

Blessed Dominic Catholic Primary

Love - Learn - Believe



Newsletter



Autumn issue 4- 25th September 2026

Headteacher: Mrs Hourihan

Deputy Headteacher: Ms Sulis

SEPTEMBER

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

Thursday 8th October - 3B Class assembly at 9am

Friday 9th October - Blessed Dominic celebration day

Monday 12th October - Yr 3 Mass at Church at 10am

Friday 16th October - Just One Tree Day

Tuesday 20th October - Parent Consultation 4.00-7.00pm

Wednesday 21st October - Parent Consultation Evening - 3.30-6.30pm

Thursday 22nd October - **INSET**

Friday 23rd October - **INSET**

Monday 26th - Friday 30th October - HALF TERM

Diary Dates

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, we were delighted to celebrate the first class assembly of the school year. The children in 6B reminded us of Blessed Dominic and his important role in hearing the confession of John Henry Newman, helping to welcome him into the Catholic Church. Their assembly connected beautifully with this week's Gospel theme of generosity. Blessed Dominic gave generously of his time and pastoral care, reminding us of the importance of being available to others and sharing God's love through our actions. We pray that we may all continue to follow his example, giving freely of our time, kindness and compassion to those around us.

On Wednesday, Blessed Dominic had the great privilege of co-hosting the Barnet Deanery Mass with St James, bringing together staff from Catholic schools across the deanery to celebrate Holy Mass and pray for God's blessing upon the new school year. It was a beautiful opportunity for our Catholic school communities to gather as one family in Christ, united in prayer and thanksgiving. Our Thursday Choir joined the St James Choir to lead the music during the Mass celebration. They were a wonderful credit to our school, and we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Ms Rumi for preparing them so beautifully. Their voices helped us to lift our hearts in worship and praise, reminding us of the important role music plays in leading us closer to God.

On Wednesday morning, we were delighted to welcome our governors into school to see our community in action. We would also like to extend a warm thank you to the parents who took the time to pop in and say hello. During their visit, we spent the morning observing Collective Worship across the school and speaking with our children about their experiences of prayer and liturgy. It was a precious opportunity to hear how our pupils encounter God through prayer, reflection and worship in our school. We are grateful for the continued support of our governors as we strive to nurture a school community where Christ is at the centre of all that we do, and where every child is encouraged to grow in faith and love.

Today, we held our annual Macmillan Coffee Morning, raising money for a worthwhile charity and supporting those affected by cancer. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all the families who generously donated cakes and to the parents who came along to support the event. Your kindness and generosity are a beautiful reflection of our Gospel values, reminding us that even the smallest acts of love and giving can make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.

Our school book fair has been running this week, and we would like to thank all the parents who came along to support it. A special thank you to Ms Fint for making this wonderful opportunity possible. We are grateful for the time and effort invested in encouraging our children to develop a love of reading, opening their minds to new worlds, stories and learning.

Mrs Hourihan

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

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Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

Gospel: Matthew 21:28-32

On Sunday we hear about two sons who are both asked to help their father.

Let's think a bit about how we listen to what God is asking us to do and how we can help other people at home and around the world.

**GENEROUS GOD,
WE THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU HAVE
GIVEN US. HELP US TO LIVE AS YOU ASK
US TO AND TO WORK TOGETHER WITH
OTHERS TO BUILD A BETTER WORLD.
AMEN.**



World Dream Day

Today is World Dream Day!

It is a special day that encourages us all to think about our dreams, hopes and aspirations for the future.

It is a wonderful opportunity for our children to dream big, believe in themselves and think about what they would like to achieve as they grow.



**Dear God,
Help us to dream big, believe in ourselves and
use our gifts to make a difference in the world.
Guide us as we work towards our hopes and
dreams, and help us to always be kind, brave
and caring.
Amen.**

Start of School Year Service

Last week, our school community came together for a special

Service to celebrate the beginning of our school year

As a Catholic school community, we came together to give thanks for the year ahead and to ask God to guide us throughout the journey.

We reflected on how we can let our light shine, showing kindness, compassion and respect to one another.



**DEAR GOD,
WE THANK YOU FOR OUR SCHOOL FAMILY AND
FOR ALL THE WONDERFUL CHILDREN WE HAVE
CELEBRATED TODAY.
CONTINUE TO GUIDE THEM AS THEY GROW IN
FAITH, WISDOM AND KINDNESS.
HELP US ALL TO FOLLOW JESUS BY LOVING ONE
ANOTHER AND LETTING OUR LIGHT SHINE.
AMEN.**



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Celebrating Success

STAR OF THE WEEK

Bluebells - Whole Class
Daisies -Whole Class
1B - Brandon
1D -Olivia
2B - Andrea
2D -Zach
3B -Casheem
3D - Eldana
4B - Jill
4D - Alexa
5B - Lincoln
5D -Chloe
6B - Whole Class
6D - Raynell



ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

Bluebells-99%
Daisies -92%
1B -98%
1D -96%
2B -99%
2D -99%
3B -98%
3D -94%
4B -94%
4D - 99%
5B -98%
5D -99%
6B -97%
6D -97%



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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WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING

MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT



A heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined us for our Macmillan Coffee Morning! Your presence and support made the event truly special. It was a wonderful opportunity to come together, share some delicious coffee, and raise awareness for a great cause. We appreciate your generosity, enthusiasm, and the positive energy you brought to the morning. Your participation helps make a real difference, and we're so grateful to have such a supportive community. Thank you once again for your time and for making this event a success. We look forward to seeing you at our next gathering!

We will let you know next week how much we raised.

October Camp 2026 is here!

Bookings are now open with **Non Stop Action**. Join us this October 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 Monday 26th - Friday 30th October

Book by Saturday 3rd October to take advantage of our Early Bird discount and get a week booking for £126."



NON STOP Action!

SMALL STEPS, BIG FUTURES



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BOOK FAIR

The children really enjoyed visiting the book fair this week!

A big thank you to all the parents who purchased books and supported our book fair. Your support is greatly appreciated!



PE DAYS

1B - Tuesday and Thursday
1D - 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
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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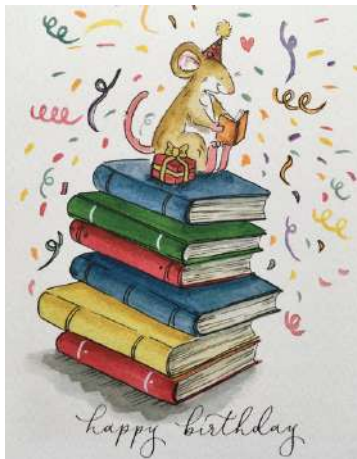


Birthday Celebrations

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.





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! ♥



**Blessed
Dominic**
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

COMMUNICATION BETWEEN HOME & SCHOOL

*Love one another, learn together
and believe in God our Father* 



OUR SHARED VALUES



KIND

We show care, compassion and understanding.



RESPECTFUL

We listen and treat everyone with dignity, courtesy and professionalism.



HONEST

We share accurate information openly and address concerns appropriately.



FORGIVING

We recognise mistakes happen and seek to repair relationships and move forward.



INCLUSIVE

We make every family feel welcome, valued and able to engage.



RESILIENT

We approach challenges constructively and work together to find solutions.

WHO DO I CONTACT?

Please use the most appropriate channel so we can help you as quickly as possible.

URGENT



Urgent / Safeguarding

Immediate safety concern, safeguarding worry or urgent health matter.



Telephone the school immediately during office hours and ask for the DSL / safeguarding team.
If it is an emergency outside school hours, contact the appropriate emergency service.



General Concern / Information

A general concern, request for information or to speak with a member of staff.



Telephone the school office.

We will ensure your message is passed to the most appropriate person.



Non-urgent Question / Information

Routine questions, information or updates that are not urgent.



Email the main school office.

We will acknowledge your email within 2 **working days** and respond where possible within 2 working days.



Detailed Discussion / Complex Issue

For issues that need a longer conversation or more time to discuss.



Contact the office to arrange an appointment (in person or by phone).

This helps us give your matter the time and attention it deserves.

DIRECT ALL QUESTIONS TO YOUR CHILD'S CLASS TEACHER



For most day-to-day questions about your child, such as:

- learning, homework or lessons
- behaviour
- friendships
- wellbeing
- routines and daily arrangements

Please contact your child's class teacher first.

This helps us to resolve things quickly and keeps communication clear and effective for everyone.

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

QUESTION



You are looking for information or clarification.

Examples:

- What time is the assembly?
- When is the trip?
- How can I help at home?

Best first step:
Speak to the class teacher or office.

CONCERN



You are worried about something and want it looked into.

Examples:

- My child seems unhappy.
- I'm worried about behaviour.
- Something doesn't seem right.

Best first step:
Speak to the class teacher.

COMPLAINT



You are unhappy about something and want it formally addressed.

Examples:

- I am unhappy with how something was handled.
- I wish to make a formal complaint.

Best first step:
Contact the school office to follow our complaints procedure.



OUR RESPONSE

- ✓ Emails: acknowledged within 2 working days.
- ✓ Returned calls: normally within 2 working days.
- ✓ Office hours: 8.30am – 4.30pm (Monday to Friday).
- ✓ Emails received outside office hours will be considered as received on the next working day.



PLEASE REMEMBER

- ✓ Email is not for emergencies or safeguarding. Please telephone the school in these situations.
- ✓ Parent WhatsApp groups and social media are not official school communication channels.
- ✓ If you are unsure about information, please check directly with the school.
- ✓ We respect the privacy and confidentiality of all children, families and staff.
- ✓ If you have a concern, contact the school directly so we can listen and work towards a positive solution.



WE INCLUDE EVERY FAMILY

We are committed to making sure all families can communicate with us.

If English is not your first language, or you have any barriers to communication, please let us know. We will do our best to support you (e.g. translation, interpreters, documents in different formats).

Please tell us if you need information in a different way.



YOUR VOICE MATTERS

We welcome your feedback, ideas and suggestions about how we can communicate and work together even better. You can share your views by speaking with a member of staff, completing a survey or emailing the school office.



We listen, we learn and we use your feedback to help us improve.



OUR SHARED COMMITMENT

We will communicate with kindness, respect and understanding, and we will work together with honesty, forgiveness, inclusiveness and resilience.



*Love one another, learn together
and believe in God our Father.*



Our full Communication Guide is available on our website, in Reception and from the school office.



Thank you for being our partners in your child's education and wellbeing.





*Stronger
together
for a brighter
tomorrow* 

LEARN BELIEVE ACHIEVE TOGETHER

AGM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Your school. Our community. Together.

Join us for our Annual General Meeting.
An opportunity to hear updates, discuss future plans
and be part of our school community.



**MONDAY
5TH OCTOBER 2026**



**TIME
9:00 AM**



**LOCATION
SCHOOL HALL**



**Join the
school PTA**

Everyone is welcome to
join the school PTA!

- ✓ Meet the team
- ✓ Hear key updates
- ✓ Share ideas
- ✓ Help make a difference
in our school

*Small
ideas make
a big difference!* 

Please attend! 

*A stronger
school community
for brighter futures* 