



Blessed Dominic Catholic Primary School Great Strand Colindale London NW9 5PE  
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## **Friday 8th December 2023**

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **Save the children Christmas Jumper Day**

Thank you to everyone who supported yesterday's national 'Christmas Jumper Day'. We had an excellent response and raised **£627** for the 'Save the Children' charity. This is particularly impressive, especially given the times that we find ourselves in and the fact that we are so close to Christmas. The 'Save the Children' charity has expressed their deep thanks and appreciation for your kindness and generosity.

### **Blessed Dominic Foodbank**

Once again, thank you to everyone who donated to the Blessed Dominic School's foodbank. Your kind donations will provide much needed support to some of our families during these times of financial pressure. The deadline for donations is Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December so there is still time to donate, if you haven't done so already. Thank you.

**Wishing you a very warm and restful weekend.**

**Best Wishes,**

**Mrs Pears**

### **ADVENT**

This Sunday is the Second Sunday of Advent. On Sunday we will hear about the way John the Baptist prepared people for the coming of Jesus by baptising them. **Gospel:** Mark 1:1-8

***Generous God, as we prepare for the coming of your Son Jesus,  
help us to remember all our brothers and sisters in our global family  
and to share your love with them. Amen.***

**The second candle, which is purple, symbolises faith.**

This candle symbolizes faith and the journey of Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem. It calls you out to prepare the way of the Lord.



## 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. For further information, please see separate phase letter sent out for each individual service. Thank you**

## 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**



## 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 Monday 11th 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.



## MATCH REPORT



**5<sup>th</sup> December 2023**  
**By Christopher 6B**



**On Tuesday, we played against Sunny fields Primary School. In this match, we were victorious with a 5-0 win.**

**In the first half we scored an amazing 3 goals followed by another 2 in the second half.**

**Well done Jacob 6D and Joshua 5B our wonderful strikers and congratulations to the whole team.**



# Road Safety Week

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](mailto:Road.safety@barnet.gov.uk)

Please see below Year 6's road safety newsletter.

## 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.

## SCHOOL UNIFORM REMINDER

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.

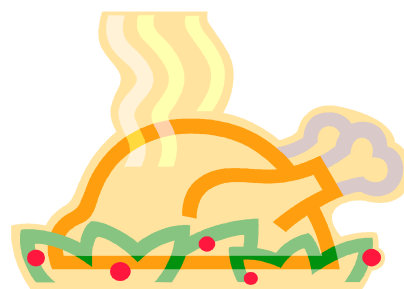


## Christmas Lunch

Our school Christmas lunch will be on Thursday 14th December 2023. We would like to give all children from Reception - Y6 an opportunity to have a school lunch on this day.

Please give consent via Parentpay if you would like your child to have a Christmas lunch by Tuesday 12th December 2023.

Remember this only applies to those children who normally bring packed lunch to school – children on school dinners will automatically have Christmas lunch.



## 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.**

## 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 **17%** 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.

### 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**

### **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 2<sup>nd</sup> January - Friday 25<sup>th</sup> 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>



## Blessed Dominic Catholic Primary School Safeguarding Team

The DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead)

Daniela Sulis - Deputy Head (Designated Safeguarding Lead)

Geraldine Pears - Headteacher (Designated Safeguarding Officer)

Dora Sowa – Inclusion Lead (Designated Safeguarding Officer)

Laura Keegan – Assistant Head (Designated Safeguarding Officer)



### STAR WORKER

Bluebells –Ada  
Daisies –Eldana  
1B – Alicja  
1D – Aaron  
2B – Nikisha  
2D – David  
3B – Kamar  
3D –Whole Class  
4B – Luca  
4D – Whole class  
5B –Giovanna  
5D – Jenica  
6B – Mya  
6D – Janelle



### TEAM PLAYER

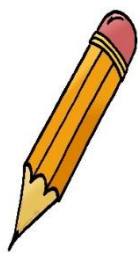
Bluebells –Jacob  
Daisies - Aiyana  
1B –Elijah  
1D –Whole Class  
2B – Azai  
2D - Liyat  
3B – Daniel  
3D –Maya  
4B – Riley  
4D – Makaiya  
5B –Mia  
5D – Aidan  
6B – Praise  
6D – Kiran





## STAR HANDWRITER

Bluebells – Eli  
 Daisies - Frankie  
 1B –Catherine  
 1D –Mihai  
 2B – Ivy  
 2D - Joanna  
 3B –Isabella  
 3D – Leo  
 4B – Joshua  
 4D – Hanna  
 5B –Aashi  
 5D –Cameron  
 6B – Sarah  
 6D- Angel



## Attendance this Week

Bluebells 95%  
 Daisies 94%  
 1B 91%  
 1D 94%  
 2B 98%  
 2D 99%  
 3B 94%  
 3D 94%  
 4B 100%  
 4D 100%  
 5B 96%  
 5D 98%  
 6B 99%  
 6D 97%



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

## Diary Dates

### DECEMBER

12th Reception Nativity	9.30am
12th KS1 Nativity 1B and 2B Parents	2.00pm
13th KS1 Nativity 2nd Performance	2.00pm
14th School Christmas Lunch	
18th Nursery Nativity	9.30am
19th KS2 Carol Service years 3-4	7.00pm
20th KS2 Carol Service years 5-6	7.00pm
21st End of Term	1.30pm

### JANUARY

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

### FEBRUARY

2 <sup>nd</sup> Candlemass	
7 <sup>th</sup> Parent Consultation Evening	3.30pm – 6.30pm
8 <sup>th</sup> Parent Consultation Evening	5.00pm – 8.00pm

12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> – FEBRUARY HALF TERM

14<sup>th</sup> Ash Wednesday (Half term)  
 29<sup>th</sup> Feb World Book Day

### MARCH

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

### APRIL

17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> 5B SPEC  
 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> 5D SPEC



# Christmas Jumper Day







# Blessed Dominic Catholic Primary School



## Road Safety Week 2023



# NEWSLETTER

## Year 6 Travel Planning

Year 6 used TFL resources and local OS maps to plan safe journeys to school from their homes and to places in their local area. They enjoyed working with the resources and comparing their journeys with their peers. As a follow up activity to the session, they then were tasked with planning a safe journey from our local Tube Station to our school, before writing up their route and highlighting any dangers they may face along the way.



## Traffic Consultations

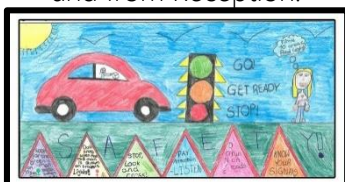


5D were consulted on their views concerning the current situation regarding pick up and drop offs *at the start and end of the day*. They were encouraged to think deeply about how *safe* they felt *at these times* when commuting along Great Strand, the dangers the school population *faced* and ways forward to help make things safer. After mind-mapping and discussing ideas with their talk partners, they then shared their ideas in *a whole class discussion*, where their ideas were recorded and *brought forward to the JTA*

## Road Safety Competition

Blessed Dominic entered a road safety banner competition led by Barnet as part of the celebrations for Road Safety Week 2023.

There was a fantastic turn out in terms of the quality and quantity of the entries received. Three entries were chosen by the JTA and put forward as the schools entries –from Year 6 and from Reception.



## 5D's Road Safety Assembly

5D created and delivered an excellent Road Safety themed assembly, to showcase how to stay safe on the roads, focusing on the Green Cross Code and top safety tips for when being a pedestrian and a car user.

They gave a fantastic assembly, which was informative and eagerly performed by the class to show their learning and help educate others.

