

Our Lady of Grace Catholic Academy, Biddulph



“Do whatever He tells you.”

# Messenger

## May 2024



Dear Parents/Carers,

Last week, we were really excited to welcome the Scholastic Travelling Book Fair back to Our Lady of Grace. Thank you to all who supported. We already have next year's fair booked!

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May begins our assessment week for Year 6. We would all like to wish year 6 all the best as they carry out their SATs tests. They have worked extremely hard in their preparations and I am sure this effort will be rewarded. Please keep our year 6 children in your prayers during this week.

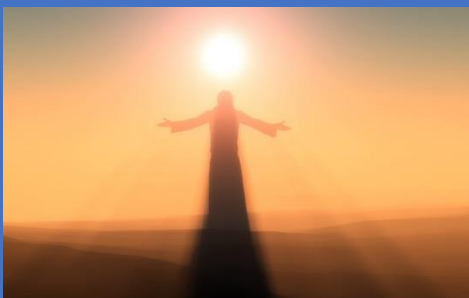
Mr Beardmore visited our school yesterday to spend the morning looking at how we teach our children to read and how we aim to foster a love of reading. He visited phonics and guided reading lessons, spoke to children about reading and even heard a few children read. Mr Beardmore was extremely impressed with the quality of provision all children are receiving, how hard all the children were working and how much they enjoyed reading. As always, the behaviour of our children filled us with great pride.

On a final note, just a little reminder that our school community have been invited to join with our parish for a May procession on Sunday. This will be at St Patrick's Church in Packmoor and it will begin at 3:30pm. It would be lovely to see our children celebrate this special event with our parish.

I do wish you all a lovely bank holiday weekend!

Mrs Rathbone

Executive Principal



In this week's Gospel we will hear about how Forty days after Easter Sunday we celebrate the feast of the Ascension and hear about how the disciples witnessed Jesus ascending into Heaven. We also remember the instructions Jesus left His disciples - to share the Good News and do incredible things through the power He would give them.

This is a reminder of how we would encourage our children to consider how they can honour Jesus and follow His instructions to be disciples themselves.

# Swimming Awards

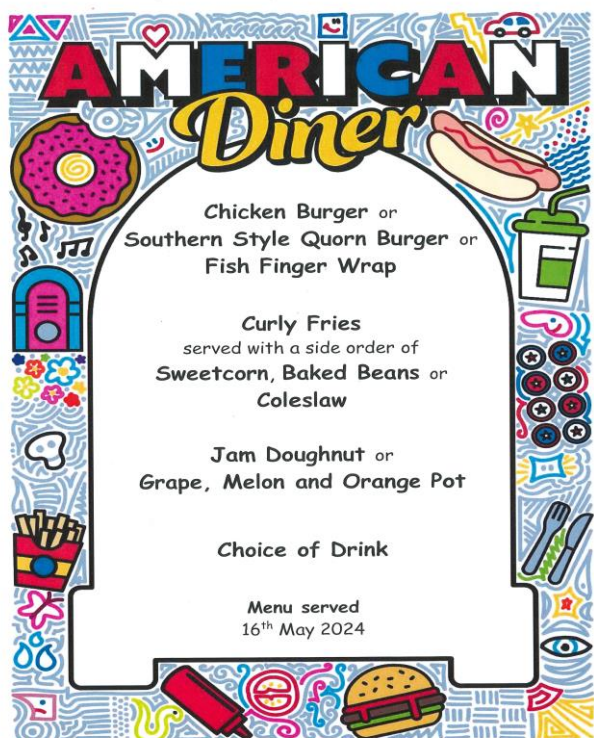
**Marnie-Rae Bedson**  
**Aria Asplin**



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>



Please ensure that your child has a water bottle in school every day.

School bottles are available from Scopay, priced £2.50



Staffordshire County Council are encouraging pupils and parents to take part in Walk to School Week – 20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> May.

Walking is a healthy, active, and non-polluting way of getting to school. For those that live too far away to walk the whole distance away try parking 5-10 minutes from the school and walking the rest of the way.. Walking also promotes a less congested environment around the school gate making it safer for everyone.



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



# May Diary Dates



5th	May Procession, St Patrick's, Packmoor – 3.30pm
10th	Foundation Stage & KS1 Assembly
13 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 SATs Breakfast
13 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 SATs
13th	Foundation Stage Cannock Chase
13th	Year 5 P.E. at St Margaret Ward
17 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 Assembly
20 <sup>th</sup>	Reception & year 6 Measuring Programme
21 <sup>st</sup>	Foundation Stage Drop In Session, 3.30pm
21 <sup>st</sup>	Whole School Disco
24th	Year 6 Alton Towers
24th	Foundation Stage & KS1 Assembly
24th	School closes for half term







**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.....

	 <b>Head Teacher Award</b>	 <b>Reader</b>	 <b>Goldfinch</b>	 <b>Maths</b>
Foundation Stage	Ivy	Theodore	Marnie-Rae	Rosie
Key Stage 1	Evie	Jorgi	Jack	Eve-Lynn
Year 3/4	Hayzley	Rosalie	Eughann	Olivia-Faye
Year 5/6	Miami	Samuel	Olivia	Elaya

School Masses will take place on a weekly rota basis— led by Whole school, EYFS, KS1 or Year3/4 and Year 5/6.

All of these Masses take place on a Tuesday morning at 9.15am (*unless otherwise stated*).

We encourage all parents, grandparents and members of the parish to support these Masses where possible.

Tuesday 16th April	Whole school
Tuesday 23rd April	Year 5/6
<b>THURSDAY</b> 9th May	<i>Ascension—Whole School</i>
Tuesday 14th May	Year 3/4
Tuesday 21st May	Year 1/2 and Foundation Stage
Tuesday 4th June	Year 5/6
Tuesday 11th June	Year 3/4
Tuesday 18th June	Year 1/2 and Foundation Stage
Tuesday 2nd July	Year 3/4
Tuesday 9th July	Year 1/2 and Foundation Stage
Tuesday 16th July	End of term—Leavers Mass—whole school

## 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](http://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

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))

ABSENCE ....IF YOUR CHILD IS ABSENT FROM SCHOOL YOU MUST EITHER telephone school on 512644, report the absence via Studybugs or email [office@olognewman.co.uk](mailto:office@olognewman.co.uk) BEFORE 09.30am stating the reason for absence.