

Our Lady of Grace Catholic Academy, Bidulph



“Do whatever He tells you.”

# Messenger

## September 2024



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to a new academic year! A special welcome to all of our nursery children and any new children who have joined us this year. We are very much looking forward to working with you. The children have all come back to school looking very smart and have settled into their new classes beautifully. On Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September, we will come together to celebrate our first school mass in church.

Please remember that parents are warmly invited to our celebration assemblies every Friday at 2:30pm. Please check the website calendar to confirm which Key Stage will be leading each assembly.

On Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September we will be holding a Macmillan Coffee morning. Please refer to next week`s letter for further details. It would be lovely for you to share this special event with us.

On Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October, we will celebrate our Harvest Festival. All donations of non-perishable foods will be greatly accepted and donated to the Foodbank.

On a final note, I would like to thank you for the parental feedback from the questionnaire in the summer. All feedback is greatly appreciated and I will look forward to sharing developments that have come from this with you in the near future.

Mrs Davis  
Head of School



Education Sunday  
8<sup>th</sup> September  
2024



At mass on Sunday we celebrate the 176th anniversary of 'Education Sunday'. This day offers an opportunity for us to pray to Almighty God for all people involved in Catholic education, to celebrate the achievements of the past and to ask Our Lord to bless the work of the year ahead. Please join us in prayer this weekend.

Head Boy- Aiden Dodds  
Head Girl- Lilly Power

Deputy Head Boy - Reuben Moran  
Deputy Head Girl - Olivia Adams



## SIMPLY PLAY!

10 weeks Course Starting @  
Staffordshire Moorlands  
Family Hub Biddulph  
Wednesday 11th  
September 1pm - 2:30pm



Scan the QR code for  
more information

Would you like to learn more about your child's development? Would you like to find new ways of supporting them through play? Then Simply Play might be the course for you!

We offer free courses for parents of 0-4 year olds in a stay and play format, so you can enjoy quality time with your little one alongside learning.

To register your interest, please contact:  
Groupwork@staffordshire.gov.uk



## Well done to...

Cody Lewis – Stage 2  
Swimming

Jessica Ryder – Cricket  
Festival Medal

SAVE THE DATE - On Friday  
27th September we are  
hosting a coffee morning to  
raise funds for Macmillan  
Cancer Support.  
Information to follow.



Please ensure that all  
items of uniform are  
clearly labelled with your  
child's name.



Please make sure that your  
child brings a filled water  
bottle into school every day.

**Please note these should  
not contain juice.**

Water bottles are  
available to order from  
school, via Scopay, priced  
£2.50.

## FROM PRAM TO PRIMARY SCHOOL



Scan the QR code for  
more information

6 Weeks virtual courses  
starting over teams  
various days and evening  
classes available

Would you like to feel more  
confident in your parenting?  
Would you like to learn more  
about your child's behaviours and  
their emotional development?  
Then Pram to Primary might be  
the course for you!

We offer free courses for parents  
of 0-11 year olds with both face-  
to-face and virtual options  
available.

To register your interest, please  
contact:  
Groupwork@staffordshire.gov.uk



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>



Studybugs

Calling all Sportsmen and women!  
Miss Boon is updating the Sporting  
Wall of Fame with new pictures.  
Please forward photographs of your  
child completing any sporting activity  
to the school office to make it to our  
Wall of Fame! All new entries will be  
rewarded with 5 achievement points.



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



## We're using Arbor's free Parent Portal and Parent App

We've chosen Arbor to help us manage our school.

Arbor is a simple, smart and cloud-based MIS (Management Information System), which helps us work faster, smarter and more collaboratively as a school. The Parent App and Parent Portal mean we can keep you informed about your child's life at school in a much more accessible way. Log into Arbor to see and update your child's information, get live updates and make payments or bookings on the go!

The Parent Portal works on Google Chrome (computer or laptop) and you can download the Parent App from the App Store or Google Play Store on your phone (Android 5.0; iOS 10.0 and upwards).

### How to get started

1. Wait for your welcome email from us telling you Arbor is ready - you won't be able to log in before
2. Click the link in your welcome email to set up your password
3. Go to the App or Google Play Store on your phone and search 'Arbor'
4. Click 'Install' on Android or 'Get' on iPhone then open the App
5. Enter your email, select the school, then enter your password
6. Accept the Terms & Conditions and enter your child's birthday

The Sunnyville School of Magic

W10 5BN, London, GBR

Enter your password

Log in

Forgotten password?

### Need help using Arbor?

Contact the school office if you have questions about Arbor, the App or Parent Portal. Tell us the type and model of your phone, e.g. an iPhone SE, and include screenshots or screen recordings.

To safeguard student data in line with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), Arbor only works directly with schools.

#### Some tips to try:

1. Ensure your username is the email address you use for Arbor. Ask us to check the email address linked to your account.
2. Reset your password from the login page, or ask us to do this.
3. If the login email was sent to you more than 96 hours ago, the password link will have expired. Ask us to send it again.
4. Ask the school office to check that your email address has not been used twice - e.g. on another guardian or child's profile.
5. Enter the birthday of one of your children to log in.
6. Only relatives who are Primary Guardians of a child can access the Arbor App. Ask us to check you can access Arbor.





# September Diary Dates



9th	Year 6 – St Margaret Ward, French
13th	KS2 Assembly, 2.30pm
18th	School Council, Parliament Visit
20th	Whole School Assembly
Week beginning 23 <sup>rd</sup> September	Read with Me – Reception to Year 1
23 <sup>rd</sup> to 27 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 6 Stanley Head
25th	Year 3/4 Potteries Museum
26th	Phonics Sessions, 9.00am & 3.15pm
27th	Macmillan Coffee Morning
27th	FS/KS1 Assembly



**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.

## 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 £2.50 per day  
Reception & KS1 meals are free

Years 3/4/5 & 6 meals are £3.25 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



**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.