



Blessed Dominic Catholic Primary School Great Strand Colindale London NW9 5PE
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Website www.blesseddominicprimary.co.uk

Friday 24th November 2023

Last Monday, we held our Anti-bullying workshop which helped our children to explore different scenarios and arrive at a clear understanding as to what to do in certain challenging situations. At Blessed Dominic Catholic Primary School, we teach our children about positive behavioural choices and how we can all set a positive example by opting to respect each other at school, in our homes, within our communities and online. Please see photos at the end of this newsletter.

As winter is now upon us, I would like to remind you that children should be wearing **black, royal blue or navy blue coats, scarves, gloves and headwear that keeps them warm. Any other colours (including pink) are not part of the school uniform code.** Thank you for your cooperation.

This coming Sunday is the Feast of Christ the King which concludes the Church's liturgical year. It's hard to believe that the following weekend, marks the beginning of Advent.

Wishing you a restful weekend.

**Best Wishes,
Mrs Pears**

Infant Music Festival

On Friday 10th November Year 2 children took part in the Barnet Infant Music Festival. They sang beautifully and with such confidence. Their behaviour was exemplary during the day. A big thank you to Ms Rumi (Velkova) our music teacher for preparing the children so well.



Nativity Plays and Carol Services

Tuesday 12th Reception Nativity	9.30am
Tuesday 12th KS1 Nativity 1B and 2B Parents	2.00pm
Wednesday 13th KS1 Nativity 1D and 2D Parents	2.00pm
Monday 18th Nursery Nativity	9.30am
Tuesday 19th KS2 Carol Service years 3-4	7.00pm
Wednesday 20th KS2 Carol Service years 5-6	7.00pm



Admission to all events will be by ticket only so as to comply with health and safety legislation . Please see separate phase letter for further information.

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

Thursday 7th December 2023

The charity supported by this event this year is



For a donation of **£2.00**, we would like your child to wear a Christmas Jumper on Thursday 7th December 2023 to support this worthy charity.

If your child doesn't have a Christmas jumper, they can wear a jumper of their choice. They will also be allowed to wear casual trousers, jeans or leggings with their jumper.

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 **15%** 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. It means that we can continue to purchase high quality resources to support your child's learning and prepare them for the future.



School Meals



Primary school children in state-funded schools in London will get free school meals for the 2023-24 school year. The Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan has provided the funding as an emergency cost of living support measure.

The Mayor recognises that families are in urgent need of support and the meals will help families with the spiralling cost of living by making sure that children in state-funded London schools will receive free school meals in this academic year.

Please do not pay for school lunch on Parent pay

Applications for Reception and Nursery 2024/2025

Parents, please remember to complete the Barnet CAF online to Barnet Admissions team by **Monday 15th January 2024**

NURSERY – A priest's signature is required on the Nursery application form along with other supporting documents. Please see the Nursery application pack for details.

RECEPTION – Following guidance from the Diocese of Westminster, the Certificate of Catholic Practice is no longer required. However, a Catholic Baptism certificate must still be provided along with the other supporting documents.

RECEPTION PLACES – 2024-2025

Parents, please remember to complete the Barnet CAF online to Barnet Admissions team by **Monday 15th January 2024**

Blessed Dominic School Forms must be returned as soon as possible but no later than **Monday 15th January 2024**

PARKING at the beginning and end of the day!

The local authority are finalising an initiative to reduce congestion on Great Strand both on the road and footpath. You will be aware that the current situation is compromising the safety of all and therefore we need to work together. In the meantime, every driver and pedestrian has a duty and a responsibility to exercise common sense and behave in a sensible and courteous way. I know that as a community, we are very good at showing our care and support for one another, but sometimes, especially if we are in a rush, our frustrations can get the better of us and the sound of car horns and angry words fill the air. Please be patient. Better days are ahead and please continue to exercise care and consideration for others. I encourage you to use the **car park at the RAF Museum** where you can **park for free**. Blessed Dominic School is only a short walk away. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Road Safety Week

19th –25th November 2023



Did you know that a driver can see a pedestrian 3 seconds sooner if they are wearing or carrying something bright or reflective? That's enough to prevent serious injury or save a life!

Now that the clocks have gone back, evenings become dark much earlier and it becomes more difficult for drivers to see pedestrians.

Whilst we want children to get out and about more and have active healthy lifestyles, we also want them to be safe! Help your child **be Bright** so they can **be seen** by making sure they are wearing something bright for daytime AND reflective for night time.

If you are buying a new coat for your child, look out for brightly coloured ones with reflective strips.

For more information and support, please email:
Road.safety@barnet.gov.uk

Blessed Dominic Food Bank

At Blessed Dominic Catholic Primary School, we understand there has been a huge strain on many families in our school community due to the cost of living crisis. We would like to support as many families as possible by creating food hampers made from your generous donations of **non-perishable** items such as: breakfast cereals, tinned soup, pasta etc.

We are asking for children to bring in their donations by **Friday 7th December 2023** in order for the food hampers to be created and distributed before the end of term.

I would like to thank you in advance for your continual support and generous donations as I know they will be greatly appreciated.



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.



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.

Following School Uniform Policy

I would like to thank you all our parents who make sure their children arrive at school in the proper school uniform. We are really proud of our school uniform and expect all children to wear it. However, I have noticed increasing numbers of children who are not wearing correct school uniform—mainly this is children forgetting what's allowed and what isn't by neglecting to come to school wearing a PE kit on PE days or forgetting swimming kits. Furthermore, our expectations around uniform extends to hairstyles and jewellery, below is a reminder of the uniform and expectations for ALL our children. The School logo should be seen on the jumpers/cardigans, PE polo shirts, fleeces, showerproof coats and sun caps.

Nursery children

Light blue polo shirt (with embroidered logo). Royal blue school sweatshirt (with printed logo)
Royal blue school joggers. Sensible black shoes (not trainers)

Reception – Year 6

Boys

Grey Trousers. Blue shirt (Long or short sleeve). School Tie. Royal Blue Knitted V neck Jumper (with embroidered logo). White/grey socks. Sensible plain black shoes (not trainers)

Summer Uniform

Grey shorts. Blue shirt (Short sleeve) White socks (no trainer socks please) School tie

Girls

Grey Tunic/skirt. Blue Shirt/blouse (Long or short sleeve) School Tie. Royal Blue Knitted Cardigan/V neck Jumper (with embroidered logo) White socks. Sensible plain black shoes (not trainers)
Black/grey woollen tights

Summer Uniform

Summer Dress (blue and white check) White socks (no trainer socks please)

P E KIT

White tipped Polo shirt (with printed logo) Royal Blue Shorts
School tracksuits top and joggers. Black plimsolls, plain white or black trainer

School Hats

School baseball cap (with printed logo) School sun hat (with printed logo)
Non-uniform jumpers and baseball caps are not allowed.

School Coats

School coats must be black or navy and ideally have a hood. No other coloured coats are allowed.
School fleece and waterproof jackets (with printed logos) are available to purchase from the school office.

School bags

Blessed Dominic Book bags for Foundation and Key Stage One
Blessed Dominic rucksacks (with logo) are permitted for Key Stage Two

All items of clothing should be clearly labelled even swimming kit.

Appearance

1. Children are not allowed to wear jewellery or any form of necklace or bracelet in school as this could be a cause of injury
2. Only children in Year 6 are allowed to wear watches but must accept responsibility for their own property. Smart watches and wearable smart technology are not permitted.
3. Nail varnish is NOT allowed
4. Sensible black shoes (flat)
5. Hairstyles must be simple, neat and tidy, of a natural colour and must be worn off the face.



New Year Camp 2024 Non Stop Action are looking forward to **New Year 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 1 week, from **Tuesday 2nd January - Friday 25th January.**

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: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>



STAR WORKER

Bluebells –Afonso

Daisies –CherylN

1B – Nathan

1D – Ioan

2B – Caroline

2D – Oliwier

3B – Maxwell

3D –Elsa

4B – Aadhis

4D –Sara

5B –Sarah

5D – Reuben

6B – Kevin

6D – Pietro



TEAM PLAYER

Bluebells –Maria

Daisies –Gabriel

1B –Thomas

1D –Matei and Skyler

2B – Nicolas

2D - Santiago

3B – Pak Ho

3D – Jeleana

4B –Chioma

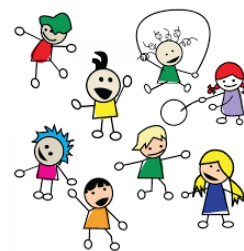
4D –Kristine

5B –Lyla

5D –Whole Class

6B – Hannah

6D – Grace



STAR HANDWRITER

Bluebells – Hannah

Daisies - Gabby

1B –Magdalena

1D –Lena

2B – Helena

2D - Osa

3B – Raphaela

3D – Elena

4B – Julia

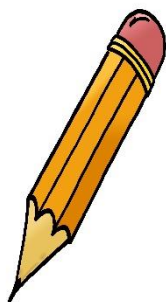
4D –Jesse

5B –Giovanna

5D –Maria

6B – Nahara

6D- Kevin



Attendance this Week

Bluebells 95%

Daisies 86%

1B 98%

1D 95%

2B 97%

2D 96%

3B 96%

3D 97%

4B 98%

4D 97%

5B 99%

5D 99%

6B 99%

6D 99%



Congratulations to 5B, 5D, 6B & 6D who achieved the highest attendance this week.

Diary Dates

NOVEMBER

27 th 1D Collective Worship	2.45pm
28 th 1B Collective Worship	2.45pm
29 th Westminster Carol Service -4B	9.15am
29 th 3D assembly	2.45pm
30 th 5B Collective Worship	2.45pm

DECEMBER

1st Advent Reconciliation Service	9.15am
1 st 6B Collective Worship	2.45pm
4 th Little Elf Performance - Reception	
4 th KS2 PANTO	
5 th KS1 PANTO	
7 th Christmas jumper day	ALL DAY
7 th 5D Collective Worship	2.45pm
6 th 4D Assembly	9.05am
8 th 6D Collective Worship	2.45pm
12 th Reception Nativity	9.30am
12 th KS1 Nativity 1B and 2B Parents	2.00pm
13 th KS1 Nativity 2nd Performance	2.00pm
14 th School Christmas Lunch	
18 th Nursery Nativity	9.30am
19 th KS2 Carol Service years 3-4	7.00pm
20 th KS2 Carol Service years 5-6	7.00pm
21st End of Term	1.30pm

JANUARY

8 th Back to school	8.40am
15 th 3B School Trip	ALL DAY
22 nd 3D School Trip	ALL DAY

FEBRUARY

2 nd Candlemass	
7 th Parent Consultation Evening	3.30pm – 6.30pm
8 th Parent Consultation Evening	5.00pm – 8.00pm

12th – 16th – FEBRUARY HALF TERM

14th Ash Wednesday (Half term)

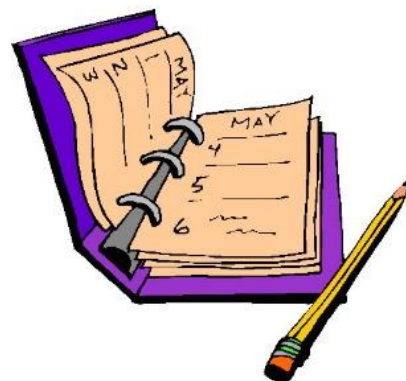
29th Feb World Book Day

MARCH

7 th – Dance Festival	
13 th International Evening	
26 th Years 3 and 4 Easter Service	9:15am
27 th Years 3 and 4 Easter Service	9:15am
28 th Break up for Easter End of Term	1.30pm

APRIL

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



Anti-Bullying Workshop

