



# Bishop Ellis Catholic Voluntary Academy

Barkby Thorpe Lane, Thurmaston, Leicester, LE4 8GP



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Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear parents and carers.

This Sunday's Gospel reminds us that, during his time on earth, Jesus was many things to many people. He was a teacher, a healer, a leader and, to some people, simply a very good person. But Peter finally realises the truth about Jesus and professes his faith in him as the Christ – the Son of the living God. Even though the disciples had witnessed Jesus' many miracles, they were still slow to understand Jesus' true identity. For us too, it takes time to get to know who Jesus really is, just as it takes time to get to know other friends.

Blessed Carlo Acutis, Patron Saint of the Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocese Education Service, has been approved for canonization. This makes him the first millennial to be canonized. It is likely that he will be proclaimed a Saint during the 2025 Jubilee, possibly along with other canonizations.

Born to Italian parents in London, England, in 1991, Blessed Carlo died from leukaemia at the age of 15 in Monza, Italy. He was known for his devotion which he catalogued on a website he designed. According to official documents Blessed Carlo was 'welcoming and caring towards the poorest, and he helped the homeless, the needy, and immigrants with the money he saved from his weekly allowance'.

### **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

### **2025 applications.**

Even though this term has only just started, the application process for children starting primary school or secondary school in 2025 is open.

For year 6 parents- please see the attached letter and poster.

- Remember that there is the requirement to complete an online application (and that places are not automatic.)
- The closing date for secondary school applications is midnight 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024.

For parents of children starting primary school in 2025, please see the attached poster. We are holding an open morning on Thursday September 26<sup>th</sup> for prospective parents. Your child should have brought a postcard home. Please pass this onto someone who might be interested.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion 2025

If your child is currently in year 2 and you would like them to make their 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion next year, there is information available from St Theresa's Church in Birstall. If you would like to talk about this then please speak to me on the school gate or contact Mrs Kennedy in the school office so we can arrange it. If you are in The Divine Infant of Prague in Syston please speak to me in school for further information.

### Parking

Please remember that parking is not permitted in the layby outside school. This is for safety reasons.

### Leicester Children's Holidays Flourish Family Festival

Don't forget to buy your tickets (£9 adults, £7 for children – under 2's free) to the fantastic Flourish Family Festival which is being organised by our charity partner LCH (the colour dash) the event promises a great value day out for the family, once you have bought your tickets all activities and attractions are free, so the children can enjoy the inflatables, crazy golf, circus workshop, fairground rides, lawn games, arts and crafts, tag rugby and much more as many times as they wish... all whilst listening to 4 live music acts on the main stage – including a Taylor Swift tribute! Held at the beautiful Gorse Hill City Farm all farm attractions are also included. All funds raised help support local children too. Buy your tickets here [Flourish Festival Ticket – Leicester Children's Holidays \(leicesterchildrensholidays.co.uk\)](https://leicesterchildrensholidays.co.uk)

### Parkrun.

Calling all junior park runners! PARIS 2024 BRONZE MEDALIST PARALYMPIC TRI ATHLETE HANNAH MOORE will be visiting and volunteering at Watermead junior parkrun this Sunday 15 September!!! Parkrun is a free, fun, and friendly weekly 2k event for juniors (4 to 14 year olds). It is held every Sunday at 9:00am at Watermead Country Park, Wanlip Road, Syston, Leicestershire, LE7 1PD.

Hopefully some of you can make it this Sunday. You may even find a new hobby to help keep you active.

If you do go and manage to meet the athlete, please send a photo to your class teacher.

If you require any further information, please use the parkrun website <https://www.parkrun.org.uk/watermeadcountrypark-juniors/>

### Attendance.

Our attendance so far this year is **97.5%**. This is an excellent start to the year.

Please see the website for the CMAT attendance policy.

With the introduction of the new **National Framework for Penalty Notices**, the following comes into force for Penalty Notice fines issued for unauthorised absence occurring after 19 August 2024

**5 consecutive days of term time leave (holiday)** – Penalty Notice fines will be issued for term time leave of 5 or more consecutive days and for fewer days where this has happened before. (Please note, we will no longer be able to agree to and authorise family holidays)

**10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period** – Other than in exceptional circumstances, Penalty Notice fines will be issued when there have been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period.

**Per parent, per child** - Penalty Notice fines will be issued to each parent for each child who was absent. For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave will result in each parent receiving 3 **separate** fines.

**First offence** – The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for term time leave or irregular, unauthorised absence the amount will be £160 per parent, per child when paid within 28 days. This is reduced to £80 per parent per child if paid within 21 days

**Second offence (within 3 years)** – The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for term time leave or irregular, unauthorised absence the amount will be £160 per parent, per child when paid within 28 days. (there is no option to reduce to £80 with an early payment)

**Third Offence and any further offences (within 3 years)** – The third time an offence is committed for term time leave or irregular, unauthorised absence a Penalty Notice will not be issued. The case will proceed to the Magistrates' court. Magistrate's fines can be up to £2,500 per parent, per child. Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate and may impact on job applications and travel abroad.

**Court prosecutions** – Penalty Notices will not automatically be issued. Parents are advised that where the LA considers that a Penalty Notice is not appropriate due to the level of concern about a child's absence, prosecution action may be taken.

Further guidance is available on the Gov.uk website. [Fines for parents for taking children out of school: What you need to know – The Education Hub \(blog.gov.uk\)](#)

If you have any questions regarding the changes and the new national framework regarding penalty notices, please contact myself.

Linked to the importance of excellent attendance is punctuality. School **starts at 8:45am**. It is therefore essential that children are here before then. We know that this is sometimes easier said than done and if you would like to discuss this with a member of the school senior leadership team, please speak to one of us on the gate.

### **De Lisle Open Evening**

De Lisle College are holding an open evening on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September 6-8pm. There is no need to book but if you need any further information please call 01509 268739 or Email [enquiries@delisle.leics.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@delisle.leics.sch.uk)

### **English Martyrs Open Evening**

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 5:00pm – 6:45pm

### **Pupil Leadership Groups**

At Bishop Ellis we are very proud of our year 5 and 6 children who all take on a leadership responsibility in school.

There are opportunities for our younger children to influence whole school outcomes as well. Children who will be part of our Chaplaincy team, School Council, Eco Warriors and Digital Leaders will be announced next week.

### **Health and Safety on the school site.**

Please can I ask that if your child brings a bike or scooter to school (which we encourage whole heartedly) that you make sure that they do not ride them whilst on the school site. We have lots of younger siblings who are on the school site at the start and end of the day. There have been a couple of times where we have been lucky that there were no accidents involving bikes or scooters.

## Diary Dates

### September

Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 Reception Class phonics workshop. 2:45 Reception Class Welcome Liturgy
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Open Morning for families with children starting school in 2025.

### October

Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Black History Month
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Chaplaincy day retreat- Rosmini Centre
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Tempest – Individual Photographs.</b> 2:45 Rosary- Celebration of the Word.
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup>	World Mental Health Day
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup>	2:15-3:00 Open Afternoon- a chance to look at your child's books with them before Parents' Evening.
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 Harvest Liturgy 2:30-6:00 Parents' Evening
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	2:30-6:00 Parents' Evening
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>	3:30 Half term
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup>	8:45 Return to School

### November

Friday 1 <sup>st</sup>	9:30 Whole School Mass. Feast of All Saints.
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Anti-Bullying Week 11:00 Remembrance Liturgy including period of silence.
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	World Kindness day.
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Open Morning for families with children starting school in 2025.
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Road Safety Week
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	National Youth Funday
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup>	School Closed for Children. St Thomas Aquinas CMAT inset day.

### December

Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	9:30 Advent Mass- years 5 and 6.
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup>	7:15 Menphys Carol Concert
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 Christingle Service
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 Carol Service- Divine Infant of Prague.
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>	3:15 End of Advent Term. School closes for Christmas
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Jubilee Year begins

### January

Monday 6 <sup>th</sup>	8:45 Lent term begins. 2:45 Celebration of the Word- Epiphany.
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 Celebration of the Word- Pilgrims of Hope
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Non Uniform Day- St Thomas Aquinas CMAT hardship fund.
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	St Thomas Aquinas CMAT feast day celebrations.

## February

Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mental Health week.
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Random Acts of Kindness Week.
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup>	3:30 Half term
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup>	8:45 Return to School

## March

Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 Ash Wednesday Mass- Whole School
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 Reconciliation Service

## April

Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	9:30 Mothers' Day Mass- led by years 1 and 2.
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> April	9:30 Way of the Cross. 3:15 End of Lent term.
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	8:45 Start of Pentecost Term

## May

Monday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Bank Holiday. School Closed
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Y6 SATS week
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	3:30 Half term

## June

Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	8:45 Return to School Year 4 Multiplication Check
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>	KS1 Phonics 2:45 Celebration of the Word- Pentecost
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 Celebration of 1 <sup>st</sup> Communion Mass. Years 3 and 4
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup>	2:45 Celebration of the Word. Feast of SS Peter and Paul.

## July

Monday 7 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 Bishop Ellis Founder's Day and y6 Leavers Mass Whole School.
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup>	3:15 End of Pentecost term.

Have a lovely weekend.

God bless

Mr Monaghan

