



# St Walburga's Catholic Primary School Newsletter



Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Number 3

Dear Parent and Carers,

Another busy week – it has been so lovely having our Reception children in full time this week and getting to know them, they have made a great start to their time at St Walburga's!

Our Year 5 children went on a one-night residential visit to Cranborne Ancient Technology Centre, where they stayed in a long house! They have lots of stories to tell about their trip.



Today, Mr Browne took three children from Year 6 (last year's chaplaincy team) to a Social Justice conference with other local Catholic schools about Catholic Social Teaching and Faith in Action. We look forward to hearing how they get on!

### Chaplaincy Team

The KS2 children have chosen their Chaplaincy team representatives for this year – we are looking forward to working with them to enhance the liturgies in the school. Well done to them!

- 3DB Jasmine and David
- 3NL Skyler and Asher
- 4DC Lenna and Mila
- 4PM Clara and Lucas H
- 5JC Ariana and Luke
- 5RH Beatrix and Deysi
- 6KB Olivia K and Esther
- 6HT Filip and Oliver P



### Starting school in September 2025

If your child's date of birth is between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021, they are due to start in Reception in 2025! Please join us for a 'stay and play session' with your child from 3.30- 4.30 on either Thursday 3rd October or Thursday 7th November. We are also booking places on our Open Information sessions for parents - please contact the School Office on 01202 528811. Please spread the word among your friends who may have children due to start school.

### Macmillan Cake Sale

We are looking forward to our cake sale next Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> September to support Macmillan. If you are able to help plate up (from 1.30) and sell cakes – please let us know via this link <https://forms.office.com/e/BmW38RQUBk> or on the gate. We have supported Macmillan for many years, and the children really enjoy bringing cakes in (and buying them back!) Please support us in any way that you can. We are hoping to have a cash free sale using our Sum Up machines, so please bring your card along!

### Parking

Just a reminder (again) about parking! I cannot understand why some people think it is OK to park on yellow lines, up on the kerb, on the corner of the road, or over our neighbours' drives. You are putting our children's safety at risk. The majority of people make the effort to park safely and considerately, it is such a shame that some people still do not do this. As usual, I have been in touch with the parking enforcement team from BCP. Please stop and think about the message you are giving to your child by parking illegally and inconsiderately – particularly if you are one of those people who move the car when they see me walking towards them. Just a reminder: you must not park on Malvern Rd in front of any part of the school grounds; you must not park on the yellow lines anywhere around school – they are there for a reason which is to keep our children safe. Please do not park over our neighbour's drives – it is embarrassing and unfair for our office staff to have to deal with their totally justified complaints. I completely understand that parking is limited around school but there is no justification for not following the rules and putting children at risk. Thank you.

### Asda

Don't forget to sign up for Cashpot for schools in Asda, and earn cash for us each time you shop! Make sure you select our school and not the St Walburga's in Shipley!



### Coats

Please make sure your child brings a coat to school as the weather is very changeable at the moment. We try as far as possible to ensure that the children get fresh-air and a run around at playtime, so it is really important that they have a warm, dry coat, even if it looks sunny when you leave the house! Many thanks.

### Second Hand Uniform

Thank you for all the second hand uniform donations, we have absolutely loads – I think we could clothe most of reception in pinafore dresses and trousers! We are going to have our first sale on **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October**, which will be a great opportunity to get some winter uniform before the half term break. Other dates for the year are:

- Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December
- Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February
- Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April
- Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May
- Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July

If you need any uniform between sales, please ask at the office and if we can help you we will!

### Year 6

Just a reminder for Year 6 parents that the closing date for applications for secondary schools is **Thursday, 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024**.

Malvern Road, Bournemouth, BH9 3BY  
Tel: 01202 528811

email:office@stwalburgasprimary.co.uk

Website: stwalburgas.bournemouth.sch.uk

## School Attendance

Our whole school attendance was **95.99%** by the end of the last academic year (2023-2024). Here is a breakdown of the final attendance for each year group:

Year Group 23-24	Attendance 23-24	Year Group 23-24	Attendance 23-24
Reception	95.26	Year 4	96.02
Year 1	95.65	Year 5	96.25
Year 2	95.84	Year 6	96.01
Year 3	95.88	<b>Whole School</b>	<b>95.99</b>

As you can see, we were so very close to reaching our target of 96%, we are so pleased. We are going to set the same target of 96% for the year ahead. We will continue to keep you up to date with how we are getting on throughout the year.

The DfE has made it clear that pupil attendance is a national priority. Regular attendance and good punctuality are vital for children's education, wellbeing, and their overall long-term development. The expectation is that pupils should have 95% attendance and any child whose attendance is 90% and below is considered a persistent absentee. If your child had 90% attendance at the end of last year, this equates to 3 weeks + 4 days of learning missed. Those who had 96% attendance missed 7 days of learning. We do understand that children do get poorly and we would not expect, nor want your child to come to school if they were really unwell, but it is important that you are aware of the expectations so that you can avoid unnecessary absences.

Please remember, if your child is unwell and unable to attend school, you must contact the school office no later than 9.00am to report your child absent. You can do this by phoning the school office on **01202 528811**. If we don't hear from you, we will contact you ourselves and if unsuccessful we will then contact the other emergency contacts we have for your child. If we are still unable to confirm a child's whereabouts we are required to make a welfare visit to the child's home. This is to maintain confirmation of our pupil's safety & wellbeing at all times – and this is set out in our attendance policy. You can find a copy of our Attendance policy on our school website.

Gates open at 8.25am and the bell goes for the start of the school day at **8.40am**, if your child arrives after this time, they will be marked as late. Registers close at **9.10am** – lateness after this is recorded as an 'unauthorised late' which is an unauthorised absence for the morning session, affecting your child's overall attendance rate.

I would also like to remind you that the government guidance states that children **must not** take holiday during term time. Headteachers are only able to authorise time out of school in exceptional circumstances. Unauthorised absences will result in a penalty notice. We wrote to you in June with further information regarding penalty notices. If you need to request time out school in term time, whether you think it can be authorised or not, you must write to me with 10 days' notice, explaining the reason for the request and the dates. Penalty notices can also be issued if you take your child out of school without putting in an application beforehand. For those of you with children in Year 6, it is important for your children to be in school as much as possible, particularly in the lead up to SATs. Their SATs will take place w/c 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025 – please do not request time off or book anything for that week or the weeks leading up to it.

We have regular meetings to monitor pupil attendance and identify ways in which we can support children and families in achieving regular and punctual attendance. If at any point in the year you feel that you could benefit from support from our Pastoral Team with regards to your child's attendance, please do not hesitate to ask at the school office.

## Flu Immunisation

You should have received an email from us on Wednesday with information about the flu immunisation taking place in school on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October. If you wish your child to have the immunisation you MUST complete the online consent form **by Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October**, you can do this via this link <https://links.inhealthcare.co.uk/dorset-flu> and our school code is **7KXwfj**. This immunisation provides protection for your child against this nasty illness – I do hope you consider it for your child.

## Dates for your diary:

Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup> Sept	2.15pm	4DC Class Celebration of the Word – parents and carers welcome
Tues 24 <sup>th</sup> Sept	2.15pm	4PM Class Celebration of the Word – parents and carers welcome
Fri 27 <sup>th</sup> Sept	2.50pm	Macmillan cake sale – see attached letter
Mon 30 <sup>th</sup> Sept	2.15pm	5RH Class Celebration of the Word – parents and carers welcome
Mon 30 <sup>th</sup> Sept	3.15pm or 6.00pm	Reception Parents' Workshop – more info to follow
Tue 1 <sup>st</sup> Oct	2.15pm	5JC Class Celebration of the Word – parents and carers welcome
Thurs 3 <sup>rd</sup> Oct	3.30-4.30pm	Stay and play session for children due to start school in September 25
Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> Oct	2.15pm	6KB Celebration of the Word – parents and carers welcome
Wed 9 <sup>th</sup> Oct	2.15pm	6HT Celebration of the Word – parents and carers welcome
Thurs 10 <sup>th</sup> Oct	All day	Harvest celebrations and Food Bank collection – more info to follow
Mon 14 <sup>th</sup> Oct	2.15pm	3DB Celebration of the Word – parents and carers welcome
Tues 15 <sup>th</sup> Oct	2.15pm	3NL celebration of the Word – parents and carers welcome
Wed 23 <sup>rd</sup> Oct	3.30- 7.00	Parents' Evening – more info to follow
Thurs 24 <sup>th</sup> Oct	3.30- 7.00	Parents' Evening – more info to follow
<b>Thurs 24<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>	<b>2.30 – 3.00</b>	<b>Second-hand uniform sale</b>
Fri 25 <sup>th</sup> Oct	2.50pm	Children break up for half term

## Well done to our Stars of the week!

**Super Role Model:** RJ:Aoife; RP:Oliver; 1JC: Kit; 1WH:Sienna; 2NW: Adam; 2MS:Florence; 3NL: Arya; 3DB: Isaac; 4DC: Gracie; 4PM: Elisha; 5RH:All of 5RH ; 5JC:Andrew; 6KB: Eliza; 6HT: Elsie.

**Learning Champion:** RJ: Emily; RP: Molly-Mae; 1JC: Romeo; 1WH: Kiara; 2NW; Antony; 2MS:Rafa; 3NL: Connie; 3DB: Jessica; 4DC:Leonardo; 4PM: Lara; 5RH:Cillian; 5JC: Ozan; 6KB: Joel; 6HT: Fabio

Well done to all of them!

Wishing you a lovely weekend with your family.

*Veronica Woodward*

Veronica Woodward,  
Headteacher

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