

# Blessed Dominic Catholic Primary

*Love - Learn - Believe*

## Newsletter

Summer issue 6 - 22nd May 2026



**Headteacher:** Mrs Hourihan

**Deputy Headteacher:** Ms Sulis

### Diary Dates

**HALF TERM - Monday 25<sup>th</sup> - Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May**

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> Inset day**

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June - Meeting for new Nursery parents for September 2026 at 6.00pm

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June - Year 5 visit to St James

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June - Meeting for new Reception parents for September 2026 at 6.00pm

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June - Corpus Christi Mass & First Holy Communion celebration at 2pm

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> June - Yr 6 transition coffee morning led by BICs at 9am

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> June - Secondary Transfer Meeting for Year 5 parents at 3.30pm

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June - Disconnect to reconnect day

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June - Yr 5 Mass in the Church 10am

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> June - Year 6 PGL

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June - Reception trip to the Zoo

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June - 3D Class assembly 2.45pm

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June - Barnet Dance Festival

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June - Nursery and Reception Sports Day - 9.15am

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June - Yr 6 Mass at Church 10am

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June Year 2 Barbican Trip

Dear parents and carers,

Thank you to everyone who joined us this week for the RED meeting regarding the Religious Education Directory. We hope it provided valuable insights into our curriculum and learning opportunities. A copy of the slides will be available on the website.

The Wellbeing and Mental Health coffee morning was a great success, led by our BICs. Tammy shared a range of helpful strategies, and the slides will be sent out and made available on the website for those who were unable to attend. BICs will also lead the Year 6 transition coffee morning on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June at 9am.

Thank you to the parents who have joined us for the Decade of the Rosary, and for your support in returning the rosary bags each day so that every family has the opportunity to pray the rosary together at home.

Fairytale day in EYFS was a great success and I had the privilege of witnessing the excitement and power of stories and imagination!

Today, we held our May Procession. A special thank you for the wonderful donations of potted plants, which will be planted around the school for everyone to enjoy. The chaplain from St James, along with some pupils and the choir, joined us for this celebration.

After half term, we will be trialling our in-house After School Club (ASC) and wraparound provision, staffed by members of Blessed Dominic. This will take place in the hall, which means we will be unable to offer the usual clubs that use this space. Staff who typically run Art Club and Lego Club will instead support the ASC provision. Places must be booked in advance, and bookings will open one week ahead to allow us to plan staffing appropriately. We will review the provision during the next half term and welcome your feedback to help inform plans for the autumn term.

As we approach half term and the warmer weather, please remember that all children should return in summer uniform. This includes either the gingham dress or charcoal grey shorts with a blue polo shirt. If you are considering purchasing new uniform items, please note that we are transitioning to only royal blue or black coats (letter sent February 2026), and trainers worn on PE days should be plain black or plain white.

Looking ahead, after half term we will hold our new parent meeting, the Year 5 secondary transfer meeting, and the Year 6 transition meeting. Please check the calendar for upcoming events and meetings, as the end of the school year is always a busy time.

Remember children return on **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June.**

Wishing you a wonderful half term break.

Mrs Hourihan

**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



The month of May  
'Our Lady, the Mother of God'



Hail Mary, full of grace,  
the Lord is with thee.  
Blessed art thou among 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

### Pentecost (Year A)



**Gospel: John 20:19-23**

This Sunday we hear how Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to be with the disciples, to help them be brave enough to share God's message with others.

# Celebrating Success

## STAR OF THE WEEK

- DAISIES - Marlee-Rose
- BLUEBELLS -John
- 1B - Emilija
- 1D -Valerie
- 2B - Maria
- 2D -Karlye
- 3B - Whole Class
- 3D -Bruno
- 4B - Merylyn
- 4D - Catherine
- 5B - Isabella B
- 5D -Francesc
- 6B - Radin
- 6D - Trizianna



## ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

- DAISIES -94%
- BLUEBELLS -99%
- 1B -94%
- 1D -91%
- 2B -98%
- 2D -97%
- 3B -95%
- 3D -98%
- 4B -94%
- 4D -93%
- 5B -97%
- 5D -97%
- 6B -98%
- 6D -97%



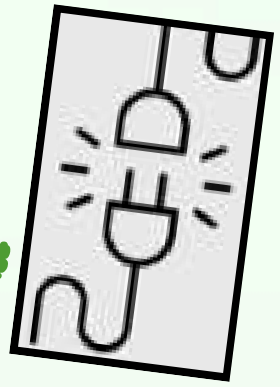
**Blessed Dominic Catholic Primary School, Great Strand, Colindale, London NW9 5PE**

**Tel:** 020 8205 3790 **E-mail:** office@blesseddominic.barnetmail.net

**Website** www.blesseddominicprimary.co.uk



# Disconnect to Reconnect Day



**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2026**

On Friday 5th June, we will take part in a whole school '**Disconnect to Reconnect**' day, switching off electrical appliances and using minimal energy to lower our carbon footprint. Pupils will be able to spend time connecting with nature and/or with each other.

Part of the **CAFOD LiveSimply award**, the whole school community is working together to show how we can live **simply, sustainably** and in **solidarity** with communities around the world experiencing poverty.

We are encouraging families to hold a "screen-free" evening at home by spending time together e.g. gardening, playing a simple game or going on a walk/bike ride.





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

**Tel:** 020 8205 3790 **E-mail:**

[office@blesseddominic.barnetmail.net](mailto:office@blesseddominic.barnetmail.net)

**Website** [www.blesseddominicprimary.co.uk](http://www.blesseddominicprimary.co.uk)



## Prayer Garden

We would like to thank the parents of the children in Years 2–6 who joined their child's class in our Prayer Garden for a Decade of the Rosary. Your presence and participation helped to make this a special and reflective occasion for the children and our school community.



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

**Tel:** 020 8205 3790 **E-mail:** [office@blesseddominic.barnetmail.net](mailto:office@blesseddominic.barnetmail.net)

**Website** [www.blesseddominicprimary.co.uk](http://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](mailto:office@blesseddominic.barnetmail.net)



## Primary Athletics Tournament

On Monday our school took part in the Barnet schools athletic champions. We had 32 children take part. Our school did extremely well placing in the top 3 in boys Y6 400m, Y5 long jump and placing first in the girls Y6 sprint and relay.



## Football Team Reveal New Kit

Our girls' football team proudly showed off their new school kit this week. The team looked fantastic in the new colours and are excited to represent the school in upcoming matches. We wish them the best of luck.



## Important Meetings

### **NURSERY AND RECEPTION MEETINGS FOR NEW PARENTS**

**Tuesday 2nd June 2026 at 6.00pm**

Meeting for **new** Nursery parents whose child has been accepted to start Nursery in September 2026

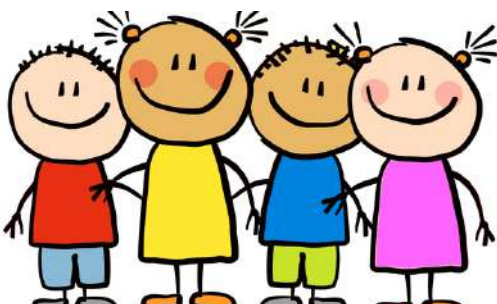
**Wednesday 3rd June 2026 at 6.00pm**

Meeting for **new** Reception parents whose child has been accepted to start Reception in September 2026

**Please note, these meetings are for adults only.**

**Please do not bring your child with you.**

**Thank you.**



### **Secondary Transfer Meeting for Year 5 Parents**

This meeting for parents of children in Year 5 will take place on

**Thursday 4th June 2026 at 3:30pm**  
in the school hall.

It is important that you attend, as information leaflets regarding secondary transfer will be distributed at the meeting.





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](http://www.blesseddominicprimary.co.uk)



# Fairytale Day

Nursery and Reception enjoyed a wonderful Fairytale day filled with stories, costumes, and imaginative activities. The children had great fun dressing up as their favourite fairy tale characters and taking part in a range of creative learning experiences throughout the day.



# EXTREME READING

## COMPETITION!

Read anywhere.  
Take a photo.  
**Be extreme!**



- 1** FIND an unusual place to read.
- 2** READ your favourite book.
- 3** TAKE a photo and send it in!

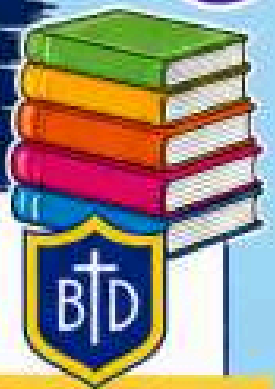
Get creative!  
Be safe!  
Have fun!



SHOW US WHERE READING

★ CAN TAKE YOU! ★

Blessed Dominic  
Catholic Primary School



ALL PHOTOS DUE IN BY **5TH JUNE 2026**

Open to all pupils at Blessed Dominic Catholic Primary School. ★  
Hand your entries to your class teacher. ★

We can't wait to see your  
extreme reading adventures! ★



**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



## Consideration for Our Neighbours

We received two concerns from local neighbours on Friday. One related to children being very loud when entering the park on Great Strand early in the morning, and the other concerned litter being left behind and behaviour that was felt to be disrespectful.

We would appreciate parents and carers reinforcing the importance of respectful behaviour within our local community. Please encourage children to keep noise levels down, dispose of rubbish responsibly, and show consideration to our neighbours at all times.

Thank you for your continued support in helping our children to be positive ambassadors for our school.



**May Camp 2026 is here!**  
Bookings are now open with Non Stop Action.

Join us this May Half Term for **Multi Sports** at Moss Hall Junior School (N3 1NR), and **Football, Dance, and Multi Activity Camp** at Millbrook Park School (NW7 1JF).

**Camp runs from Tuesday 26th May - Friday 29th May**

**Book by Saturday 2nd May to take advantage of our Early Bird discount.**

**Kind regards,**  
**Cameron Smith Holiday Camp Manager**

## Barnet Libraries

It is nearly half-term and Barnet Libraries have the perfect range of online resources to help with all the upcoming homework and study projects during the holidays and throughout the school year, such as Britannica Junior and Student, Oxford English Dictionary and much more.

See attached images to see what else is available. There are leisure time related resources available also, such as PressReader, for complimentary magazines and newspapers, Freegal Music our free music streaming service and Medici.tv our free video resource for classical music, opera, dance and jazz for our library members.

There is something for everyone and all ages.

They are free with no need to pay an expensive subscription.

Check out what else is on offer at  
<https://www.barnet.gov.uk/libraries/online-resources-homework-study-or-general-interest>



Libraries for *Learning*

Libraries for *Leisure*

Libraries for *Life*

#LearningLeisureLife



## Free Dr Bike Sessions in Barnet

### Lodge Lane car park, Finchley

Follow the yellow chevrons immediately to the right of the entrance to the car park (opposite NL Auction Rooms N12 8JH).

The sessions will take place on the following dates between 4pm and 7pm:

8 July  
9 September  
11 November  
13 January 2027  
10 March 2027

### Temple Fortune

By Bike racks outside entrance to M&S Food Hall at 820 Finchley Road, NW11 6XL.

The sessions will take place on the following dates between 4pm and 7pm:

15 July  
16 September  
18 November  
20 January 2027  
17 March 2027



### Middlesex University, Hendon

The pavement on The Burroughs, outside Middlesex University adjacent to Hendon Fire Station, 91 The Burroughs, NW4 4BL.

The sessions will take place on the following dates between 4pm and 7pm:

10 June  
12 August  
14 October  
9 December  
10 February 2027

### Stapylton Road car park, High Barnet

Area immediately to the right of car park's entrance (EN5 4LR).

The sessions will take place on the following dates between 4pm and 7pm:

17 June  
19 August  
21 October  
16 December  
17 February 2027



**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



## Birthday Celebrations

While we love to celebrate each child's special day, we kindly discourage gift bags and food items being brought in. We have a lot of children with allergies so as a community we need to help keep each other safe. Instead, we encourage children to bring a book to share with the class, which can be added to the class library as a lasting memory of their birthday.

Thank you for your support in keeping celebrations simple, inclusive, and focused on learning!



## 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.



## Governors' Fund £60 per Pupil Contribution



Each year, our school's Governing Board asks families to contribute to the Governors' Fund, which supports important projects and improvements not covered by our regular school budget.

This year, the suggested contribution remains £60 per pupil.

The fund helps us enhance our school environment and resources — for example, improving playground areas, upgrading IT equipment, and supporting enrichment opportunities for pupils.

We do this via the 'Governors Fund' where we ask parents to contribute. We don't stipulate or mandate this but instead prefer to encourage all families to contribute what they can.

A huge thank you to all the families who have already contributed — your generosity makes a real difference to what we can offer our children.

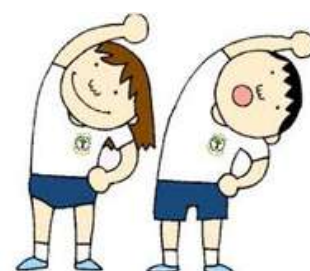
If you've not yet had the chance to donate and would like to, contributions can be made via Parent Pay.

## AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Please make sure your child brings their school PE kit every week if they have been accepted for Ninja Warriors, Football, Spykids, Tennis, Dance or Archery after-school clubs.

**FOR SAFETY REASONS, CHILDREN  
WILL NOT BE ABLE TO TAKE PART IN  
THE SESSION IF THEY DO NOT HAVE  
THE CORRECT PT KIT WITH THEM.**

Thank you for your support.





**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



## 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 Hourihan (Headteacher) Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead**
- **Ms Sulis - (Deputy Headteacher) Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead**
- **Ms Smart - (Assistant Head) Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead**
- **Ms Sanduleasa - (Attendance) Member of Safeguarding Team**

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.



## SAFER SCHOOL STREET

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



**WE REMIND ALL FAMILIES TO USE THE 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**

## Uniform Reminders

We would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone of our school uniform expectations. Please ensure that children come to school wearing their full uniform each day.

- **Trainers should only be worn on PE days and must be plain black or white.**
- **On non-PE days, children should wear black school shoes (not boots).**
- **School socks should be plain grey or white.**
- **School trousers should be grey (leggings are not part of the school uniform).**
- **A school tie should be worn each day.**
- **School coats should be plain blue or black.**
- **Hair below the shoulders should be tied back.**

Uniform is an important part of our identity at Blessed Dominic. As a community, it is important that we all follow these expectations and wear our uniform with pride. If you are experiencing any difficulties with uniform, please do not hesitate to contact the school—we are always happy to help.



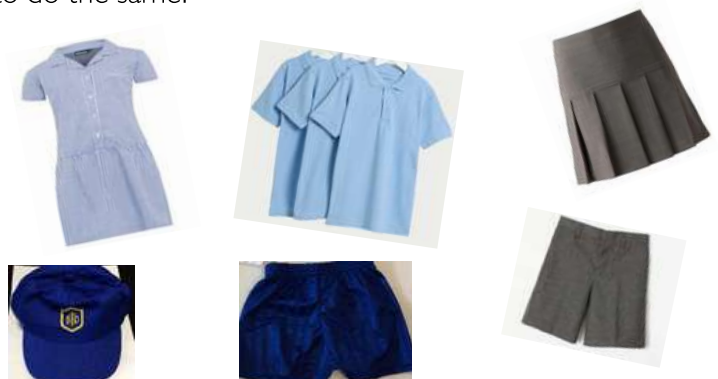
## Summer Uniform

Summer uniform consists of either the gingham summer dress or a blue polo shirt (without a tie) and shorts or skirt.

If children wear vests or base layers, these must be fully hidden under their clothing. Long-sleeved base layers should only be worn under a long-sleeved shirt and must not be visible at any time.

For PE, children may wear blue school shorts. These should be plain blue, with no logos or branding.

Our uniform is an important part of our school identity and helps to foster a sense of belonging. We ask for your support in maintaining these standards, as when expectations are not followed, it can encourage others to do the same.



# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

## ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO CHOOSE RESPECT

Sometimes, differences between children can escalate into bullying, potentially impacting their mental health in a way that can persist into adulthood. While it's natural to disagree sometimes, teaching children the importance of respect is essential – especially in difficult situations. This guide provides strategies for encouraging considerate behaviour, even during a dispute, to foster a kinder, more inclusive environment for everyone.

### 1 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

As adults, we play a crucial role in modelling respectful behaviour for children: they observe and learn from our actions every day. Be mindful of the way you interact with others in front of children. Keep in mind that you should always approach others with an attitude of mutual respect, even if you disagree with them. Demonstrating this behaviour can influence young people and help them to handle their own conflicts in a healthy way.

### 2 AGREE TO DISAGREE

Make sure children know that it's fine to have differing opinions – and that disagreeing with someone doesn't mean you can't get along or respect each other's point of view. Help them understand that sometimes we can 'agree to disagree'. Using active listening skills when doing this can also help to build empathy and understanding of others.

### 3 PROMOTE ACTIVE LISTENING

Teach children about the importance of active listening: that is, making a genuine effort to listen to the other person's perspective without interrupting, before responding in a way that shows you understand their viewpoint, even (or perhaps especially) if you disagree with it. This makes people feel respected and allows for a better comprehension of their point of view, which in turn can make it easier for you to communicate your own opinions to them.

### 4 ENCOURAGE THE USE OF "I" STATEMENTS

If a child finds themselves in a disagreement with someone, it can be useful to encourage them to use "I" statements during the discussion. Framing their thoughts and feelings using statements like "I feel ..." or "I think ..." can help them avoid an accusatory tone and encourages them to take responsibility for their own emotions.

### 5 FOCUS ON BEHAVIOUR, NOT CHARACTER

When disagreements happen, encourage children to focus on critiquing and addressing the specific actions or behaviours that caused this upset, rather than attacking the person's character. For example, "I didn't like how you interrupted me" is better than "You're so rude". This can help children avoid hurting someone's feelings, which is likely to inflame the situation.

### 6 STAY CALM AND TAKE BREAKS

It's perfectly normal to feel upset during a disagreement – especially if it's getting heated. Remind children that if they feel overwhelmed, they should try to take deep breaths or even go for a short break to help them stay composed. If a conversation becomes too intense, remind them it's OK to suggest continuing it later or in a different setting. This can prevent things getting out of hand, allowing cooler heads to prevail.

### 7 START CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RESPECT

Talk openly to children about what respect means – to you and to them. Discuss how they might show respect to each other, to friends, to strangers and even to people we might disagree with. You could use examples of considerate or inconsiderate behaviour in books, films or TV to open discussions about the importance of giving others due regard.

### 8 SEEK COMMON GROUND

When a disagreement has occurred between children, they may find it hard to move past it. You can support them in finding a more positive way forward by helping identify areas of agreement or common ground with the other party. This can help to build bridges between differing opinions and foster a more cooperative atmosphere, as well as preventing those involved from demonising each other.

### 9 AVOID MAKING THINGS PERSONAL

It's important that we make it clear to children they must avoid name-calling, swearing or derogatory remarks in a disagreement with others. Respectful language sets a positive tone and helps keep the conversation productive. Reminding children to stay calm and take breaks – as mentioned previously – can help them avoid getting too emotional and saying or doing something hurtful.

### 10 REFLECT AND LEARN

After a child has had a disagreement, encourage them to reflect on the experience and think about what they can learn from it. What did they handle well? How might they improve their communication skills to handle conflicts more effectively in the future? You could use role play, writing and drawing pictures, or hypothetical examples to further develop their skills in showing respect during a disagreement.

### Meet Our Expert

The Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) co-ordinate Anti-Bullying Week each year. ABA is a unique coalition of organisations and individuals, working together to achieve their vision to stop bullying and create safer environments in which children and young people can live, grow, play and learn. They welcome membership from any organisation or individual that supports this vision and support a free network of thousands of schools and colleges.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/choose-respect>

X @wake\_up\_weds

f /www.thenationalcollege

ig @wake.up.wednesday

🎵 @wake.up.weds