



# Bishop Ellis Catholic Voluntary Academy

Barkby Thorpe Lane, Thurmaston, Leicester, LE4 8GP



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Friday 1st March 2024

Dear parents and carers.

Enthusiasm is one of life's most important ingredients. The word 'enthusiasm' comes from the Greek word 'entheos' which means 'God-filled'. Life really is joyful when we are enthusiastic about the right things. In this Sunday's Gospel, we read how the people had actually lost sight of God by getting caught up in their buying and selling. Jesus' enthusiastic action was a protest that things had gone seriously wrong with how they were relating to God; something needed to change. Lent is a time to renew our own relationship with God and to be filled with a new enthusiasm for God and for life in all its fullness

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 95.1%. Having dipped recently, it is now improving again. 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.

It can be difficult to know whether your child is too ill to attend school. NHS guidance is clear that it's fine to send them in with a minor cough or common cold, provided they don't have a temperature. The information in the link is really useful.

[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

We also know that parents and carers worry about their children's mental health. Rather than keeping your child off school, let us know about your concerns. We can then work together on supporting your child.

There has been a lot of research done on the many benefits of good school attendance such as:

- Better educational outcomes
- Better earning capacity
- Development of social skills through greater interaction.
- Health and well-being statistically proven to be better.

- A safe place for vulnerable young people.
- A place where those with additional needs can access additional support and services

## Class Attendance

Registration Form	Attendance w/c 26.2.24
Mrs Banks Reception	99.2%
Mrs Taylor Year 1	94.7%
Miss Jackson Year 1/2	100%
Mrs Padzinski Year 2	93.5%
Mrs Shaw / Mrs Gough Year 3	94.2%
Mrs Fothergill Year 3/4	95.9%
Miss Beall Year 4	88.9%
Miss Bhakta Year 5	94.8%
Mrs Franklin Year 5/6	97%

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

## World Book Day.

The theme for World Book Day 2024 is 'Read your way, this World Book Day'

We will be doing a range of things in school to celebrate our love of reading throughout the day.

### 3 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW:

1. Parents are welcome to 'Stay and Read' with their children, in their child's classroom, from 8.40-9am.
2. Children can come to school wearing their comfiest reading clothes. This can be anything they like, from pyjamas to their comfiest tracksuit- as if you are settling down at home to relax and read! (Please don't buy anything especially for this.
3. A reminder to donate any used (but good condition), 5-11 year old appropriate books to school before World Book Day as we will also be holding a second hand book sale which children will have the opportunity to visit! At the moment, we don't have enough donations for this. Any donations of used (but well cared for) books suitable for children ages 5-11, would be greatly appreciated.

Please pass donations through the office or your child's class teacher.

Miss Jackson and Mrs Fothergill

## Online safety group.

I would like to set up a group that has wide representation from our community, with responsibility for exploring issues regarding online safety and the monitoring the online safety policy including the impact of initiatives. I would envisage that the group would meet twice a year. If you would like to be part of this important work or would like to know more about it, please email the school office or speak to me on the school gate.

## Cross County

Congratulations to Tiarna who will be representing South Charnwood in the Leicestershire Cross Country Championships in Market Bosworth tomorrow.

## Young Leadership Programme

The Young Leadership group are organising a special day to celebrate our different cultures on the 15<sup>th</sup> March. There is some information on Dojo about this. All money raised will go to CAFOD. The group will be leading out Act of Worship on Monday.

### Walk for CAFOD

LACY (Leicestershire Active Catholic Youth) are doing a sponsored walk on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March as part of CAFOD's Big Lent walk and we want to welcome staff, students and parents to join us to help raise money for CAFOD. We will be setting off from St Mary's church in South Wigston at 2pm and there will be a trail on route. On return to the church there will be refreshments and crafts in the hall and there will be a celebration mass at 4pm. If you are unable to make the walk but would still like to support us raising money for CAFOD donations can be made by clicking on the link below.

<https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/lacy-sharing-cafods-big-lent-walk>

Please see the attached poster.

### Friends of Bishop Ellis (FOBE) messages

'The rainbow raffle is coming... ❤️💎💎💎💎💎💎💎

FOBE are requesting donations for prizes to make up into colourful hampers to be won, see attached poster for details. We would also be grateful for any surplus gifts that you may have left over from Christmas and won't be using, either to add to the raffle prizes or use for future events. Please bring donations into school by Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March to be made into colourful hampers 🎁🎁 Many thanks to everyone who has already donated.

Many thanks Friends of Bishop Ellis

### Diary Dates

**Please note- we have combined the y3/4 reconciliation service with the y5/6 reconciliation service to have a KS2 reconciliation service.**

March

Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1/2 Mass for Mother's Day
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Cultures day organised by the Young Leaders Group.
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 Reconciliation Service. Sacrament of Confession. 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

I will be out of school for three days next week from Wednesday to Friday.

God bless

Mr Monaghan

