



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 9th February 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

It was lovely to see so many parents attending our Parent Consultation evenings. I hope you found the meeting fruitful and have a better understanding of how you can continue to support your child's learning for the rest of the academic year. If you were unable to attend, please can you contact the school office after half term to make an appointment.

I would like to say a big thank you to Colindale Library for their donation of books for our school library. The children were thrilled to receive these publications. The books are an excellent addition to our growing collection. Their generosity to support the students in our community is greatly appreciated.



The EWO (Education Welfare Officer) visited the school last Monday. Please read her message on Attendance and Punctuality.

Next week is half term and we would like to wish you and your families a very happy and restful week and look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 19th February 2024 at the usual time.

Best Wishes, Mrs Pears

Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes – World Day for the Sick

On Monday 11th February, we celebrate Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes –
World Day for the Sick.

Oh ever immaculate Virgin, Mother of Mercy, Health of the Sick, Refuge of Sinners, Comfortess of the Afflicted, you know my wants, my troubles, my sufferings.

Look upon me with mercy.

When you appeared in the grotto of Lourdes, you made it a privileged sanctuary where you dispense your favours, and where many sufferers have obtained the cure of their infirmities, both spiritual and corporal.

I come, therefore, with unbounded confidence to implore your maternal intercession.

My loving Mother, obtain my request. I will try to imitate your virtues so that I may one day share your company and bless you in eternity. Amen



NSPCC



NSPCC

Thank you everyone who took part in Number Day 2024 last Friday and for all your donations. 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. So far we have raised

You can still make your donation of £2 via Parent Pay.

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: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/>



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 -Cortez
Daisies- Olivia
1B - Harvey
1D - Bruno
2B - Kasian
2D- Joanna
3B - Arwen
3D - Monika
4B - Bogdan
4D - Wiktorja
5B - KK
5D - Cameron
6B - Mya
6D- Josephine

TEAMPLAYER



Bluebells -Jacob
Daisies- Andrei
1B - Sarah-Patricia
1D - Jill
2B - Sami
2D- Sophia
3B - Jason
3D - Elena
4B - Tiara
4D - Hanna
5B - Whole class
5D - Sienna
6B - Maryam
6D- Jakub

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).

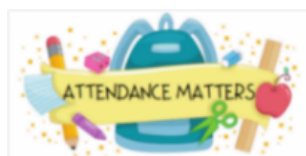
As you know, we can administer medication on site (if it is prescribed by the doctor).

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.



ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY - A MESSAGE FROM THE EDUCATION WELFARE OFFICER - EWO

Dear Parent/Carer

Following my recent visit to Blessed Dominic School, when monitoring the attendance, I have noticed that there are a lot of children arriving late into school. This is very disruptive for the whole class and the child. Please ensure that you are more organised in the morning. Children will not be allowed into assembly if they are late.

How would you like it if your child's teacher was late? Your child is missing vital learning. Arriving on time into school ensures your child settles in, meets their friends and are prepared to start the day.

Please note: **Any child that is absent before or after a school holiday without sufficient evidence will be issued with a fixed penalty notice from The London Borough of Barnet.**

Some families will be receiving a letter from the education welfare team due to their child being persistently absent.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation, Education Welfare officer.

STARWRITER

Bluebells -Elijah
Daisies- Jimmy
1B - Rithwik
1D - Ryan
2B -Joshua
2D- Sebastian
3B – Lianna
3D - Jeleana
4B - Gabriela
4D - Xander
5B - Lyla
5D - Kemiye
6B – Jules
6D- Anthony

Attendance this Week

Bluebells 97%

Daisies 93%

1B 95%

1D 95%

2B 97%

2D 91%

3B 92%

3D 99%

4B 96%

4D 99%

5B 92%


5D 90%

6B 94%

6D 95%

Congratulations to 3D & 4D 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**

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/>

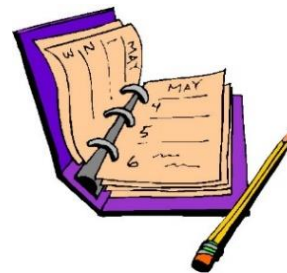


Diary Dates

FEBRUARY

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

- 14th Ash Wednesday (Half term)
- 21st – Fire Brigade visiting Reception
- 21st – Mental Health Sports Workshop Year 5
- 22nd Bike ability Workshop 4D
- 23rd – Bike-ability Workshop 4D
- 23rd – Police talk – all classes
- 26th – Money Sense workshop Year 2 and 3
- 28th – 1D Library visit
- 29th – World Book Day



MARCH

- 1st – Collective Worship 6B
- 6th – Bluebells Library visit
- 7th – Dance Festival 7.00pm
- 8th – Collective Worship 6D
- 13th Daisies Library visit
- 14th – Collective Worship 5B
- 18th – Year 1D School Trip
- 19th – Year 4 at St James to watch 'Zest' production
- 20th – International Evening
- 21st – Collective Worship 5D
- 25th – Year 1B School Trip
- 26th – Years 3 and 4 Easter Service 9:15am
- 28th – Years 3 and 4 Easter Service 9:15am
- 28th – Break up for Easter End of Term 1.30pm

APRIL

Monday 1st April – Friday 12th April 2024 – Easter Holidays. Pupils return on Tuesday 16th April

15th – INSET DAY

- 17th-19th 5B SPEC
- 24th – 26th 5D SPEC

MAY

- 6th Bank Holiday
- 13th – 16th Year 6 SATS WEEK

Monday 27th May –Friday 31st – MAY HALF TERM. Pupils return on Monday 3rd June.

JUNE

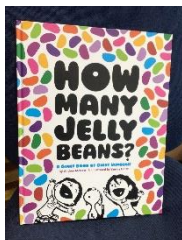
- 10th Year 6 PGL Trip
- 27th – Sports Day

JULY

- 9th – Reception Graduation 9.15am
- 9th – Year 2 Graduation 2.00pm
- 19th – Last day of term

Last Friday we took part in 'Number Day' in support of the NSPCC.

The whole school had a great day, they all wore a number and completed lots of jelly bean games and Maths activities, inspired by the book 'How Many Jelly Beans?'



NSPCC

