



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

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Friday 15th March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

This morning, the children from Years 1 and 2 attended a Stations of the Cross service at St. Margaret Clitherow Church. Fr Brian explained the stations of the cross to the children and they took part in prayer and spiritual reflection.

Next week, we will have our annual Lenten penitential service which will help the children to prepare for Easter. Our pupils in years 4-6 will have the opportunity to go to confession.

Next **Wednesday 20th March**, we look forward to welcoming you to our International Evening. You will experience food from a range of continents, opportunities to participate in themed activities and you will also have the chance to see your children's learning in action as well as a short class based performance.

Please see separate letters, sent home for further information.



Best Wishes, Mrs Pears

This Sunday it is the Fifth Sunday of Lent.

Christ Jesus, fill us with your love and mercy
and show us how to make a difference to the lives
of our brothers and sisters around the world.
Amen.

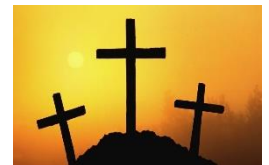
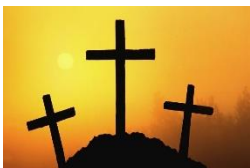


Lenten service

Tuesday 26th March at 9.15am

and

Thursday 28th March at 9.15am



Presented by Years 3 and 4

Parents of children in Years 3 and 4 are welcome to
attend the service on a particular day. (Please see letter sent home)

SEND Coffee Morning

Blessed Dominic School invites you to attend this term's SEND coffee morning for parents and carers of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).



Wednesday 20th March at 9.10 am – 10.00 am

Please see letter sent home



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.

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 **21%** 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.

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**
- by **email**
- through **1-2-1 counsellor chat**

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



Lost Property – PLEASE LABEL YOUR CHILD’S UNIFORM!!!

The lost property box continues to bulge at the seams. 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.



Parking near the school site and considerate road use

We have received a number of complaints from the school's neighbours regarding inconsiderate, and often illegal, parking by parents accessing the school in the mornings and afternoons, including parking on the zig-zag lines outside school and parking on double yellow lines. Please may I remind you to consider 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 driving is essential when dropping off or collecting your child, please park considerately and ensure you are not obstructing drives, garages or access to roads. Parking irresponsibly causes upset and frustration for all, which can lead to unnecessary confrontation 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.



EASTER RAFFLE 2024

We are delighted to be holding our annual Easter Egg Raffle on **Wednesday 27th March 2024**



(Please see letter sent out)



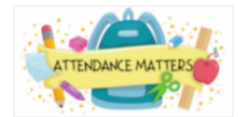
We would really appreciate it if you could donate any Easter eggs, any shape or size is eggs-ellent!

Please send in donations of Easter eggs to the school office by **Monday 18th March 2023**

Raffle tickets will be on sale from **Monday 18th March**

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 can see that the overall trends of attendance are improving but there is still work to do.

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.

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)



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/>



STAR WORKER



Bluebells -Claire
Daisies- Gabby
1B - Thomas
1D – Wrenn
2B – Egidio
2D- Adrien
3B - Oliver
3D - Cosette
4B - Tobias
4D -Kristine
5B - Aashi
5D –Mia Bella
6B - Zofia
6D- Trisha

Attendance this Week



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

Congratulations to 2, 4D & 6B who achieved the highest attendance this week.

STAR WRITER

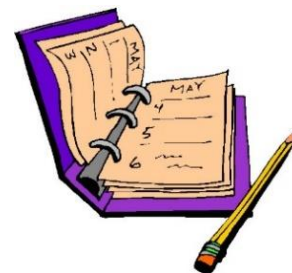


Bluebells -Alexandra
Daisies- Evan
1B - Bella
1D – Daphne
2B - Maria
2D- Santiago
3B – Arwen
3D - Bolu
4B - Azenath
4D - Immanuel
5B – KK
5D – Teophilus
6B – Yaaya
6D- Ola

TEAM PLAYER

Bluebells -Honey
Daisies- Maria
1B – Antonio
1D – Georgina
2B - Sami
2D- Olivia
3B - Maria
3D – Maya
4B – Ariela
4D - Roham
5B - Ethan R
5D - Aiden
6B – Daniel
6D- Nahara

Diary Dates



MARCH

- 14th – Road Safety Workshop Year 2
- 19th - Year 4 at St James to watch 'Zest' production
- 20th – SEND Coffee Morning 9.10am
- 20th – International Evening
- 26th - Years 3 and 4 Easter Service 9:15am (More information to follow).
- 28th - Years 3 and 4 Easter Service 9:15am (More information to follow).
- 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
- 22nd – 4B School Trip
- 22nd - 1D School Trip
- 24th – 26th 5D SPEC
- 29th - Year 3 Ancient Egyptian Workshop
- 29th – 4D School Trip

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

Barnet Dance Festival at the Arts Depot [@BarnetSport](https://www.barnet.gov.uk/arts-depot)



This week, class 1B visited the 'Young Victoria and Albert Museum'.



