

Our Lady of Grace Catholic Academy, Bidulph



“Do whatever He tells you.”

Messenger

FEBRUARY 2026



Dear Parents and carers,

I would like to thank you all for your support in ensuring that your children are in school everyday and on time. We are very proud of our attendance and very much value your continued support with this.

Next Monday marks the start of 'Children's Mental Health Week', where the theme of the week will be '**This is My Place**'. The aim of this is to support the systems around children and young people to help them feel they belong. To know our place and really feel part of our environment is a basic human need. It can have powerful and long-lasting impacts in lots of areas of our lives, including our physical and mental health, education, employment and relationships. When we feel that we belong, it empowers us to contribute to the world and make a real difference. We are looking forward to celebrating Children's Mental Health Week next week as a school community. Please refer to the letter which was sent out for further information.

On Tuesday 10th February we will also be marking 'Safer Internet Day', with celebrations and learning based around the theme 'Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI'. Please see the link below for further information on how to help keep your children safe on line.

Finally, this weekend we have our family Mass on Sunday 8th Feb, which begins at 9am at English Martyrs. Fr Julian would love to welcome the children if you are able to attend.

[Top Tips for parents and carers - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

I do wish you all a lovely weekend!

Mrs Davis
Head of School



In this week's Gospel, we hear how our faith should impact our lives and the lives of those around us. We are reminded that we are the salt of the Earth, called to bring out the best in others through our words, actions and faith in Jesus.

Jesus said to His disciples, "You are the salt of the Earth".

Matthew 5:13

During this week where we are thinking about children's mental health, it is a reminder to us that we all have a co-responsibility to teach our children the importance of spending time with God to find peace and strength.

Reception & Y2 Swimming

After half Term Reception & Y2 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.



Potted Sports

SMW hosted a Potted Sports Event last week in which some children were invited to partake in sports activities! 10/10 for effort, well done everyone!



ABSOD Workshop

Well done to those children who took part in the ABSOD Dance Workshop this term- you were all fantastic!



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)



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

Breakfast

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



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.



KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR UPDATES ON FACEBOOK.



Arbor

We will be using Arbor Messaging instead of Text messages going forward. Please add turn on Notifications so you don't miss anything!



JOIN OUR TEAM! CHATTERLEY VICS U11 GIRLS RECRUITING PLAYERS



GREAT TEAM, PARENTS & COACHES!



January Diary Dates



4th	Y5/6 Brampton Museum Trip
6th	Y5/6 Class Assembly- 2.30pm
12th	Valentines Whole School Disco- 4.30-6pm
13th	Dress to express Day / KS2 Assembly -9.10am
14th-22nd	Half Term Week
26th	Sports Star Non-Uniform Day
27th	FS/KS1 Assembly-9.10am
27th	Y5/6 Inspire Workshop
2nd	Non-uniform Day-Marathon Fundraiser
5th	World Book Day
6th	Y3/4 Class 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 10th February- Year 5/6
Tuesday 24th February - Year 3/4
Tuesday 10th March - FS/KS1

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

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.