

Our Lady of Grace Catholic Academy, Biddulph



“Do whatever He tells you.”

Messenger

March 2024



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to a new half term - a very busy half term!

Lent is the most important time for the school and Church. We are doing a number of things to fully prepare children for Easter. The Lenten prayer services have already begun; these always prove to be a very reflective way to prepare ourselves for Easter. We continue to invite you all to join us for these services as we draw near to the Lord Jesus this Lent. We also look forward to welcoming you for our Mother's Day breakfast and prayer service on Friday 8th March.

Congratulations to those children in Year 3 and 4 who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Tuesday 28th February. They encountered God's love and mercy in this beautiful Sacrament! Please join with us in praying for the children in Year 6 who are continuing their journey in faith and will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation on the 12th March. God bless you all!

This week we have also sent out the envelopes for the Father Hudson 'Good Shepherd Appeal'. All donations will go to a very worthy cause. To find out more about this charity, please follow the link below. [Father Hudson's Care | Social Care Agency \(fatherhudsons.org.uk\)](http://fatherhudsons.org.uk). We have also been asked by the Birmingham Diocesan Education Service to have another fundraising initiative to support the Father Hudson Society. If every child in a Catholic school in the Archdiocese of Birmingham donated £1, over £83,000 would be raised. As of next week, our ever-popular Crème Egg Easter chicks will be on sale – there are enough for every child to buy one to help achieve this diocesan target.

Next week we will be holding our parents evening meetings. We encourage all of our parents to attend these meetings – further information can be found via this link.

https://www.ourladyofgraceacademy.co.uk/_site/data/files/letters/0E30C3977E53BE33387E3C1F05D587F9.pdf

I do wish you all a lovely weekend!

Mrs Rathbone

Principal

“Today too, the cry of so many of our oppressed brothers and sisters rises to heaven. Let us ask ourselves: Do we hear that cry? Does it trouble us? Does it move us? ”

Pope Francis' message for Lent 2024



Please continue to pray for those children in Year 3 who have received the Sacrament of Reconciliation this week.

FREE 30 HOUR NURSERY PLACES SEPTEMBER 2024

Applications are still open for spaces in our Nursery class for September 2024.

We are offering FREE 30 hours education for all children, regardless of funding eligibility. (Subject to available capacity)

Please contact the school office on 01782 512644 for more information or to arrange a visit.

Studybugs

If you haven't already, please get the free Studybugs app, or register on the Studybugs website, and use it to tell us whenever your child is ill and unable to attend school.
<https://studybugs.com>

On 7th March we are celebrating **WORLD BOOK DAY**

Children are invited to come to school dressed as a character from their favourite book. They can also bring their favourite book to school to share with their class.

Swimming Awards

Teddy Robinson
Macy-Mabel Webb-Parkinson
Olive Tomkinson

Basketball

Stanley Clack
George Clack
Chloe Morris

Football

Olive Tomkinson

Please pray for those children in Year 5/6 who will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation later this month

Easter Special

- Shepherd's Pie served with Roasties and Spring Vegetables
- Bunny Pizza Slice served with French Fries and Carrot Sticks
- Cheesy Egg served with French Fries and Baked Beans
- Rice Krispie Nest topped with Crushed Chocolate Eggs or Bunny Shortbread Biscuit

Drink

Thursday 21st March 2024

CITY catering

Good Shepherd Appeal

Envelopes for spare change in support of Father Hudson's "Good Shepherd Appeal" have now been sent home. Please could these be returned to school by Monday 18th March. Thank you for your continued support.

UNIFORMD

Uniformd stocks a variety of preloved school uniform items priced £1.00 to £5.00 and our catalogue can be found by following the link below;
<https://app.uniformd.co.uk/items/our-lady-of-grace-catholic-academy>

You can help by donating clean, good condition school uniform items (excluding shirts and polo tops), coats or shoes which can then be made available through Uniformd. Donations may be left at the school office.

Stoke-on-Trent foodbank

Did you know that Our Lady of Grace is a referrer for the Stoke-on-Trent Food Bank? Any of our families in need of support can contact Mrs McGough in the school office to request confidential help obtaining a voucher.



Please share your positive views about our school on Parent View <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/> Thank you for your support.



March Diary Dates



4th	Foundation Stage Reading Sessions
5th	Foundation Stage Reading Sessions
5th	Parent`s Evening - 3.30pm to 6.00pm in person
6th	Year 3 Recorder Festival
6th	Parent`s Evening - 5.30pm to 8.00pm Schoolcloud
7th	World Book Day
8th	Mother`s Day Breakfast
8th	KS2 Author Visit
8th	Foundation Stage Mother`s Day Activities
8th	KS2 Lionesses Football
12th	Year 5 Camerata Project Concert
12th	Year 1 Phonics Screening Parent Meeting 3.30pm
12th	Year 5/6 Confirmation
13th	Academy - Year 6 & Reception Photos
15th	KS1 Inspire Workshop
18th	Non Uniform Day
19th	Foundation Stage Easter Bonnet 9.00am
21st	Chocolate Bingo 3.30pm

Well Done to.....

	 Head Teacher Award	 Reader	 Goldfinch	 Maths
Foundation Stage	-	Tom Taylor	Wendy Benton	Olive Tomkinson
Key Stage 1	-	Harry Venables	Julia Jochymczak	Bobby Booth
Year 3/4	Zachary Moran	Sophie Aaron	Chloe Morris	Jessica Ryder
Year 5/6	Emily Roden	Elaya Oakley	Harvey Parry	Stanley Clack

Lenten Prayer Services

Wednesday 28th February - Year 5/6, 9.00am

Friday 1st March - Foundation Stage, 9.00am

Monday 4th March - Year 3/4, 9.00am

Friday 8th March - Year 1/2 Mother's Day Prayer Service - 9.15am

Monday 11th March - Year 1/2, 9.00am

Wednesday 13th March - Year 5/6, 2.30pm

Friday 15th March - Foundation Stage, 9.00am

Monday 18th March - Year 3/4, 9.00am

Wednesday 20th March - Year 1/2, 9.00am

Friday 22nd March Year 5/6 - Stations of the Cross



Wrap around care

Breakfast Club

from 7.30am £4.50 (Late or no booking
£9.00)
from 8.00am £2.50 (Late or no booking
£5.00)

Children must arrive no later than 8.15am

If your child is at Breakfast Club for the full week the Friday session will be free.

All sessions must be booked and paid for at least one week in advance.

Care Club

Mon-Fri 3.00pm-5.45pm - Snack included

Care Club First Child;

from 3.00pm to 5.00pm £5.00
from 3.00pm to 5.45pm £7.50

Care Club Siblings

from 3.00pm to 5.00 £3.00
from 3.00pm to 5.45pm £6.00

Late or no booking up to 5.00pm
£10.00

Late or no booking up to 5.45pm £15.00

All sessions must be booked and paid for at least one week in advance.

Unattended pre booked sessions will still be charged

School Dinners

Nursery Meals are £2.40 per day
Reception & KS1 meals are free

Years 3/4/5 & 6 meals are £3.10 per day

Menus are available on the school website.

Please note that dinner money is payable in advance and should be paid online via your child's Scopay account.

School Uniform

Our full uniform range is now available at Supersport, High Street, Tunstall or online at

www.supersport.co.uk/schoolwear.html

Our uniform policy is available on the school website

The school office carries elastic and normal ties, water bottles and a small stock of other uniform items.

Please order via Scopay.

School Attendance

"THIS MORNING, HE HAD A RUNNY NOSE... BUT LOOK AT HIM NOW!"



HM Government
Head to the NHS website to find out more.

NHS

**From the first day of term to the last, the small moments in a school day make a real difference to your child.
#AttendanceCounts"**

Is my child too ill for school?

It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school, nursery or playgroup when they're unwell. Follow this link to get NHS advice on common illnesses.

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

ABSENCEIF YOUR CHILD IS ABSENT FROM SCHOOL YOU MUST EITHER telephone school on 512644, report the absence via Studybugs or email office@olognewman.co.uk BEFORE 09.30am stating the reason for absence.