

Blessed Dominic Catholic Primary

Love - Learn - Believe

Newsletter

Autumn issue 3- 19th September 2025

Headteacher: Mrs Hourihan

Deputy Headteacher: Ms Sulis

Diary dates

Thursday 25th September- BD Parent Group AGM 5:00pm
Monday 22nd September - Fairtrade Fortnight
Wednesday 24th September - 6B Assembly
Friday 26th September - Reception Phonics Parent Workshop 9:00am
Wednesday 1st October - African Dance Workshop Years 1,2 and 3
Thursday 2nd October - ID Collective Worship 2:45pm
Friday 3rd October - MacMillan Coffee morning 8:30am

Dear parents and carers,

It was lovely to meet KS1 parents this week at the 'Meet the Teacher' meeting.

This morning, Father Brian celebrated Mass with us to mark the start of the new school year. On Thursday evening, our teachers joined other Catholic schools from across the Barnet Deanery to celebrate Mass together. Next week, we will be holding our AGM (Annual General Meeting) for the Blessed Dominic Parent Group. By having a child at our school, you are automatically a member of this wonderful community. I hope to see as many of you as possible at the meeting, where we will be electing people into key roles such as Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, and more.

As school budgets continue to tighten and costs rise, the work of our Parent Group becomes even more vital. Funds raised have already helped subsidise various enrichment opportunities throughout the year and provide ice lollies on sports day!

We'd love to have parents from across the school involved —bringing fundraising ideas and initiatives that not only raise money but also bring our community together.

I look forward to seeing many of you in person on

Thursday at 5pm

Mrs Hourihan

Attendance

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

**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

Celebrating Success

Star Worker



Daisies Whole Class
Bluebells Whole Class
1B Olivia
1D Lucy lu
2B William
2D Seriooga
3B Sarah
3D Lena
4B Joanna
4D Caroline
5B Hesley
5D Asia
6B Sara
6D Roham

Team Player



Daisies Whole Class
Bluebells Whole Class
1B Zaine
1D Pipa
2B Honey
2D Andrei V
3B Catherine
3D Mihai
4B Marcus
4D Kasian
5B Kamar
5D Jeleana
6B Joshua
6D Arthur

Star Handwriter



Bluebells Whole Class
Daisies Whole Class
1B Eliza
1D Borichi
2B Brandon
2D Eldana
3B Maximiliano
3D Joao
4B Arsema
4D Caroline
5B Anila
5D Carly
6B Radin
6D Gabriela

Star Reader



Bluebells Whole Class
Daisies Whole Class
1B Margaux
1D Annabel
2B Alexandra
2D Leah R
3B Elijah
3D Aaron
4B Aubree
4D Anastasia
5B Arianna
5D Dominic
6B Hannah
6D Kristine

**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



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



WHAT'S
NEW?

WEEKLY NEWS

The children in 2D have been learning all about the story of Noah's Ark. This week the children retold the story through drama. Each group planned and preformed the story of Noah for the rest of the class.



Andres- **"God sent a rainbow as his covenant to not send another great flood."**



Evan- **"Noah was chosen by God because he was special and he listened to God"**



**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



**WHAT'S
NEW?**



WEEKLY NEWS

Fr Brian celebrated mass on Friday morning with the whole school to mark the start of a new school year.



Thank you to Fr Brian and Sonia for joining us for this wonderful occasion.

Visit from Rabbi Fine

We were delighted to welcome Rabbi Fine to our school this week. The children learned about Rosh Hashanah, which means "Head of the Year" and marks the beginning of the Jewish New Year. They had the opportunity to see and try a shofar (a traditional ram's horn used during Rosh Hashanah). It was an informative and enjoyable assembly, and the children thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

"It was really interesting to learn about different traditions."



"I loved hearing the shofar—it was so loud!"

"I didn't know Rosh Hashanah was the start of the Jewish New Year!"

Free Child Car Seat Safety Checks

Barnet Council is offering free child car seat checks to help families ensure their children are travelling safely.

Wednesday 8th October 2025, 10am – 3pm
Tesco car park, Coppetts Centre, North Circular Rd, N12 0SH

A trained expert from Good Egg Safety will be on hand to check seats, fix errors and offer advice – no booking required. Experts will check your car seat even if your child isn't with you — but if they are, they can also make sure they're seated correctly and safely. Last year, 92% of car seats checked in Barnet had errors, most of them serious enough to put children at risk of injury or death in a collision.

Unfortunately, errors on seats are very easily made, but the great news is that they tend to be easy to fix.

We encourage all families who use child car seats to attend.

Kind regards

Safe and Sustainable Travel Team
road.safety@barnet.gov.uk

<https://www.facebook.com/goodeggsafety> or <https://fb.me/e/9prgSJfEG>





**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



Prospective Nursery /Reception Meetings for September 2026

WEDNESDAY 5th NOVEMBER at 5.30pm
THURSDAY 6TH NOVEMBER at 9.05am



HEALTHY LUNCHES & SNACKS



For Early Years & KS1

Children receive 1 free piece of fruit/veg daily through the government scheme



For KS2

Children must bring their own fruit or vegetable for break



Please keep snacks separate from packed lunches



Not Allowed

Biscuits, cakes, crisps, sweets, or chocolate
Chocolate spreads & satay coverings
(may contain nuts)

No nuts of any kind – due to severe allergies



Healthy Packed Lunch Tips

Include fruit & vegetables

Choose healthy proteins & whole grains

Avoid high-sugar snacks & drinks

ST JAMES CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL OPEN EVENING EVENT Year 7 Intake 2026/2027 on Wednesday 1st October 2025

St James' Catholic High School would like to welcome you to experience our educational setting, take a tour of the school and meet our staff and pupils.
The event takes place on Wednesday 1 October from 5:30pm.

There will be parking on the school site at the end of Great Strand NW9 5PE.

The school is also easily accessible via the 632 bus!





Safeguarding

The wellbeing of our children is of paramount. Should any person (parent or staff) have a concern regarding a child's wellbeing, please inform one of the school safeguarding team:

- Mrs Sowa - DSL & SENCo
- Mrs Hourihan - Headteacher
- Ms Sulis - Deputy Headteacher
- Ms Smart - Assistant Head

In cases where school staff have concerns, they have a duty to discuss the issue with Social Services to seek further advice. This is the statutory obligation of all schools.



Attendance

Regular attendance plays a vital role in your child's learning and overall development. Every school day counts!

Unfortunately holidays cannot be authorised during term time and authorised absences can only be granted in exceptional circumstance. Please contact the office if you need to request an exceptional leave of absence. These will be considered on a case by case basis.

FPNs (Fixed penalty notices) can be issued for unauthorised absences and the fine is up to £160 per parent.



Uniform reminders

- Ensure ALL items of uniform are clearly labelled.
- School bags should be the school bag, plain blue or black.
- Long hair should be tied back.
- Your child must wear the school PE kit on their PE day:
 - Tuesday - Year 5, Reception, Year 6
 - Wednesday - Year 1
 - Thursday - Year 4, Year 2, Year 3
- School Uniform is available to order and buy through our 'Parent Pay' shop on our website.



SAFER SCHOOL STREET

IN OPERATION
8.15AM – 9.15AM
& 2.45PM – 3.45PM



WE REMIND ALL FAMILIES TO USE THE
P FREE PARKING AVAILABLE
AT THE RAF MUSEUM

WHICH HAS BEEN MADE AVAILABLE
EXCLUSIVELY FOR BLESSED DOMINIC
PARENTS AND CARERS DURING
DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP TIMES



NON STOPFootball!
STRIKE FOR SUCCESS

FINCHLEY & MILL HILL

FOOTBALL CLASSES

FOR ALL STUDENTS AGED 3 – 15 YEARS

- FA Qualified Coaches
- Match Days
- Trophy Presentations
- Personalised Kit
- Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced Levels






Develop your skills
Make friends
Build confidence

★★★★★
"My sons have been attending Non Stop for football lessons for the past two years and I wouldn't consider sending them anywhere else! Coaches are dedicated and passionate, the courses are well organised and you really feel part of the Non Stop family."

 **BOOK YOUR FREE TRIAL**
020 8446 0006

 **NON STOPAction!**
SMALL STEPS, BIG FUTURES

 **MG65**
MARTYN GERARD
MULTI-SPORTS - COMMERCIAL

WWW.NONSTOPACTION.CO.UK



NON STOPDance!
MOVE TO THE BEAT

FINCHLEY & MILL HILL

DANCE LESSONS

FOR ALL STUDENTS AGED 3 – 18 YEARS

- Classical Ballet
- Modern Jazz Street Dance
- Contemporary
- Acro-Dance
- Personalised T-shirt and uniform






Take Exams
Perform in Our Shows
Build Confidence

★★★★★
"My daughter has been dancing with Non Stop Dance! for over 7 years, and she has loved every second. The team of staff show such commitment, and the dance shows they organise every other year prove their level of dedication and how much the children love to perform!"

 **BOOK YOUR FREE TRIAL**
020 8446 0006

 **NON STOPAction!**
SMALL STEPS, BIG FUTURES

WWW.NONSTOPACTION.CO.UK

Want to get your child active outside of school?

Non Stop Action run academies in **Football, Dance and Acro Gymnastics**, from ages 3-16 years, based in Finchley and Mill Hill.

Our **Football classes** run on **Saturdays in Finchley** (Finchley Catholic High School (N12 8TA) and **Mill Hill** (Millbrook Park Primary School, NW7 1JF) and cater for a range of abilities, with classes to suit any child's needs! All of our coaches are FA qualified, and our twice termly match days playing against other groups in our academies are a real highlight.

Our **Dance classes** run on **Saturdays at Moss Hall Junior School** (N3 1NR) and weeknights at Millbrook Park School (NW7 1JF). We offer a range of styles including Classical Ballet, Street Dance, Modern Jazz, Acro Gymnastics, and Contemporary. We run exams every other year, enabling your child to gain awards in dance, and our whole academy puts on an amazing performance in our biannual dance show!

If you would like your child to come and try their **first class for FREE**, please get in touch with us to arrange a trial:

020 8446 0006 or info@nonstopaction.co.uk



October Camp 2025!

Non Stop Action are very excited for our October Camp 2025! We are running Multi Sports at Moss Hall Junior School (N3 1NR), **Football, Dance** and **Multi Activity Camp** at Millbrook park school (NW7 1JF).

October Camp will run from **Monday 27th - Friday 31st October**. Secure your Early Bird discount if you book before Saturday 4th October!

What Schools Need to Know about THE ONLINE SAFETY ACT

The Online Safety Act was passed into UK law in October 2023, with the aim of establishing major new layers of protection for children when they're online. The government has pledged "a zero-tolerance approach to protecting children from online harm" – and the act certainly includes more powerful legislation which should help to safeguard young people in the digital world. Our guide summarises the key points for schools ...

WHAT THE ACT WILL DO

HARMFUL CONTENT

Social media sites must rapidly remove illegal and/or harmful content such as bullying or harassing comments; pornography; and content that supports extremist activity or encourages or depicts violence, suicide, self harm or eating disorders. If they fail to do so, they can be fined up to 10% of their global revenue while their executives may even face jail time.

ANIMAL CRUELTY

Content featuring cruelty to animals is now prohibited, even if it originates from abroad (where the law may be different). Again, it is the platform's responsibility to remove this.

MORE TRANSPARENCY

Sites must be transparent about the hazards that any children using them could encounter – by publishing risk assessments for their platforms, for instance.

HOSTING MISLEADING ADVERTS

Scams and fraudulent adverts must be blocked or removed, or the hosting companies are liable to be fined.

NON-CONSENSUAL SHARING

It's now easier to convict online abusers or people who share intimate images without consent, while legislation on the criminality of deepfakes has been clarified. The new laws also relate to any individuals who even threaten to share such images. This should help to protect women and girls in particular online.

REPORTING AND FILTERING

Sites should have easy reporting mechanisms for children (or their parents and carers) to flag up problems quickly. They must also provide options to filter out unwanted content.

AGE-RESTRICTED MATERIAL

Sites must prevent children from accessing age-inappropriate material. This includes enforcing age limits and implementing robust age verification.

What this means for you

The act has some specific implications for schools: it's essential that leaders understand the new legislation's scope and limitations. The act is certainly a positive step, but as artificial intelligence and other advances in tech continue to produce new challenges, schools will still need to remain extremely vigilant.

KNOW WHERE TO GET HELP

Look out for the Code of Conduct that Ofcom is creating in response to the Online Safety Act. Note that the new legislation doesn't mean an instant change: many of its elements will only come into force at the end of 2023. An Ofcom consultation on 'protecting people from illegal harms online' will be running until February 2024.

REMEMBER THE ESSENTIALS

Remain mindful of your organisation's own online activities: the legal duty for schools to maintain appropriate software monitoring and filtering, for example, will not change.

WATCH FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

There are some issues on which the legislation remains less clear for now: whether it's possible for Ofcom to scan encrypted private messages (such as on WhatsApp) has yet to be resolved, for instance – making this an area where, for the moment, young people have less legal protection.

UNDERSTAND AND EXPLAIN

Staff should learn how to raise concerns with tech companies whose platforms contain anything upsetting or unpleasant. Students also need to be made aware of the newly strengthened laws relating to cyber-bullying, sexting or posting inappropriate content. Young people do make mistakes online – so the clearer their understanding of the possible consequences, the better.

ENGAGE WITH PARENTS

Schools should also explain to parents and carers the new possibilities that the Online Safety Act affords them in terms of protecting their children. Many parents may have previously felt that there was little they could do about changing online platforms' content; they now have a far greater level of support when complaining about a company or the behaviour of an individual.

Meet Our Expert

Luke Ramsden is Senior Deputy Headmaster and Director of Safeguarding for the St Benedict's family of schools. He is a regular speaker at conferences and writes in the TES (among other journals) on school leadership, pastoral care and safeguarding. In 2022, he was named Pastoral Leader of the Year at the National Awards for Pastoral Care in Education.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

