

Our Lady of Grace Catholic Academy, Biddulph



“Do whatever He tells you.”

Messenger

June 2025



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the final half term of this academic year! We have such a busy half term ahead with lots of exciting events, many of which parents will be invited to.

We are looking forward to welcoming back our Year 5 and Year 6 children after their unforgettable trip to France. From exploring historic landmarks, embracing French culture and taking part in team building activities, they've created memories that will last a lifetime. We look forward to hearing all about their adventures and the stories they've brought back to share with us.

This half term will focus on the transition for your child's next step in their learning journey. Our transition sessions for each year group will be held every Monday afternoon, week commencing Monday 9th June. This will be a wonderful opportunity for your child to get to know their new class teacher and take part in some class-based activities. On Wednesday 2nd July, each class will spend the full day in their new class with their new teacher. Of course, Year 6 will be preparing for their momentous journey moving onto high school. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of Year 6 for being such a wonderful group of children and we wish them all the very best of luck in their next steps.

We pray especially for some of our Year 4 children who are currently preparing to receive the sacrament of First Holy Communion. This wonderful celebration will take place on Sunday 22nd June at 9am. You are all warmly welcomed to attend this celebration at English Martyrs'.

Here are some additional key dates that you may wish to save;

Wednesday 2nd July, Class Induction Meetings

Sunday 6th July, Family Mass – 9am in church

Tuesday 8th July, 3:30pm – Parent drop in

Tuesday 15th July, 9:15am- End of Term Mass

Tuesday 15th July, 2pm - Foundation stage end of year assembly and Reception Graduation

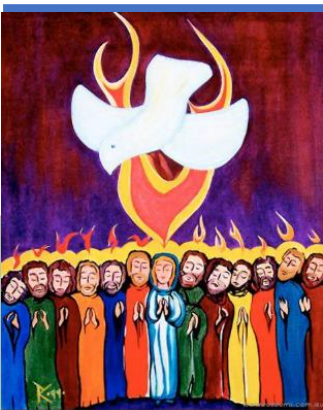
Thursday 17th July - KS1/KS2 end of year prize giving assembly

Friday 18th July - Year 6 leavers breakfast and leavers assembly

I wish you a lovely weekend.

Mrs Davis

Head of School



In this week's Gospel we will celebrate Pentecost Sunday. John, 14:15-16, is a passage from the Bible that reads: "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever". This passage is part of Jesus' promise to his disciples that he will send the Holy Spirit to be with them after he leaves. Today, we remember that the Holy Spirit is there to guide us all in whatever we do.

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 single, smart cloud-based 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 the 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 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 12, 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 does not work for you more than 24 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 before - 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.



Following the migration of our text system to Arbor, we will now also be using the system for emails. We are also intended to increase the use of in app messaging so please make sure you are signed up to the Arbor app and enable push notifications!

Stay & Play
Thursdays
2.00pm to 3.00pm
(term time only)

For more information contact us on
01782 512644



Join us for a relaxed session with fun activities for you & your child (under 4s) to join in with. An ideal opportunity to meet new people in a safe & welcoming environment.

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

Congratulations to our Songbirds on their fantastic performance in "The Big Sing". You were all amazing!



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>

Department for Education Staffordshire County Council

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD

HAF fun this summer

Holiday Activities and Food funded for children and young people aged 5-16 who get free school meals*. Paid places also available.

staffordshire.gov.uk/holidayactivities



If your child is aged 5-16 years and eligible for a funded place on the HAF programme, they will receive an email or letter from Staffordshire County Council and a letter from their school with a HAF code. Booking opens on Monday 23 June at 4pm. Activities run from Tuesday 22 July until Friday 29 August 2025. Quote your HAF code to get a free place

Important Dates

Make sure you don't miss out on any important dates during the school year by subscribing to our school calendar here;
<https://www.ourladyofgraceacademy.co.uk/calendar/?calid=1&pid=9&viewid=1>

Please pray for the children in Year 4 will be receiving the Sacrament of Holy Communion this month.



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




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

June Diary Dates

11th June – Year 4 “The Big Play”, Victoria Hall

12th June – KS1 Peak Wildlife Park

13th June – Father’s Day Breakfast, 8.00am

13th June - KS1 Father’s Day Prayer Service, 9.15am

13th June – Father’s Day Activities, 2.00pm

16th June – Reception & Year 6 School Nurse Measurement

19th June – Northwood Track Events

20th June – KS2 Assembly, 9.10am

20th June – Year 5 Geography Session, SMW

22nd June – First Holy Communion, English Martyrs`, 9.00am

24th June – Sport’s Day, 9.00am

25th June – Year 3/4 Saint Day

25th June – Year 3/4 Saint Day Prayer Service, 2.30pm

26th June – Academy Photography, Groups & Instruments

26th June – Colour Run 2.00pm

26th June Summer Fayre - 3.15pm

School Mass Dates

Tuesday 10th June - Year 5/6

Tuesday 17th June - Year 3/4

Sunday 22nd June - First Holy Communion

Tuesday 8th July - FS/KS1

Tuesday 15th July - Whole School, End of Year Mass

Well Done to.....

	Head Teacher Award 	Reader 	Goldfinch 	Maths 
Foundation Stage	Teddy	Kai	Jack O	Alfie
Key Stage 1	Eve-Lynn	Jeremy	Emily	Tom
Year 3/4	Madison	Lexi	Kobe	Saskia
Year 5/6	Kieran	Charlie B	Reuben	Evie

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 HAD A RUNNY NOSE... BUT LOOK AT HIM NOW!"

MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.

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 \(www.nhs.uk\)](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.