

Our Lady of Grace Catholic Academy, Biddulph



“Do whatever He tells you.”

Messenger

JANUARY 2026



Dear Parents and 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 towards their work and their kindness and joyfulness towards 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 2026, please do this directly with the local authority. Applications for the reception class will close on 15th January 2026. Applications for a place in our school Nursery are to be made directly to the school. Please ask for a form at the office. The link for completing the applications online can be found below.

[Admissions to Primary School - Staffordshire County Council](#)

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 will 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. We learn that Jesus' Baptism was a bold statement about who He is – God's Son – and that God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit were all present at this significant event. This gospel gives us the opportunity to reflect on how the sacrament of Baptism welcomes us into God's family and invites us to make a bold statement for God in our own lives, knowing that we too are God's beloved child.
Matthew 3: 13 - 17

Y3/4 Swimming

This Term Y3/4 have the fantastic opportunity to have swimming lessons every Monday afternoon at Ormiston Academy- Don't forget swimming bags! Full list of swimming kit is on the website.



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



NEW MENU!



OUR SPRING TERM MENU IS NOW AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE



Our next family Mass is being held on Sunday 8th February at 9am at English Martyrs' Church. It will be lovely to see you there.

Curriculum

This term's curriculum has been uploaded to your child's class page under 1/2 termly curriculum.

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](https://studybugs.com)



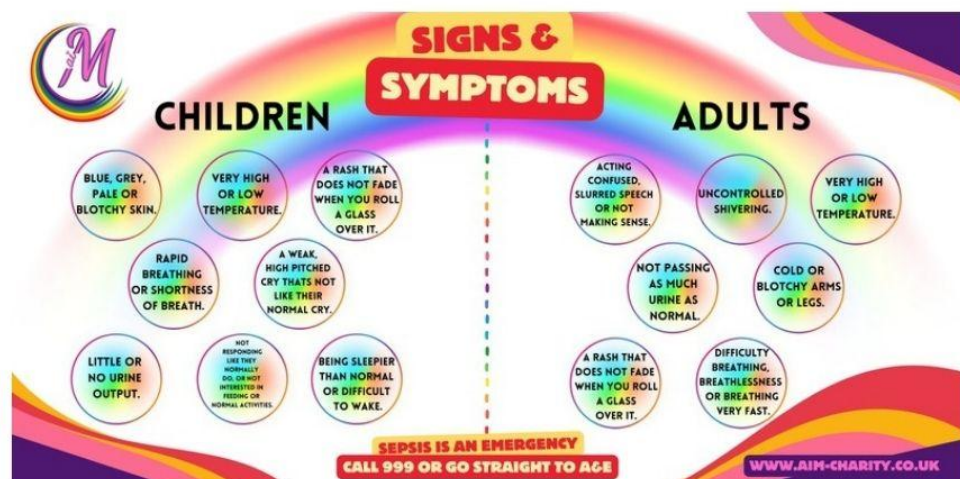
CLUB HIGHLIGHTS

We are super excited to welcome Mr Hayes from Stoke-on-trent City Songbirds this term to our school to run songbirds after school club! This is an excellent opportunity for pupils to develop their talents and improve their confidence.

LOCAL CHARITY

Breakfast

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





January Diary Dates



13th	Confirmation Drop-in Session- 3.30pm
15th	Young Voices
16th	FS Saints Assembly, 9am
19th	All Year Groups- Zorbing
19th	Year 3 & 4- Bouncebackability
22nd	Year 1 Parents Phonics Meeting- 3.30pm & 5.30pm
22nd	Year 2 & Year 6 SATS information session, 6.00pm
23rd	Y3/4 Chester Roman Day Trip
23rd	KS2 Assembly, 9.10am
26th	Holocaust Memorial Day Assembly, 9am
30th	FS & KS1 Assembly, 9.10am

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.

Tuesday 6th January- All School

Tuesday 13th January - Year 5/6

Tuesday 20th January - Year 3/4

FS/KS1 Liturgy of the Word- 11am

Sunday 8th February – 9am Family Mass-Solemnity of Our Lady of Grace

Tuesday 10th February - Year 5/6

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