



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

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Friday 2nd February 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Young Voices hosts the largest school choir concerts in the World in the biggest arenas in the UK. Yesterday (and last night), I had the privilege of accompanying our school choir to the 'Young Voices' event at the OVO Stadium, Wembley. It was incredible to see so many schools represented and to perform in a world famous arena. Our children were amazing and sang beautifully. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Ms Rumi, our extremely talented music teacher, for preparing the children and making the necessary arrangements. I would also like to say a huge thank you to Ms Keegan, our Assistant Headteacher, and one of our parents for accompanying the children and looking after them so well.

Today we took part in Number Day in support of the NSPCC. The children took part in fun Maths based challenges within their classroom and we invited them to come to school following the theme, by wearing clothing with a number on it. Next week, you will be able to view photographs from this event and we will also let you know how much we have raised. Thank you for your continued support.

Today we celebrate the feast of Candlemas

Prayer for Candlemas

Lord God, you are the source of everlasting light.
Your son, our beloved Lord Jesus
was presented in the temple 40 days after his birth.
He was recognised by Simeon and Anna,
and welcomed as the promised Messiah.
May we like them, behold the glory of the Lord Jesus.
Grant that we may stand before you
with hearts cleansed by your forgiving love.
May we serve you all our days
and make your name known
as we worship you as our Lord.
So may we come by your grace
to eternal life
Amen.



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.



February Half Term

Monday 12th – Friday 16th

Pupils return on Monday 19th February.

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



BREAKFAST CLUB

Children 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.



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 **19%** 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.

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.



World Book Day

Thursday 29th February 2024.

Details to follow



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 - Hannah
Daisies - Gabby
1B - Elijah
1D - Oscar D
2B - Matteo
2D - Liyat
3B - Benjamin
3D - Bolu
4B - Ariela
4D - Aalilyah
5B - Melissa
5D - Gabby
6B - Santana
6D - Angel

TEAMPLAYER



Bluebells - David
Daisies - Aurora
1B - Dante
1D - Lena
2B - Azai
2D - Kamil
3B - Hesley
3D - Elsa
4B - Ariana
4D - Alessia
5B - Aanjan
5D - Edy
6B - Christopher
6D - Grace

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).

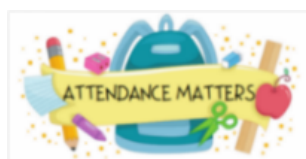
As you know, we can administer medication on site (if it is prescribed by the doctor).

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.



STARWRITER



Bluebells -Sirius
Daisies- Evan
1B - Catherine
1D - Sachit
2B - Siena
2D- Isreal
3B – Charbel
3D - Cosette
4B - Tobias
4D - Abigail
5B - George
5D - Mikha
6B – Praise
6D- Maida

Attendance this Week



Bluebells 95%
Daisies 92%
1B 94%
1D 95%
2B 99%
2D 98%
3B 97%
3D 99%
4B 96%
4D 95%
5B 91%
5D 93%
6B 95%
6D 90%

Congratulations to 3D, who achieved the highest attendance this week.



Beat are hosting a Strings Day and Wind Band day at Dollis Primary School on Monday 12th Feb and Tuesday 13th Feb. This is an opportunity for players who are grade one to four level to come together and play new music, and work with specialist tutors.

Information has been emailed to all parents



NON STOP Action!
SMALL STEPS, BIG FUTURES

February Camp 2024!

Non Stop Action are looking forward to **February Camp 2024!** They are running **Multi Sports** at Moss Hall Junior School (N3 1NR) and **Football** and **Dance** at Millbrook park school (NW7 1JF)! They will be running for 1 week in February half term, from **Monday 12th February - Friday 16th February**. Bookings made before **Saturday 27th January** will automatically get our Early Bird discounts applied, 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

FEBRUARY

6th Parent Consultation Evening
7th Parent Consultation Evening

5.00pm – 8.00pm
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



**We enjoyed a brilliant workshop last Monday for Internet Safety.
Reception to Year 6 took part in E-Safety workshops and assemblies.
The children had the opportunity to reflect upon the benefits of using the internet
while also developing their awareness of how to keep safe online.**



