

Our Lady of Grace Catholic Academy, Biddulph



“Do whatever He tells you.”

Messenger

JANUARY 2025



Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year!

I do hope that you all had a restful break over the Christmas period. It has been lovely to welcome the children back to school this week and to see their enthusiasm for their work and kindness to their friends.

So many of our children have made new year's resolutions that are focused on making the world a better place, living out the mission of our Catholic school.

If you wish for a place in our Reception Class for September and your child is going to be 4 years old before 1st September 2025, please do this directly with the local authority. Applications for the reception class close on 15th January 2025. Applications for a place in our school Nursery are made directly with the school office and the closing date for this application is 31st January.

Once again, I would like to welcome you back and look forward to working with you over the coming year.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Davis
Head of School



In this week's Gospel we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. We will hear about the significance of Jesus' Baptism and what it means for us all in entering the Kingdom of God. This is a special time when we can all invite the Holy Spirit into our hearts.

Luke 3:16

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>



Now the weather has turned colder, please ensure that your child has appropriate outdoor clothing for break & lunchtime i.e. coat, hat, gloves.



New Click & Collect to School service

Dear Parents, Good News!

smart school uniform will now deliver your uniform to the school

Simply place an order on our website and select 'Collect free from School' option when you are selecting delivery.

Please note this is free of charge and deliveries will be delivered on the 3rd Tuesday of every month.

Our website: <https://smartuniform.co.uk/>

FROM PRAM TO PRIMARY SCHOOL

A 6 Weeks Course Online Over Microsoft Teams starting Tuesday 28th January 2025 17.30pm-19.30pm

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



FROM PRAM TO PRIMARY SCHOOL

A 6 Weeks Course Online Over Microsoft Teams starting Monday 27th January 2025 10am-12pm

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



Applications to Staffordshire County Council for places in Reception class for September 2025 are now open. Applications close on Wednesday 15th January.

DETAILS OF WHERE AND HOW TO APPLY CAN BE FOUND AT WWW.STAFFORDSHIRE.GOV.UK/ADMISSIONS

Our Stay & Play sessions will resume on Thursday 23rd January.

OUR LADY OF GRACE CATHOLIC ACADEMY STAY & PLAY

Free Stay & Play Sessions Every Thursday (Term time only) 2.00pm to 3.00pm

Parents and their children (under 4) are welcome to join us at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Academy

Sessions will consist of fun activities for you & your child to join in with. This is an ideal opportunity for you & your child to meet new people in a safe & welcoming environment.

For further details please contact the school on 01782 512644.

Our Lady of Grace Catholic Academy Woodland Street, Biddulph, ST8 6LW

A reminder of free Breakfast Club available for Year 5 & 6 from 8.00am!



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

- Wait for your welcome email from us telling you Arbor is ready - you won't be able to log in before
- Click the link in your welcome email to set up your password
- Go to the App or Google Play Store on your phone and search 'Arbor'
- Click 'install' on Android or 'Get' on iPhone then open the App
- Enter your email, select the school, then enter your password
- 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:

- Ensure your username is the email address you use for Arbor. Ask us to check the email address linked to your account.
- Reset your password from the login page, or ask us to do this.
- 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.
- Ask the school office to check that your email address has not been used twice - e.g. on another guardian or child's profile.
- Enter the birthday of one of your children to log in.
- Only relatives who are Primary Guardians of a child can access the Arbor App. Ask us to check you can access Arbor.

The Sunnyville School of Magic
9102 SW, London, GB

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.

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Arbor

Google Play App Store

Holly Cook
9124

Notifies
Holly Cook does not have a transcription method recorded
15:55 - 15:50
Thu, 13 May 2021
Registration: Year 5, Form 95M
Room: 209
Mr Russell

Statistics
Attendance (2020/2021)
80.1% 71.4%
This Last 4 weeks

Activities
Holly Cook: Clubs



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



January Diary Dates



14th	Year 5/6 Hindu Workshop
16th	Young Voices
17th	FS & KS1 Assembly, 9.10am
22nd	Year 3/4 Biddulph Library
23rd	Year 1 Phonics Parent Meeting, 3.30pm & 5.30pm
23rd	Year 2 7 Year 6 SATS information session, 6.00pm
24th	KS2 Assembly
27th	Year 6 Bikeability – booked sessions
29th	KS1, Biddulph Library
30th	Year 2 & Year 6 NSPCC Workshops
31st	FS & KS1 Assembly

School and Class Mass Times

Throughout the Spring term we will continue to celebrate Mass at English Martyrs` Church.

These Masses will usually take place on a Tuesday morning at 9.15am. Any changes for specific Masses are detailed below.

Tuesday 14th January - Year 3/4


Tuesday 21st January - Year 5/6

Tuesday 28th January - KS1

Sunday 9th February, 9.00am - Family Mass - Our Lady of Grace Feast Day

Tuesday 11th February - Year 3/4

Well Done to.....

	 Head Teacher Award	 Reader	 Goldfinch	 Maths
Foundation Stage	Kai	Saoirse	Charlie	Ivy
Key Stage 1		Aadyynn	Tom	Aria
Year 3/4	Jessica	Sophie	Alisdair	Louie
Year 5/6	Enzo		Elyra	Reuben

Don't forget to register for free with our new fundraising partners – raising funds for Our Lady of Grace while you shop!



Easyfundraising - https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/our-lady-of-grace-catholic-academy/?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=pmc&utm_content=gs-fb1

My School Fund - <https://www.myschoolfund.org/>



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.



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.

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 Smart Uniform, Unit 2, Highgate, Tunstall Trade Park, Tunstall, ST6 4JZ or online at

<https://smartuniform.co.uk/>

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.

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 \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://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.