

Our Lady of Grace Catholic Academy, Biddulph



“Do whatever He tells you.”

Messenger

October 2024



Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you to all the parents who attended our parent/teacher target meetings, both in person and via School Cloud. These meetings are so valuable in supporting your child and being aware of their progress. Your support, as always, is very much appreciated.

Last week, our Year 6 children went to Stanley Head outdoor education centre; and this week our Year 5 children went to Alton Castle for a religious retreat. All of the children had a wonderful time and have made memories that will last forever. As always, they were great ambassadors for our school with their fantastic attitudes and behaviour – thank you and well-done Year 5 and Year 6! We are all very proud of you.

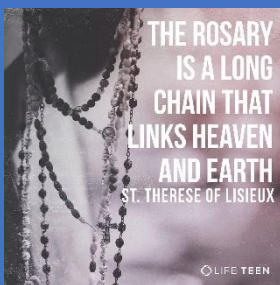
Over the past few weeks, a number of children have represented our school at Key Stage Two football tournaments. A super well done to our children who represented the school in years 3-6 and well done for not only showing great skill, but more importantly great sportsmanship. You are a credit to our school.

Last week, we also held our Macmillan Coffee Morning. We were once again overwhelmed by the generosity and support that we received. A special thank you to those who also volunteered their time to help out. A grand total of over £272.98 was raised through the coffee morning and the bake sale after school. Many thanks for all your support.

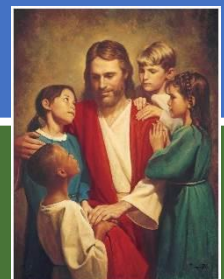
On Tuesday next week, we will celebrate our Harvest Festival and be joined on Wednesday by the Stoke on Trent Food Bank. Thank you for all of your donations; these will go a long way to helping those in need.

Next week, on Tuesday, it is Y5/6 Mass. As always parents and family members are welcome to attend. Mass begins at 9:15am and the children would love to see you there.

Mrs Davis
Head of School



In this week's Gospel we hear how Jesus commends the open-heartedness of children and welcomes children despite others trying to keep them away. 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the Kingdom of God belongs'.
Mark 10:14



Swimming Awards



Harry Venables
Betsy Finn

Football



George Clack
Zachary Moran
Harry Venables
Nathan Dodds
Milenna Stanway

Brownies Award

Olivia-Faye
Sherratt



OUR LADY OF GRACE CATHOLIC ACADEMY

FOUNDATION STAGE
Prospective Parents Sessions

For Admission in September 2025

Date:
Tuesday 26th November 2024

Time:
6.00pm

For more information or to book a place - email office@olognewman.co.uk or telephone 01782 512644

Well done to all of the children who have represented Our Lady of Grace at football tournaments this month. Thank you to parents for your support and helping with transport.



Thank you for supporting our Macmillan Coffee Morning. We all had a lovely time and together we raised a grand total of £272.98.



For the safety of everyone in our school community, please be careful where you chose to park your vehicle and remember to be considerate to our neighbours.



Congratulations to all of those children who completed the Staffordshire Libraries Summer reading challenge.

Arbor 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

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.



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 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.



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



October Diary Dates



7th	KS1 Parent/Teacher Target Meeting – in person
8th	KS1 Parent/Teacher Target Meeting – remote
8th	Harvest Celebration – 2.30pm
10th	Year 3/4 – Stoke Synagogue
11th	Foundation Stage/KS1 Assembly
18th	Year 5/6 Saint Day Prayer Service – 9.15am
18th	Year 5/6 Class Assembly – 2.30pm
22nd	Foundation Stage Drop in Session – 3.15pm
24th	Year 6 – Music at St. Margaret Ward
24th	Whole School Disco
25th	KS2 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.

Well Done to.....

	 Head Teacher Award	 Reader	 Goldfinch	 Maths
Foundation Stage	Jack	Somto	Saoirse	Dayton
Key Stage 1	Isabelle	Olive	Eve-Lynn	Jeremy
Year 3/4	Alisdair	Rojin	Penelope	Harry
Year 5/6	Charlie S	Chloe	Lilly	Grace

School Masses will take place on a weekly rota basis— led by Whole school, EYFS, KS1 or Year 3/4 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 10th September - Whole School

Tuesday 17th September - Year 5/6

Tuesday 24th September - Year 3/4

Tuesday 1st October - KS1

Tuesday 8th October - Year 5/6

Tuesday 22nd October - Year 3/4

Tuesday 5th November - KS2

Tuesday 12th November - Year 5/6

Tuesday 19th November - Year 3/4

Tuesday 26th November - KS1

Tuesday 3rd December - Year 5/6

Tuesday 10th December - Year 3/4

Tuesday 17th December - Whole School - End of Term

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!"



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.