



Bishop Ellis Catholic Voluntary Academy



Barkby Thorpe Lane, Thurmaston, Leicester, LE4 8GP

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Friday 8th November 2024

Dear parents and carers.

This Sunday's Gospel shows us that even the smallest of good deeds, done with love, does not escape Jesus' attention. The widow's gift was so little that, in some ways, it would hardly make much difference. But Jesus reminds us that the amount we give is not as important as the love with which we give a gift. Pope Francis tells us "Life is a precious gift, but we realise this only when we give it to others."

During the month of November, we think about all those we love who have died. If you would like us to pray for anyone in our celebrations of the word this month, please use the link below.

<https://forms.office.com/r/VJhQAbGq6M>

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.

The application process for children starting primary school 2025 is open.

- Remember that there is the requirement to complete an online application (and that places are not automatic.)

For parents of children starting primary school in 2025, We are holding another open morning on Thursday November 14th for prospective parents.

Attendance.

Our attendance so far this year is **96.1%**. **Please see the website for the CMAT attendance policy.**

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.

Please note that under the new guidelines if your child is late it will be marked as an unauthorised absence and you will therefore be liable for a fine.

Bishop Ellis Table Tennis

On Tuesday 5th November, four children Sofia, Toby, Tiarna and Krish-jai represented Bishop Ellis at Wreake Valley for a table tennis festival.

We played 4 rounds all single matches. We had so much fun. The focus was on respect and developing our skills. We took part and met new people. I am pleased to tell you we came 2nd and our level of respect was highly praised.

We can't wait for the next tournament and begin to play more table tennis in our playground.

Teacher Training

A message from our colleagues at the Leicestershire and Rutland Teaching School Hub.

Our Train to Teach applications are live for September 2025. Please see the attached flyer.

"Are you interested in training to teach? The Leicestershire and Rutland Teaching School Hub are offering a year one school based programme. Visit our Train to Teach page www.lrtshub.org.uk or call us on 0116 3033744."

Diary Dates

November

Monday 11 th	Anti-Bullying Week 11:00 Period of silence 2:45 Remembrance Liturgy.
Wednesday 13 th	World Kindness day.
Thursday 14 th	Open Morning for families with children starting school in 2025.
Monday 18 th	Road Safety Week
Friday 22 nd	National Youth Funday
Friday 29 th	School Closed for Children. St Thomas Aquinas CMAT inset day.

December

Tuesday 3 rd	9:30 Advent Mass- years 5 and 6.
Friday 6 th	7:15 Menphys Carol Concert
Monday 9 th	FS and KS1 dress rehearsals.
Tuesday 10 th	9:30 KS1 Nativity to parents 2:30 Christingle Service
Wednesday 11 th	9:30 Foundation Stage Nativity to parents 2:15 KS1 Nativity to parents
Wednesday 18 th	11:45 Christmas Dinner Day
Thursday 19 th	10:00 Carol Service- Divine Infant of Prague.
Friday 20 th	3:15 End of Advent Term. School closes for Christmas
Tuesday 24 th	Jubilee Year begins

January

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

February

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

March

Wednesday 5 th	9:30 Ash Wednesday Mass- Whole School
Tuesday 18 th	9:30 Reconciliation Service

April

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

May

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

June

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

July

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

Thank you for your kind and mostly sympathetic words about my new injury. The children were also very kind and supportive. I think it could be a sign to hang up my boots!!!

God bless

Mr Monaghan

