



Bishop Ellis Catholic Voluntary Academy



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Friday 19th January 2024

Dear parents and carers.

In this Sunday's Gospel, we hear about Jesus starting to gather together the first Christian community. Christian communities (just like families) are never perfect – even Jesus' closest disciples weren't always the ideal set of people. However, everyone works better with others in community.

Our schools and parish communities were founded to be places of love, friendship, security and inclusiveness. People in the past answered Jesus' call to form our Catholic school communities which now welcome and support us and our children. Now it's our turn to continue the work, to build on and develop the warm and loving community of our school – together.

“Whatever gifts and talents we are given by God are to be shared with the entire community.” St Baldwin of Canterbury

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 15.1.24
Mrs Banks Reception	96.5%
Mrs Taylor Year 1	91.9%
Miss Jackson Year 1/2	99.5%
Mrs Padzinski Year 2	99.5%
Miss Turnell / Mrs Gough Year 3	91.5%
Mrs Fothergill Year 3/4	90.1%
Miss Beall Year 4	96.3%
Miss Bhakta Year 5	97.9%
Mrs Franklin Year 5/6	97%

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

St Thomas Aquinas Feast Day

Saint Thomas Aquinas is the patron saint of teachers, theologians and students and is also the patron saint of our Catholic Multi-Academy Trust. His feast day is on 28th January and this year, we will celebrate this as a Trust of schools on Tuesday 30th January.

The theme for our celebration this year is 'Ordinary people called to be saints' and next week prior to the feast day celebration, the children will focus on the life of a chosen saint each day. The chosen saints are:

Saint Josephine Bakhita

Saint Teresa of Calcutta

Saint Oscar Romero

Saint John Bosco

Saint Bernadette of Lourdes

Blessed Carlo Acutis

On Friday 26th January, we are inviting the children to wear something blue to school in honour of Saint Bernadette of Lourdes – this could be a whole outfit, item of clothing or accessory – for a suggested donation of £1 (payable through Arbor - go to the shop and find the item labelled 'Wear Blue Day'). Pupils from the four secondary schools across our Trust will be making a pilgrimage to Lourdes in July this year and any money raised through our 'Wear Blue Day' will be donated to the cost of this pilgrimage.

We will keep you posted with the daily missions that the children are given throughout the build-up to the feast day of Saint Thomas Aquinas.

Diary Dates

Please note the parents evening for the Lent term.

January 2024

Tuesday 23 rd	Year 3/4 Mass- Thanksgiving for Fr Clement.
Friday 26 th	Fire Safety Presentation for Year 1 & Year 5
Saturday 27 th	Ratcliffe College Cross Country Festival 9am-12:15am
Monday 29 th	Community Dental Service visit for Reception & Year 1
Tuesday 30 th	St Thomas Aquinas Feast Day Celebrations

February

Thursday 8 th	Young Leadership Programme at St Paul's (x4 students)
Friday 9 th	Open Afternoon. 2:15-3:00pm
Wednesday 14 th	Ash Wednesday Mass 1:30pm (hall) Parents' evening
Thursday 15 th	Parent's evening
Monday 19 th – Friday 23 rd	Half term break
Monday 26 th	Reception & Year 6 Heights and Weights
Tuesday 27 th	Year 3/4 Reconciliation

March

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

April

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

May

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

June

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

July

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

God bless

Mr Monaghan

