



# Bishop Ellis Catholic Voluntary Academy



Barkby Thorpe Lane, Thurmaston, Leicester, LE4 8GP

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Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear parents and carers.

I would like to start by wishing you and your families a very happy new year. It has been wonderful to see all the children again after the Christmas holidays. As I walked around the school on Monday morning, I was struck by the calm and purposeful atmosphere around the school. Your children are so keen to want to work hard and learn to the best of their ability.

January is traditionally the month of beginnings – a time for making a NEW START. In this Sunday's Gospel, we hear about the two disciples of John the Baptist making a new start. They may not have known what John meant when he said 'Look, there is the Lamb of God,' but they knew what he wanted them to do: they had to start afresh and get close to Jesus. Once John's disciples got to know Jesus, they couldn't wait to tell their friends and share their joy with them. We too are filled with this same joy when we get close to Jesus and share the good news.

Pope Francis has declared 2024 as a special Year of Prayer. We will be providing all families in school with a lovely resource called the "Wednesday Word." I use it each week in my newsletters at the start of them. I hope you will find it a useful resource to support your prayer life at home.

### **Prayer for Peace in the Middle East.**

Lord, we pray to you for the Holy Land, for the people of Israel and Palestine who are under the grip of unprecedented violence, for the victims, especially the children, for the wounded, for those held hostage, for the missing and their families.

Amen

### **Attendance.**

Our whole school attendance for this year so far is 95.7% Thank you so much for your support in this important aspect of school life. As you will know the positive benefits of excellent attendance reach way beyond the academic progress.; the social and emotional benefits are just as important.

This information is from our Attendance Policy

96 % Good- well done! You are on target. This will help all aspects of the child's progress and life in school. This will provide a child with a good start in life and support them to develop a positive work ethic.

Above 90%-96% Average -Below target and require improvement. The child's absence could now be affecting their attainment and progress at school. Please work with the school to implement intervention to help improve the situation.

90 or below 90 % Serious concern. This poor attendance will be affecting your child's attainment and progress and is disrupting their learning and social relationship at school. The child is now classed as a 'persistent absentee' and will be closely monitored by the Senior Leadership Team. The school will work with you to improve your child's attendance. Parents will be required to attend an attendance meeting with the Educational Welfare Officer.

## Class Attendance

Registration Form	Attendance w/c 8.1.24
Mrs Banks Reception	93.1%
Mrs Taylor Year 1	95.5%
Miss Jackson Year 1/2	100%
Mrs Padzinski Year 2	100%
Miss Turnell / Mrs Gough Year 3	95.7%
Mrs Fothergill Year 3/4	91.4%
Miss Beall Year 4	96.3%
Miss Bhakta Year 5	91.3%
Mrs Franklin Year 5/6	95.2%

Well done to Miss Jackson's class and Mrs Padzinski's class for winning the weekly attendance award.

## Miss Turnell

Over the Christmas holidays Miss Turnell was married. Her new name is Mrs Shaw. I am sure you will join me in wishing her and her husband many congratulations.

## M.P. Edward Argar

We welcomed Edward Argar, MP for Charnwood into school today along with Mr Neil Lockyer (CEO of the St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust. Many thanks to Orla and Jacson for showing our visitors around school.

## 5 Star

Just before Christmas 5 Star who provide our school's wrap around care were inspected by Ofsted. This is the link to the report. I would like to offer my congratulations to all the 5 Star staff for a pleasing report.

[5 Star Club - Open - Find an Inspection Report - Ofsted](#)

## Bishop Ellis Kitchen

Just before Christmas our kitchen was inspected by Charnwood Council Environmental Health department. I am pleased to announce that the kitchen was awarded the highest rating of 5 for the food hygiene standards. Many thanks to everyone who works in our kitchen.

## Doreen Concannon

Please remember Doreen Concannon, who sadly passed away on Friday 5th January, in your prayers. Doreen was a member of staff at Bishop Ellis for many years. She started working here in 1971 and eventually retired around 1999/2000. She was known to the children as Mrs Concannon and was loved by all that crossed her path at Bishop Ellis. It was a big part of her life and she was very proud of this. Mrs Concannon's great-grand daughters Ivy Leigh and Meabh attend Bishop Ellis continuing a proud association for the family with our school.

We remember Doreen's family in our prayers. May Doreen rest in peace and rise in glory.

## Diary Dates

Please note the parents evening for the Lent term.

January 2024

Monday 8 <sup>th</sup>	First day of Lent Term
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Year 3/4 Mass- Thanksgiving for Fr Clement.
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Fire Safety Presentation for Year 1 & Year 5
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Ratcliffe College Cross Country Festival 9am-12:15am
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Community Dental Service visit for Reception & Year 1
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup>	St Thomas Aquinas Feast Day Celebrations

February

Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Young Leadership Programme at St Paul's (x4 students)
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Open Afternoon. 2:15-3:00pm
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Ash Wednesday Mass 9:30am (hall) <b>Parents' evening</b>
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Parent's evening</b>
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Half term break
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Reception & Year 6 Heights and Weights
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3/4 Reconciliation

March

Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1/2 Mass for Mother's Day
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5/6 Reconciliation / FOBE Rags 2 Riches
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3/4 Performance 2pm (hall) and 5:30pm (hall)
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Way of the Cross
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Last day of Lent Term

April

Monday 8 <sup>th</sup>	First day of Pentecost Term
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5/6 Mass
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Young Leadership Programme at St Paul's (x4 students)

May

Monday 6 <sup>th</sup>	May Bank Holiday
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5/6 Warning Zone / Reception Liturgy Crowning of Our Lady 9:30am (hall)
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Ascension Day Whole School Mass 9:30am (hall)
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> – Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	Key Stage 2 SATS week.
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Leavers Photograph with Tempest 9am
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Year 5 Trip to Leicester Outdoor Pursuits Centre
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 31 <sup>st</sup>	Half term break

June

Monday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Bikeability
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Celebration of the feast of Ss Peter and Paul

July

Monday 1 <sup>st</sup>	FOBE Rags 2 Riches
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup>	De Lisle Year 7 Induction Day
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup>	De Lisle Year 7 Induction Day
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Founders Day 9:30am (hall)
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of Pentecost Term

God bless

Mr Monaghan

