



Blessed Dominic Catholic Primary School Great Strand Colindale London NW9 5PE
Tel: 020 8205 3790

E-mail office@blesseddominic.barnetmail.net

Website www.blesseddominicprimary.co.uk

Friday 13th October 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Today we took part in 'Just One Tree Day'. Tree planting is absolutely essential at this critical time for the planet therefore it was essential that we joined children, and teachers across the country to demonstrate that an individual's actions can have a positive impact on the environment.

Thank you to everyone who wore a green top and donated £1 to plant trees around the world. Together, we can make a difference.

During the month of October, the Minnie Vinnies are meeting regularly to pray the Rosary in honour of Our Lady and for all those who need our prayers. Yesterday, Pope Francis summoned the whole world, regardless of faith, to take a moment of meditation for the health of the world. His purpose was to unite everyone in prayer and reflection, especially during this time of deep unrest and uncertainty. We ask you to pray together as a family for those who suffer great affliction at this time.

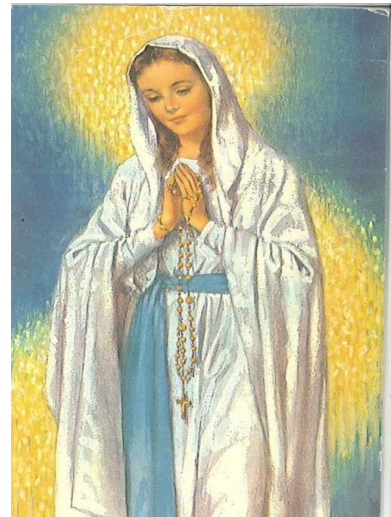
Wishing you a very peaceful and restful weekend.

Mrs Pears

October the Month of the Rosary

Hail, Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou amongst women
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death.
Amen.



Prospective Nursery /Reception Meeting



For September 2024
Wednesday 1st November at 5.30pm
or



Grandparents' Afternoon Tea

Friday 20th October 2023

at 1.45pm

(separate letter with details to come)



Consultation Evening

18th October Parent Consultation Meeting 3.30pm-6.30pm

19th October Parent Consultation Meeting 5.00pm-8.00pm

Please sign up for an appointment if you haven't done so already.



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>

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 7% of parents have donated so far this term please if you haven't done so already, make your payment on 'Parent Pay'

Your ongoing generosity and support is greatly appreciated and 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.

HARVEST APPEAL 2023 **Friday 20th October 2023**



This year, as part of our Harvest thanksgiving, we are asking children for a donation of non-perishable food items such as tinned soup, beans, fish, pasta, rice, cereal, tea bags and coffee to name but a few.

Your child can start bringing in their donations from **Monday 16th October** and the last day will be **Thursday 19th October**, where they'll be placed in their class food basket. Donations will go to help the 'Food Bank Aid' based in North London who are experiencing higher than usual demand.

Thank you in advance for your continual support.



Lunches and snacks



Early Years Foundation stage and KS1 all receive a piece of fruit/vegetable as part of the government healthy eating scheme. This does not extend to KS2. Children may bring in their own fruit or vegetable for break, which should be kept separate from packed lunches. Biscuits, cakes, rice cakes are not acceptable. **Please keep packed lunches healthy.** They should not contain sweets or chocolate (A mars bar is chocolate, a Kit-Kat is a chocolate covered biscuit) and must not contain nuts of any kind as we have children with severe allergies. Please be careful with things like chocolate spreads and satay coverings, which don't look like nuts. Plenty of ideas can be found at <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthierlunchboxes>



Criteria for Attendance and Punctuality –

Updates 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.

This week, 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.

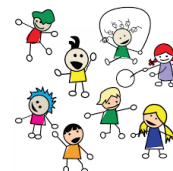
If you are experiencing any difficulties with your child's attendance, please contact the school for further guidance. Thank you

STAR WORKER



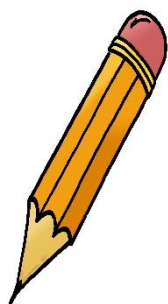
Bluebells –Kirill
 Daisies –Justin
 1B – Neema
 1D – Joao
 2B – Andrie
 2D – Cameron
 3B – Danielle
 3D –Maria
 4B – Giacomo
 4D –Samuel
 5B – Divine
 5D – Sienna
 6B – Sofia
 6D –Yaaya

TEAM PLAYER



Bluebells –Moriah
 Daisies –Pablo
 1B –Meghan
 1D – Kevin
 2B – Audrey
 2D – Rafael
 3B – Arwen
 3D – Monika
 4B – Sara
 4D – Gabriela
 5B –Ryab
 5D –Marcus
 6B – Eugene
 6D – Nectarie

STAR HANDWRITER



Bluebells – Noah
 Daisies - Momina
 1B –Harvey
 1D – Sonia
 2B – Egidio
 2D - David
 3B – Artem
 3D – Abdul
 4B – Geniesse
 4D –Trizianna
 5B - Melissa
 5D –Navya
 6B – David
 6D Sebastian

Attendance this Week

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

Congratulations to 3D who achieved the highest attendance this week. (100%)

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/>

Cameron Smith Holiday Camp Manager

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->

Diary Dates

OCTOBER

18th Parent Consultation Meeting 3.30-6.30pm

19th Parent Consultation Meeting 5.00-8.00pm

19th 4D Collective Worship 2.45pm

20th Grandparents Afternoon Tea 1:45pm

23rd-27th HALF TERM

30th INSET DAY No school for pupils

NOVEMBER

1st All Saints

1st Prospective Nursery and Rec meeting 5.30pm

2nd Prospective Nursery and Rec meeting 9.05am

2nd 3B Collective Worship 2.45pm

3rd Year 6 SATS Meeting 3.30pm

9th 3D Collective Worship 2.45pm

10th 2D Collective Worship 2.45pm

14th SEND coffee morning (parents) 9.30am

15th Diwali Workshop ALL DAY

16th 4D Collective Worship 2.45pm

20th Anti-Bullying workshop ALL DAY

27th 1D Collective Worship 2.45pm

28th 1B Collective Worship 2.45pm

30th 5B Collective Worship 2.45pm

DECEMBER

1st Advent Reconciliation Service 9.15am

1st 6B Collective Worship 2.45pm

4th KS2 PANTO

5th KS1 PANTO

7th Christmas jumper day ALL DAY

7th 5D Collective Worship 2.45pm

8th 6D Collective Worship 2.45pm

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

8th Back to school 8.40am

FEBRUARY

7th Parent Consultation Evening 3.30pm – 6.30pm

8th Parent Consultation Evening 5.00pm – 8.00pm

12th – 16th – FEBRUARY HALF TERM

14th Ash Wednesday (Half term)

29th Feb World Book Day



Parking near the school site and considerate road use



You will be aware that the traffic and pedestrian congestion immediately outside the school at the beginning and end of the day is compromising the safety of all. We are working closely with the local authority for a long term solution.

In the meantime, you can help us ensure children have a happy and safe journey to and from school by considering 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 at the **RAF museum** and walk down Great Strand. **Please be respectful of our neighbours and remember that parking on zig-zag lines at any time of the day is prohibited.**

- **Patience and Respect**

Please be considerate and respectful. Inevitably, slow moving traffic and congestion can cause frustration leading to impatience and irritability. Please be mindful that everyone is feeling the same however we must put the safety of all our pupils and families first and remain calm.

We appreciate your support in this matter.

Please note the RAF Museum is providing 45 minutes free parking for all our parents/carers to ease the congestion on Great Strand.

Please make the most of this facility.



BLESSED DOMINIC CATHOLIC PRIMARY IS COLLECTING FOR HARVEST FESTIVAL



FOOD BANK AID

FOOD BANKS URGENTLY NEED DONATIONS

Food Bank Aid delivers your donations to 30 food banks each week, supporting 16,000+ people (including 5,200 children) across North London.

WHAT THE FOOD BANKS REALLY NEED



Tinned food - meat, fish, fruit, veg



Jam, honey and peanut butter



Breakfast cereals and porridge



Biscuits, crackers, cereal bars & dried fruit



Rice, grains & noodles



Laundry tablets and washing up liquid



Instant coffee and tea



Baby formula & nappies (large sizes), creams

HOW TO DONATE FOR FOOD BANK AID

Please bring your donations to school from **16th - 20th October**. Thank you!



Food Bank Aid: North London



@foodbankaid_nl

Black History Month

African Drumming Workshop

On Wednesday, we had a fantastic African drumming workshop for Years 4, 5 and 6 children. They learned about the significance of drumming in Africa and experimented with different rhythms and beats.

