

**World Car-free day is a fantastic opportunity to encourage active travel to and from school and to encourage healthier habits.**

**At Blessed Dominic, we would appreciate if you could walk, scoot, cycle or make use of the park and stride facility (at the RAF museum) to travel to school and to show your support for our ongoing commitment to active travel.**



## STAR WORKER

Bluebells – Cedric  
 Daisies – Whole class  
 1B – Whole class  
 1D – Sachit  
 2B – Jude  
 2D – Joanna and Jason  
 3B – Isabella C  
 3D – Ruixi  
 4B – Devan  
 4D – Mateo  
 5B – Giovanna  
 5D – Alfie  
 6B – Mahniya  
 6D – David

## TEAM PLAYER

Bluebells – Whole Class  
 Daisies – Christopher  
 1B – Catherine  
 1D – whole class  
 2B – Helena  
 2D – Aubree  
 3B – Whole class  
 3D – Arvin  
 4B – Whole Class  
 4D – Roham  
 5B – whole class  
 5D – Navya  
 6B – Sean and David  
 6D – Zofia

## STAR HANDWRITER

Bluebells – Claire  
 Daisies – Zuzanna  
 1B – Nicolas  
 1D – Eleanor  
 2B – Madison  
 2D – Merilyn  
 3B – Valentina  
 3D – Cosette  
 4B – Gabriel  
 4D – Kristine  
 5B – Melissa  
 5D – Jasmine  
 6B – Jaiden  
 6D – Josephine

## Attendance this Week

Bluebells	95%
Daisies	97%
1B	95%
1D	99%
2B	100%
2D	94%
3B	97%
3D	99%
4B	96%
4D	97%
5B	98%
5D	99%
6B	94%
6D	97%



Congratulations to 2B who achieved the highest attendance this week.

## Helpful information for Parents on sickness absence

Please see link below

<http://www.blesseddominicprimary.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school-1.pdf>

## HOUSE POINTS

ST ANTHONY:	152
ST BERNADETTE:	201
ST JAMES':	141
ST MARGARET CLITHEROW:	130



## October Camp 2023!

Non Stop Action are looking forward to **October Camp 2023!** We are running **Multi Sports** at Moss Hall Junior School (N3 1NR) and **Football** and **Dance** at Millbrook park school (NW7 1JF)!

We will be running for 1 week, from **Monday 23rd October - Friday 27th October**. Bookings made before **Saturday 7th October** will automatically get our Early Bird discounts, and you can also save money by booking week blocks - book from as little as **£27.50** for a day, or **£109** for a week!

Head to our website to book now: <https://www.nonstopaction.co.uk/>

# Diary Dates

## SEPTEMBER

18 <sup>th</sup> Year 2 Meet the teacher meeting	9.00am
18 <sup>th</sup> Year 1 Meet the teacher meeting	2.45pm
19 <sup>th</sup> Year 5 Meet the teacher meeting	2.45pm
29 <sup>th</sup> MacMillan Coffee morning	8.30am

## OCTOBER

2nd SPEC Parents meeting	3.30pm
4 <sup>th</sup> Reception Meet the teacher	2.45pm
6th School Photos	All Day
3rd Flu Nasal Spray Yr1-6	
11th Black History Workshop/Day	ALL DAY
18th Parent Consultation Meeting	3.30-6.30pm
19th Parent Consultation Meeting	5.00-8.00pm
20th Grandparents Afternoon Tea	1:45pm
30th INSET DAY	ALL DAY
23rd-27th	HALF TERM



## NOVEMBER

1st All Saints	
1st Prospective Nursery and Rec meeting	5.30pm
2nd Prospective Nursery and Rec meeting	9.05am
7th Year 6 SATS Meeting	3.30pm
14th SEND coffee morning (parents)	9.30am
15th Diwali Workshop	ALL DAY
20 <sup>th</sup> Anti-Bullying workshop	ALL DAY

## DECEMBER

1st Advent Reconciliation Service	9.15am
4th KS2 PANTO	
5th KS1 PANTO	
7th Christmas jumper day	ALL DAY
12th Reception Nativity	9.30am
12th KS1 Nativity 1st Performance	2.00pm
13th KS1 Nativity 2nd Performance	2.00pm
18th Nursery Nativity	9.30am
19th KS2 Carol Service years 3-4	7.00pm
20th KS2 Carol Service years 5-6	7.00pm
20th School Christmas Lunch	
21st End of Term	1.30pm

## JANUARY

8 <sup>th</sup> Back to school	8.40am
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## FEBRUARY

7 <sup>th</sup> Parent Consultation Evening	3.30pm – 6.30pm
8 <sup>th</sup> Parent Consultation Evening	5.00pm – 8.00pm

## 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> – FEBRUARY HALF TERM

14<sup>th</sup> Ash Wednesday (Half term)



## Year 6D- RAF Museum

Year 6D attended an event with bestselling children's author and presenter Dermot O'Leary at the RAF Museum last Wednesday. To hear about his latest book Wings of Glory.

