

Our Lady of Grace Catholic Academy, Biddulph



“Do whatever He tells you.”

Messenger

October 2025



Dear Parents,

Thank you to all the parents who attended the parent/teacher target meetings both in person and via school cloud. These meetings are so valuable in supporting your child and seeing how they are progressing.

Last week, we held our Macmillan Coffee morning. We were 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 £275 was raised through the coffee morning and the bake sale after school. Many thanks for all your support.

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 Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 representatives- you played amazingly and showed great sportsmanship as always. Well done children!

Next week, we have our Harvest Celebration in school; this will take place on Tuesday 7th October at 2pm. Parents are welcome to join us and any donations for the food bank would be greatly appreciated so that we can continue to fulfil our mission of serving those in need.

Thank you again for your continued support.

Mrs Davis
Head of School



Sunday's Gospel reading tells us that it doesn't matter how big or how small our faith is; in fact, even with faith the size of a tiny mustard seed, God can do amazing things. This is because the results don't depend on us - they depend on God. Luke 17 5:10



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

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!

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>



Thank you for supporting our Macmillan Coffee Morning. We all had a lovely time and together we raised a grand total of £275.16.



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>

St Margaret Ward Catholic Academy
YEAR 5 & YEAR 6 PROSPECTIVE PARENTS'
COFFEE MORNING
All donations to Macmillan Cancer Support

Taking place on Friday 17 October at 9.30am in the school hall

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.

October Diary Dates

W/C 6th October – Y6 at Stanley Head

Tuesday 7th October – Harvest Celebration - 2pm

Wednesday 8th October – Y5 Biddulph Fire Station Visit

Wednesday 8th October – KS2 Lionesses Tournament

Thursday 9th October – Combined Schools Mass at St Gregory's

Friday 10th October – World Mental Health Day

Friday 10th October – Y5/6 Assembly

Tuesday 14th October – Alton Castle Information Session – 3:30pm

Wednesday 15th October – Y3/4 Synagogue Visit

Thursday 16th October – Phonics Information Session - 9am

Friday 17th October – FS/KS1 Assembly

Friday 24th October – Whole School Assembly

**REMINDER TO YEAR 6 PARENTS – THE DEADLINE FOR SECONDARY
SCHOOL APPLICATIONS IS FRIDAY 31ST OCTOBER**

School Mass Dates

Tuesday 14th October – FS/KS1 Mass, 9:15, English Martyrs'

Tuesday 21st October – Y5/6 Mass, 9:15, English Martyrs'

Well Done to.....

	 Head Teacher Award	 Reader	 Goldfinch	 Maths
Foundation Stage	Harry	Jack	Rosie	Alfred
Key Stage 1		Samuel	Beatrice	Maya
Year 3/4	Isabelle	Aadynn	Kobe	Marlii
Year 5/6	Leo		Johan	Victor

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 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 £3.25 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 Arbor 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 Arbor.

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