

Blessed Dominic Catholic Primary

Love - Learn - Believe



Newsletter



Autumn issue 3 - 18th September 2026

Headteacher: Mrs Hourihan

Deputy Headteacher: Ms Sulis

Diary Dates

SEPTEMBER

Monday 21st September - FAIRTRADE FORTIGHT

Monday 21st September - Book Fair starts

Monday 21st September - Year 5 Mass at the church 10am

Wednesday 23rd September - Governors morning 8:40-9am

Thursday 24th September - 6B class assembly at 9am

Friday 25th September - Macmillan Coffee Morning 9am

Monday 28th September - Yr 6 Mass at the Church 10am

OCTOBER

Thursday 1st October - 4B Class assembly at 9am

Friday 2nd October - Yr 1 Phonics workshop 2:30pm

Monday 5th October - Year 4 Mass at Church 10am

Monday 5th October - Whole School Vaccinations

Monday 5th October - Parent Group AGM at 9.00am

Dear Parents and Carers,

This morning, we had the joy of coming together as a school family for our Start of Year Liturgy. Our Year 6 children led us wonderfully, including writing and sharing some of the prayers. It was a beautiful and prayerful occasion and a lovely way to begin our new school year together, placing the year ahead in God's hands.

This week, we have also been reflecting together on forgiveness, one of our school values. We have been thinking about the importance of forgiveness, reconciliation and rebuilding relationships, and how we can live out Christ's call to love and care for one another within our school community.

On Thursday, our school community held Polling Day, giving every class in yr 1-6 the opportunity to take part in a democratic vote to elect their Pupil Parliament representatives. It was wonderful to see our children taking this responsibility seriously and understanding that their voice matters. Through this process, they have had the opportunity to experience democracy in action and to consider what it means to represent the views of others with fairness, respect and integrity. We were delighted to present our newly elected Pupil Parliament members with their badges, marking the beginning of their important role within our school. We look forward to working closely with our Pupil Parliament this year and listening carefully to their ideas as, together, we continue to seek ways to improve our school and make it an even better place for everyone. Thank you to all those who joined us for our RSE Relationship Consultation meeting yesterday morning. It was wonderful to see such a great turnout and to have the opportunity to come together in partnership for the benefit of our children. As parents and carers consider their response to the consultation, I would strongly encourage you to take some time to explore the resources available through TenTen. You can view the presentation slides, watch the accompanying videos and learn more about how our approach to RSE is rooted in our Catholic faith and the dignity of every child.

Our wonderful PTA will be holding our Macmillan Coffee Morning next Friday. There will be a grab-and-go option outside the main entrance, as well as the opportunity to come inside, enjoy a hot drink and a piece of cake, and spend some time in the company of our school family. These occasions are about much more than coffee and cake; they are an opportunity to raise money for a worthy cause, come together in fellowship, support one another and strengthen the wonderful sense of community that we share as a school. We look forward to seeing many of you there. Donations of cakes are very warmly welcomed. If you are able to provide a home-baked cake, please remember to include information about any allergens.

Our governors will be in school on Wednesday 23rd September from 8:40-9:00am. Please do take the opportunity to pop over, say hello and introduce yourself. Our governors play an important part in the life of our school, helping us to remain faithful to our mission and ensuring that our children are at the heart of all that we do. It would be lovely for you to have the opportunity to meet them.

Mrs Hourihan

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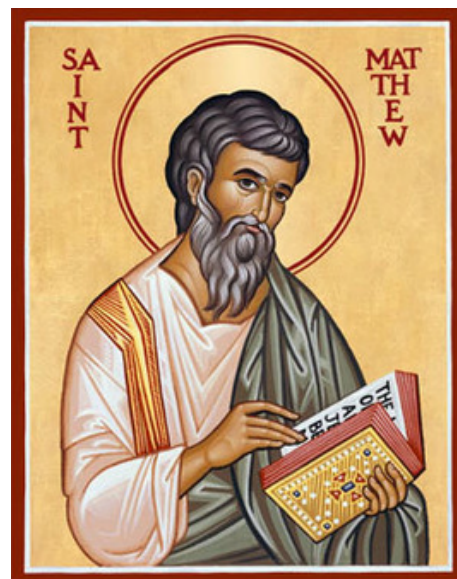


Saint Matthew – Apostle and Evangelist **Feast Day – 21 September**

On 21 September, we celebrate the feast day of Saint Matthew, one of Jesus' twelve Apostles. Matthew was a tax collector when Jesus called him to follow Him. Matthew said yes to Jesus and became one of His disciples. He later shared the Good News of Jesus and wrote one of the four Gospels in the Bible. Saint Matthew reminds us that Jesus loves and calls each one of us. We can follow his example by listening to Jesus, being kind to others, and sharing God's love through our words and actions.

Let us ask Saint Matthew to pray for us and help us to be loving, kind and faithful followers of Jesus.

Dear Saint Matthew,
Help us to follow Jesus,
to be kind to our friends,
and to help others each day.
Help us to listen to God
and share His love with everyone.
Saint Matthew, pray for us.
Amen.



Prayer for a new school year

DEAR GOD,
THANK YOU FOR OUR NEW SCHOOL YEAR.
THANK YOU FOR OUR TEACHERS, OUR
FRIENDS AND OUR FAMILIES.
HELP US TO BE KIND, HELPFUL AND FRIENDLY
TO EVERYONE.
HELP US TO LEARN NEW THINGS AND TO
NEVER GIVE UP WHEN SOMETHING IS
DIFFICULT.
BLESS OUR SCHOOL AND EVERYONE IN IT.
HELP US TO FOLLOW JESUS AND SHOW LOVE
TO OTHERS EVERY DAY.
MAY THIS BE A HAPPY AND WONDERFUL YEAR
FOR US ALL.





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Celebrating Success

STAR OF THE WEEK

Bluebells -Whole Class

Daisies -Whole Class

1B - Naomi

1D -David

2B - Thea

2D -Zion

3B - Cedric

3D -Isabel

4B - Olivia

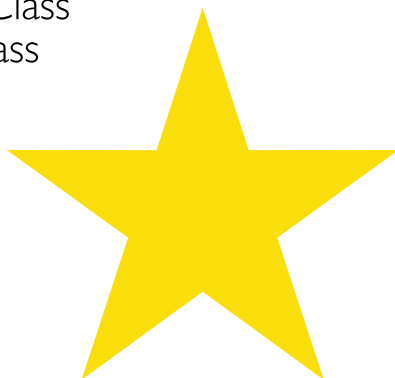
4D - Nicholas

5B - Darnya

5D -Theodora

6B - Lily

6D David



ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

Bluebells-98%

Daisies-98%

1B -98%

1D -97%

2B -99%

2D -95%

3B -100%

3D -95%

4B -92%

4D - 99%

5B -98%

5D -99%

6B -90%

6D -93%



Prospective Nursery / Reception Meetings – September 2027

We are delighted to invite parents of children who may be joining our Nursery or Reception classes in September 2027 to one of our information meetings.

Wednesday 11th November at 5:30pm

Thursday 12th November at 9:05am

There is no need to book — simply come along to whichever meeting is most convenient for you.

Please note that these meetings are for parents only, as we will be sharing lots of important information about starting school, our Nursery and Reception provision, and what you can expect.

We look forward to welcoming you!



St James Catholic High School

**Open Evening on
Thursday 1 October 2026**

Full details of our outstanding programme designed to support the transition from primary to secondary school are available here.

<https://www.st-james.barnet.sch.uk/2284/transition-to-secondary-school>





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BD General Elections

On Thursday 17 September 2026, our Dance Studio was transformed into a lively polling station as pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 took part in the BD Pupil Parliament Elections. After listening to short speeches from their classmates, children cast their votes in a real ballot, experiencing democracy in action and learning how every voice contributes to the common good.

The elections are an important part of how we teach British Values, especially democracy, mutual respect and individual liberty. Guided by the words of Jesus "Let your light shine before others" (Matthew 5:16) pupils were encouraged to speak confidently, listen carefully and vote thoughtfully.

The event also reflected key principles of Catholic Social Teaching, including Dignity and Solidarity. Children learned that leadership is an act of service, and that their ideas can help shape the future of our school community.

Votes were counted after the polling, and the newly elected representatives will be announced in our Friday Whole School Celebration Assembly. We are incredibly proud of all pupils who took part, whether giving a speech, supporting a friend, or casting their vote and we look forward to seeing the positive impact our new Pupil Parliament will make this year.



School Parliament Election Results

Well done to everyone who took part in our School Parliament elections! Congratulations to our newly elected representatives, and thank you to all pupils who voted and made their voices heard.

Pupil Parliament Members

1B - Elizabeth
1D - Olivia
2B - Petros
2D - Musa
3B - Afonso
3D - Oliver
4B - Ioan
4D - Chloe
5B - Jude
5D - Jaleesa
6B - Lily
6D - Maya





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BOOK FAIR

'On Monday 21st September a Book Fair will be arriving at our school with hundreds of new children's books to browse and buy.

Books will be available to be purchased until Friday 25th September. There will be a promotion of 3 for 2 so you get one book for free when you purchase two books.

All purchases must be made by scanning the QR code that will be available at the fair and making a card payment. It will be located by the main entrance from 3:00-3:45.

Don't forget that every book you buy can help to get **FREE BOOKS** for our school library!
We look forward to seeing you there!

PE DAYS

IB - Tuesday and Thursday

ID - Tuesday and Wednesday

Y2 – Monday and Tuesday

Y3– Tuesday and Thursday

Y4 – Tuesday and Wednesday

Y5 - Tuesday and Thursday

Y6 – Wednesday and Friday



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**



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Wraparound

We offer daily wraparound care for children.

Breakfast Club is available every morning from **7:45am and costs £3** per day.

After-School Wraparound Care runs daily until 5:45pm

The charges are:

3:15pm – 4:15pm: £6

4:15pm – 5:45pm: £9

3:15pm – 5:45pm: £15

A light snack and a range of engaging activities are provided during each session.



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 - (SENCO) 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.



Uniform Reminders

Please remember:

- Summer uniform can be worn until October half term
- Summer dresses are royal blue gingham (not navy)
- **Plain black or plain royal blue coat**
- **School bookbag/backpack** or a **plain black** backpack only (no branding, logos or colours)
- **Plain black or plain white trainers** for PE days only
- School shoes (please note that boots and sandals are not permitted)
- Royal blue PE shorts
- Plain black, grey, or white socks – no logos or branding.
- Royal blue school **sun / baseball cap** or plain blue, black or white baseball style cap. No logos or branding.
- Hair accessories should be royal blue, white or black
- Analogue watches with no internet connection are permitted but no other jewellery permitted for health and safety reasons i.e. necklaces, bracelets or anklets

For health and safety reasons, **only stud earrings** are permitted.

Please remember to **label every item** of your child's uniform and show your child where to find their name labels. Clearly labelled items can be returned to their owner much more quickly if they are misplaced.

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Uniform/Default.aspx?shopid=1131>





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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!



Question, Concern or Complaint?

A question is a request for information or clarification.

A concern is something you are worried about and would like the school to address.

A complaint is when you remain dissatisfied after raising a concern and would like the matter considered through the school's formal complaints procedure.

Most questions and concerns can be resolved quickly through discussion. We encourage parents to speak to their child's classteacher in the first instance.

Providing a concise summary of the key facts will help us understand and respond to the matter more efficiently.

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.

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.



WORLD'S BIGGEST
COFFEE
MORNING

MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT



Macmillan Coffee Morning

Friday 25th September

There will be a grab-and-go option outside the main entrance, as well as the opportunity to come inside, enjoy a hot drink and a piece of cake, and spend some time in the company of our school family.



Donations of cakes are very warmly welcomed. If you are able to provide a home-baked cake, please remember to include information about any allergens.



FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

PEOPLE • PLANET • PAY

Together we can make a difference! ♥

A fairer world is possible! ♥

Choose fairtrade Choose a fairer world! ♥

Key question: How can our choices help create a fairer world?

PEOPLE



Fairer opportunities for farmers and workers around the world.

PLANET



Looking after our environment and supporting sustainable farming.

PAY



A fairer price for farmers so they can support their families and communities.

♥ 21st SEPTEMBER – 2nd OCTOBER ♥

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

MONDAY

Stories & Colouring



Reception and KS1 will be reading stories about Fairtrade and taking part in colouring activities.

TUESDAY

Fair or Unfair Relay-Run



LKS2 will take part in a Fair or Unfair relay-run to collect a card and place it under FAIR or UNFAIR!

WEDNESDAY

Fair or Unfair Relay-Run



UKS2 will take part in a Fair or Unfair relay-run to collect a card and place it under FAIR or UNFAIR!

THURSDAY

Writing Prayers of Thanks



We will be writing prayers of thanks for the farmers and workers who make Fairtrade possible.

FRIDAY

Fairtrade Café (After School)



Everyone is welcome to our Fairtrade Café after school! Enjoy some delicious Fairtrade treats.

Small choices make a BIG difference! ♥



CHOOSE FAIRTRADE



SUPPORT FARMERS



PROTECT OUR PLANET



BUILD A FAIRER WORLD

Let's make a fairer world together! ♥