



# Bishop Ellis Catholic Voluntary Academy



Barkby Thorpe Lane, Thurmaston, Leicester, LE4 8GP

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Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Dear parents and carers.

In this Sunday's Gospel, we read about the 'light' that has come into the world. Pope Francis reminds us, "Jesus is the light who brightens the darkness." Letting Jesus' light shine in our lives provides a secure foundation for our lives and for the lives of our children too. This Gospel also reminds us that God loves us so much that he gave his only Son for us. Jesus' great act of love, of self-giving, on the cross, has paved the way for us to share in the true richness of God's love in this life, and also in the life to come.

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.

One of the expectations from the Department for Education is that we provide parents with regular updates on their child's attendance. An email was sent to all parents this week with your child's attendance for this year and how that compares to our school average. As with anything, if you have any concerns about your child's attendance please contact your child's teacher in the first instance.

### **Class Attendance**

<b>Registration Form</b>	<b>Attendance w/c 4.3.24</b>
Mrs Banks Reception	97.7%
Mrs Taylor Year 1	98.1%
Miss Jackson Year 1/2	88.9%
Mrs Padzinski Year 2	91.2%
Mrs Shaw / Mrs Gough Year 3	99.6%
Mrs Fothergill Year 3/4	98.8%
Miss Beall Year 4	87.2%

Miss Bhakta Year 5	95.6%
Mrs Franklin Year 5/6	89.3%

Well done to Mrs Shaw & Mrs Gough's class for winning the weekly attendance award.

### **World Book Day.**

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

We took part in a range of activities in school to celebrate our love of reading throughout the day.

The donated book sale was a huge success and has already raised over £200.00. A big Thank you to all.

Many thanks to all the parents who were able to stay and read in class with your child. We are always looking for volunteers to come into school to read with the children. Please contact the office or speak to me about it and we can organise a DBS check to be done.

Miss Jackson and Mrs Fothergill

### **KS1 Mass for Mothers' Day**

Thank you for the feedback from Tuesday. Thank you to everyone who attended. It was not the celebration we had intended but it was a great opportunity for me to give a commentary on the structure of the Mass. Following the many positive comments we received, it is something that we will do again.

### **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 led our Act of Worship on Monday to explain the day.

### **Message from De Lisle College**

Colleagues and families from our feeder schools are invited to a Lenten reflection on 19 March at 7pm, at De Lisle College. The reflection will be focused on the theme of forgiveness, a theme of importance to all people – all are welcome.

As part of the reflection, we will have the opportunity to hear Margaret and Barry Mizen speak. The Mizen family were first in the news in May 2008 for the very worst reason: their 16-year-old son, Jimmy, was murdered by another teenager living nearby. Margaret and Barry have made their life's work since Jimmy's death focused on peace and reconciliation. Hearing Margaret and Barry talk about their experience and their work for peace and forgiveness can be a truly humbling and thought-provoking experience.

If you wish to come as a family, bringing your children, please do be assured that Margaret and Barry are very responsive to the group that they are speaking to and adapt what they say to be appropriate to the age range. In order to give us a sense of numbers, would you email [chaplains@delisle.leics.sch.uk](mailto:chaplains@delisle.leics.sch.uk) if you would like to come, including the number of people attending with you by 18 March 2024.

With best wishes, Rebecca Jinks

Assistant Headteacher / Head of RE

### **Walk for CAFOD**

LACY (Leicestershire Active Catholic Youth) are doing a sponsored walk on Sunday 17th 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 reminder to buy a square to win one of the coloured hampers.



Poetry competition reminder to hand in by Monday 11<sup>th</sup>

**Rags to Riches Tuesday March 19<sup>th</sup>.** Please bring in any unwanted clothing items on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> - Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March. Your child will be coming home with a bag tonight.

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

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

God bless

Mr Monaghan

