



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

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Friday 23rd February 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you and your family had a lovely half term break.

This morning, we had a special Lenten assembly celebration in the school hall. All classes presented their Lenten promises and participated in reflection and prayer.

Before half term, every child was given a fundraising box to collect loose change over the next month and we ask that the box is put in a central place at home. Please return your **full** box by **Wednesday 27th March 2024** at the latest. All proceeds will go to the Catholic Children's Society. Thank you in advance for your support.

There are many more events happening over the coming weeks so please check the diary dates featured at the end of this newsletter. Wishing you all a restful weekend,

Best Wishes, Mrs Pears

This Sunday it is the **Second Sunday of Lent.**

Dear God,
At this time of reflection,
Teach us to be thankful for the goodness you have given us.
Let us remember to treat others as we would like to be treated.
At this time of fasting and giving up our favourite things,
Teach us to be thankful for the food that we eat.
Let us remember that everybody is not so fortunate.
At this time of forgiveness,
Teach us to be thankful for the gift of your mercy.
Let us remember the sacrifice of your son, Jesus Christ.
At this time of prayer,
Teach us to listen to your word.
Let us remember the lessons of our saviour, Jesus Christ. In Jesus' name,
Amen.





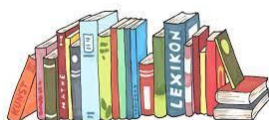
WORLD BOOK DAY FRIDAY 1ST MARCH 2024



Every year on World Book Day, we are overwhelmed by the enthusiasm of our school community. As a school, we are working hard to enhance our school-wide reading culture and we encourage pupils to spend time each evening reading a book before bedtime as this is the time of day many of us read or are read to.

This year for World Book Day, **we have decided that our pupils should dress up wearing their favourite pyjamas** so that we can spend the day enjoying reading stories together.

As a result, pupils are not to wear costumes on World Book Day but instead to wear pyjamas to school. Pupils will participate in activities throughout the day linked to World Book Day in class including book quizzes, having the opportunity to purchase books and sharing and reading their favourite stories with their teachers and peers.



Lost Property

It is inevitable that school uniform items are mislaid or mixed up. The best way to ensure that your child's belongings are not lost is to ensure all items of school uniform are clearly named. Wherever possible, named lost property will be returned to your child's class.

Any items that are unnamed will be kept in the school office. After we have had the items for two weeks they will be either: sent to recycling, added to the second hand uniform sale or kept in school for use in emergencies e.g. when a child is sick.

Please help us in reuniting lost property with its owner by labelling all of your child's property - this includes shoes, lunchboxes and water bottles.

Please regularly check the uniform your child brings home - it is very easy for items of uniform to get mixed up. If this has happens please can you bring back anything you find that isn't your child's and we will reunite it with its owner, who will probably have your child's item! This includes lunchboxes and water bottles.

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

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.

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.



Online Safety information for parents

Our pupils are growing up in a world of ever-changing technology. While we feel that the use of technology is a largely positive aspect of modern life, we cannot ignore the risks that can be associated.

Throughout school we aim to teach children:

- About the impact of cyber-bullying and what to do if they have been affected.
- To be vigilant when communicating online recognising that people may not always be who they say they are and to be sensible about what they share.
- To tell an adult they trust if something is upsetting them.
- To question the reliability of information given through a web based source.
- To search responsibly for information while using internet browsers.

■ We understand that much of our pupil's use of the internet will occur at home, away from the school filters.

Below are a list of useful websites, advice and resources that you may find helpful when navigating the issue of online safety with your child. At the bottom of this page are resources that your child can directly access as well to help them learn about online safety.

<https://safetynet.skipseducational.org/parent-guides/>

Thinkuknow <http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk>

National Online Safety <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/resources/platform-guides/>

Childnet <http://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers>

CEOP <http://ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/>



CHILDLINE

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](#)

<http://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/share-aware/>



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)



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.

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 this Week

Bluebells	97%
Daisies	98%
1B	97%
1D	99%
2B	96%
2D	95%
3B	92%
3D	96%
4B	96%
4D	96%
5B	90%
5D	92%
6B	100%
6D	95%



Congratulations to 6B who achieved the highest attendance this week.

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 Key Stage Two** for another academic year 2024-25. We encourage you to take advantage of this free offer. It means that all children from Reception to Year 6 are entitled to a hot school dinner every day.



Easter Camp 2024!

Non Stop Action are looking forward to **Easter Camp 2024!** 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 2 weeks in the Easter Break, from **Tuesday 2nd April - Friday 12th April**. Bookings made before **Saturday 16th March** 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/>





PRICES START FROM £99 FOR A WEEK BOOKING

Use your child care vouchers

EASTER CAMP 2024

FOR 5-12 YEAR OLDS



DANCE CAMP

Dance Studios

Millbrook Park Primary School (NW7)



FOOTBALL CAMP

FA Qualified Coaches
4G Astroturf

Millbrook Park Primary School (NW7)



MULTISPORT CAMP

Amazing Indoor & Outdoor Facilities

Moss Hall Junior School (N3)

TUESDAY 2ND APRIL - FRIDAY 12TH APRIL



If you would like to try any of our classes in Football, Dance or Acro, call us on 020 8446 0006 for a FREE trial session

WWW.NONSTOPACTION.CO.UK



Diary Dates

FEBRUARY

26th – Money Sense workshop Year 2 and 3

28th - 1D Library visit

MARCH

1st – World Book Day

1st – Collective Worship 6B 2.45pm

6th - Bluebells Library visit

7th – Collective Worship 2B 2.45pm

7th – Dance Festival 7.00pm

8th - Collective Worship 6D

11th -Collective Worship 1D 2.45pm

13th Daisies Library visit

14th - Collective Worship 5B 2.45pm

14th – Road Safety Workshop Year 2

18th - Year 1D School Trip

19th - Year 4 at St James to watch 'Zest' production

20th – International Evening

21st - Collective Worship 5D 2.45pm

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

29th -Year 3 Ancient Egyptian Workshop

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

