

Our Lady of Grace Catholic Academy, Biddulph

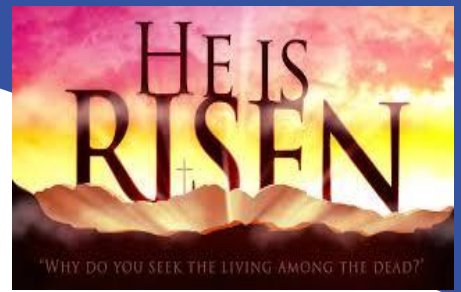


“Do whatever He tells you.”

Messenger

April 2024





Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the last term of this academic year.
I do hope you all had a lovely Easter break!

On the return to school, we have welcomed Mrs Davis – our new Head of School. Mrs Davis has had a lovely week getting to know our children and families. We have also welcomed Mrs Butler who will be supporting the class as a teaching assistant in our year 3/4 class until the end of this half term.

Thank you to all our parents in supporting the school's uniform policy, particularly regarding the girl's summer dresses. Your support is greatly appreciated. A reminder that all summer dresses must be **navy** and white check (**not pale blue** and white check). I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you of the policy for boy's haircuts. We have had a number of haircuts after the Easter break that have not been in line with school policy. **As the uniform policy states, 'Hair should be conventionally cut with no visible lines and should be an appropriate length (not shaven or less than grade 2).**

I would like to thank everyone who kindly donated to the Father Hudson appeal during Lent. A grand total of £224.62 was raised between the £1 per child pledge and the additional money from the envelopes. If you have not yet sent in your money envelopes, please pass to the office as soon as possible so a final amount can be counted and sent to the Father Hudson Society.

On a final note, in the week beginning the 22nd April we will be holding a 'Vocations week' in school. Vocations are entirely different to careers because it teaches the children to respond to what God is calling them to be. They are **who** God is calling us to be in order to share His love. If any parents would like to come into school to talk about their job or calling from God, please see a member of the office staff.

I do hope you all have a lovely weekend!

Thank you for your continued support.
Mrs S Rathbone
Principal

Year of Prayer

The Church is preparing for another special celebration, the Year of Jubilee in 2025. In preparation, Pope Francis has called for 2024 to be a Year of Prayer.

Our children have been introduced to the Year of Prayer and the invitation to grow their friendship with God through prayer in their time at home and school.

Ten:Ten have put together a short video introducing the Year of Prayer, highlighting how children might engage with prayer themselves over the coming months.

<http://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/>





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.

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>

Huge congratulations to Tommy-Ellie Cunningham on recently passing his Grade 1 violin exam with distinction. Well done Tommy, we are very proud of you!



We are hosting a Scholastic travelling Book Fair! Thursday 18th April to Wednesday 24th April,, available in the school hall until 3.45pm each day.



Well done to those children KS2 who took part in the City Swimming Gala earlier this week. You were fantastic ambassadors for Our Lady of Grace.

Thank you for your support of our successful Book Swap before Easter. Please keep an eye out for further dates in the Summer term.



Thank you for your support of the Father Hudson Good Shepherd Appeal. A total of £73.62 was collected.

Congratulations to our wonderful Dance After School Club members who took part in a fantastic performance in Dance '24 at the Victoria Hall last month.



School photos will be conducted on
Monday 29th April 2024
At this session we will be photographing
Whole School

Class Groups

Music Groups
(Please bring musical instruments)

Sports Groups
(Please bring P.E. / Sports Kits)

Please ensure full uniform is worn and children are neat and tidy.



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



April Diary Dates



12th	KS2 Assembly
17th	Year 3 English Speaking Board
18th – 24th	Scholastic Book Fair
19th	Foundation Stage/KS1 Assembly
19th	KS2 Handball Tournament
26th	Foundation Stage Assembly
29th	Academy Photography – Class photos & Groups



VIRTUAL FROM PRAM TO PRIMARY SCHOOL

We understand that parenting is hard at times and can be overwhelming.



FREE TO BOOK ON. TERM TIME ONLY
Book your place at
groupwork@staffordshire.gov.uk



10 weekly sessions. A virtual, adult only course, to help you support your children's development including behaviour tips and hints by Family Caring Trust

STARTING
MONDAY 22ND APRIL 2024
10AM - 12PM

TUESDAY 23RD APRIL 2024
10AM-12PM
12:30PM - 2:30PM
5:15PM-7:15PM

THURSDAY 25TH APRIL 2024
9:30AM-11:30AM

FRIDAY 26TH APRIL 2024
10AM-12PM
12:30PM-2:30PM

FREE for parents and carers – please email your name, child's name and date of birth together with your contact number, address and which course and day you are interested in

For professionals – please complete the groupwork referral form and send to the above email



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.



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.

Well Done to.....

	 Head Teacher Award	 Reader	 Goldfinch	 Maths
Foundation Stage	Beatrice -	Nela	Teddy B	Tom
Key Stage 1	Harry -	Seth	Saskia	Milenna
Year 3/4	George	Freddie	Aubrey	Roman-Blue
Year 5/6	Ella-Louise	Charlie L	Kalliopi	Charlie S

End of Spring Term Awards

Foundation Stage

Carer – Marnie

Reader – Tom

KS1

Carer – Jack P

Reader – Jorgi

Year 3/4

Carer – Zachary

Reader – Freddie

Year 5/6

Carer – Tiana

Reader – Rose

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 WAS WORRIED ABOUT SCHOOL... BUT LOOK AT HIM NOW!"

MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.

HM Government
Head to the Education Hub to find out more.

**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)

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.