

Blessed Dominic Catholic Primary

Love - Learn - Believe



Newsletter



Autumn issue 7- 16th October 2026

Headteacher: Mrs Hourihan

Deputy Headteacher: Ms Sulis

OCTOBER

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

NOVEMBER

Monday 2nd November - School Photos

Wednesday 4th November - Flu Vaccines

Thursday 5th November - 3D assembly 9am

Friday 6th November - Year 5 Hampton Court

Monday 16th - 20th November - Anti Bullying Week

Monday 16th November - Imperial War Museum - Year 6

Tuesday 17th November - Tate Gallery -Year 4

Diary Dates

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a very busy and exciting week!

It's been lovely to see that throughout the month of October parents have shared with the children the opportunity to pray the Rosary in our beautiful Peace garden. Thank you to everyone who took the time to come and share these special moments of prayer with us.

On Thursday, Year 5B proudly celebrated Black History Month in assembly, shining a spotlight on inspiring historical and modern-day figures, including footballer turned WWI soldier Walter Tull, NASA scientists Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan and Mary Jackson, and Professional footballer Marcus Rashford. They explored their remarkable contributions and how their courage, determination and achievements have helped make the world a better place.

They also linked their stories to the Catholic Social Teaching principles of Human Dignity and Solidarity, which reminds us that every person is valuable and deserves respect, and that we are called to stand together and support one another.

We were also invited to honour our own school community. Together, 5B and the school pledged to respect every member of our community and put these important principles into action every day. 5B's assembly reminded us that everyone matters, everyone has a contribution to make and together we can build a more inclusive and caring world.

Today, we celebrated Just One Tree Day, and it was lovely to see so many children and staff wearing green to show their support for this wonderful cause. The children enjoyed taking part and learning about the importance of protecting our planet and looking after the environment.

Thank you so much for your generous donations and for supporting this important charity. Every contribution helps to make a difference and supports the fantastic work of Just One Tree in helping to restore our planet through tree planting. We really appreciate your continued support and kindness.

Next Wednesday, 21st October, we will be taking part in Show Racism the Red Card Day. We invite all children to come to school wearing something red to show their support for this important campaign. Wearing red is a simple but powerful way to raise awareness of racism and demonstrate our commitment to promoting equality, respect and inclusion.

Thank you for your support as we continue to encourage our children to be kind, respectful and accepting of everyone.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Ms Sulis

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

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MONTH OF THE ROSARY

THE HAIL MARY
HAIL MARY, FULL OF
GRACE,
THE LORD IS WITH THEE.
BLESSED ART THOU
AMONGST 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.



Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

**Sunday 18th October
Matthew 22:15-21**

Loving God, be with us as we try to care for one another, help one another, share with one another and work together to make the world a fairer place for everyone to live. Amen



JUST ONE TREE

Today, we celebrated Just One Tree Day, and it was lovely to see so many children wearing green in support of this wonderful cause.

Thank you so much for your generous donations to this important charity. Your support is greatly appreciated and helps make a difference to our planet. We will let you know how much we have raised in next week's newsletter.

Rosary



We have been celebrating the month of October by praying the Rosary together. It has been lovely to welcome parents to join us for our morning and afternoon prayers.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to come and share these special moments of prayer with us.





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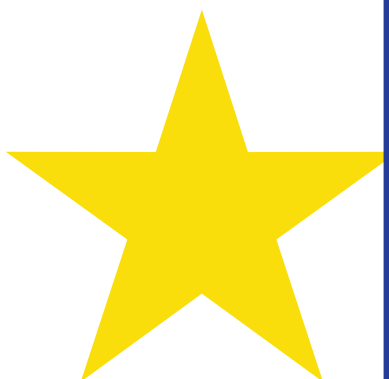
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Celebrating Success

STAR OF THE WEEK

Bluebells -whole class
Daisies - whole class
1B - John
1D -Che
2B - Emilija
2D -Prince
3B - Adunola
3D - Evan
4B - Aaron
4D - Erika
5B - whole class
5D -Angel
6B - Benjamin
6D -Glen



ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

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



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!



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."



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Black History Month

Black History Month has been full of learning, laughter and celebration at Blessed Dominic! Our dedicated Year 5 and 6 Racial Justice Ambassadors have been working hard to host daily Black History Month workshops in the Dandelion Room, engaging pupils from across the school in a range of fun and meaningful activities to celebrate Black history, culture and contributions.

The ambassadors have also been sharing their learning with our youngest pupils in EYFS, exploring the history of Afro-Caribbean food and reading poems inspired by the Caribbean. Joanna in Year 5 particularly impressed everyone by reading one of the poems in Jamaican Patois, bringing the language and culture to life!

Our ambassadors have loved the opportunity to share their knowledge and inspire others. Luka in Year 6 explained, "I'm happy I can teach them about black history," while Angel in Year 5 shared, "The workshops have been so fun!"

We are incredibly proud of our Racial Justice Ambassadors for their enthusiasm, leadership and commitment to helping our school community learn about and celebrate Black history. Their hard work is making Black History Month a truly special experience for everyone at Blessed Dominic!





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Blessed Dominic Show Racism the Red Card Day – Wednesday 21st October 2026

We are pleased to announce that Blessed Dominic Catholic Primary School will be taking part in Show Racism the Red Card Day on Wednesday 21st October 2026!

We invite all children to come to school wearing something red to show their support for this important campaign. Wearing red is a simple but powerful way to raise awareness of racism and demonstrate our commitment to promoting equality, respect and inclusion.

Our Year 5 and Year 6 Racial Justice Ambassadors will lead a special assembly to raise awareness of racism, celebrate diversity and encourage everyone to stand together against discrimination.

At Blessed Dominic, we believe that every child deserves to feel valued, respected and included. By taking part in this event, we hope to empower our children to speak up against racism and help make our school and wider community a place where everyone belongs.

Thank you for your support in helping us spread this important message. Together, we can show racism the red card!



On Tuesday, our boys played a home match against Elz Chaim. They showed determination and respect throughout a difficult and tense match.

On Thursday, our girls' team took on St Vincent's in their first league match. The girls secured a fantastic 3–0 victory and did us all proud!

Also this week, our KS2 children have been experimenting with pom-poms and creating their own cheer routines at lunchtime. It's been wonderful to see their creativity, enthusiasm and team spirit!

FOOTBALL





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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.



Uniform

- Light blue school shirt – stiff collared shirt. Long sleeved. No frilled or rounded collars. Grey trousers, skirt or pinafore
- Royal blue school jumper or royal blue school cardigan with school logo.
- School tie - elasticated or full tie
- **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)
- PE KIT Royal Blue shorts. No black shorts No cycling style shorts.
- White polo shirt with school logo.
- Black plimsolls, plain white or black trainers.
- Royal blue school jogging bottoms with white piping.
- Royal Blue schoolsweatshirt with school logo.
- 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



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.



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**



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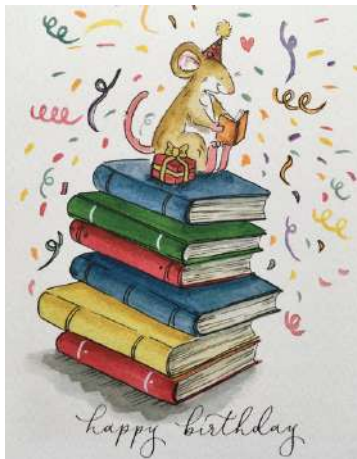


Birthday Celebrations

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.





**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.





Blessed Dominic Catholic Primary School

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

*Love,
Learn,
Believe*

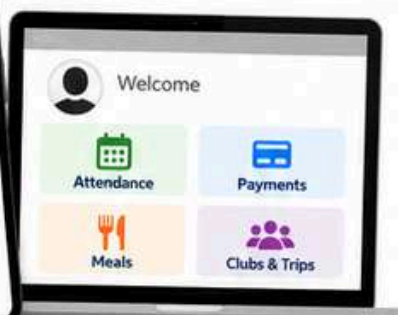


We are now using Arbor Parent Portal and Parent App

Blessed Dominic Catholic Primary School is now using the Arbor Parent Portal and Parent App, and has set up an account for you.

Adopting Arbor will allow us to bring all our core school data and workflows into one system, making it easier for us to manage and share information with you.

We are really looking forward to getting started with Arbor and invite all our parents to familiarise themselves using the link below.



With Arbor you will be able to:



See your child's attendance



Make payments and top up accounts (clubs/trips, uniform)



Access the school shop



View meals information



Manage clubs and trips



Parent Portal (all in one place)

We will still use



Paconnect
by parentapps

We will continue to use Paconnect to communicate with you, including messages, letters and important updates.



Arbor will replace ParentPay

Payments for clubs, trips, uniform and other school items will move to the Arbor Parent Portal from **02/11/2026**. Paconnect will continue to be used to communicate with you.



Getting started

Log into the Parent Portal and the Parent App



1. Download the Arbor Parent App

The Parent App can be downloaded from either the Play Store on Android phones or the Apple Store on iPhones.



2. Set your password

To finish creating your account you just need to set a password. Your username is the email address we've sent this email to.



3. Go to the login page

Go to <https://login.arbor.sc> and click 'Forgot your password?' to finish setting up your account.



4. Free training resources

Arbor also offers access to many training resources which are completely free for you to make the most of! These can all be found [here](#).



Helpful guides



A quick introduction to Arbor for guardians and parents >



Getting started and logging in >



Payments, School Shop, Meals, Clubs and Trips >



Payments

Moving to Arbor from 02/11/2026



Please stop using your ParentPay account from **Wednesday 21st October 2026**.



Parents will need to **withdraw any credit balance** held on their **ParentPay PARENT ACCOUNT** if they do not have any other children with accounts at other schools.



You will be able to make payments and top up accounts for **clubs/trips, uniform** by logging into the **Parent Portal**. Your balances from ParentPay will show in the Parent Portal from 02/11/2026.



If you need any help you can find more information in [this guide](#).

If you have any questions please direct them to the School office.