



The Oratory R.C. Primary and Nursery School

"Shine as to be a light to others"

Headteacher: Mrs C. Wilson



Friday 3rd March

Dear Parents and Carers,

Collective Worship

Liturgical Year and Cycle:

1st Sunday of Lent | Cycle A

Key Scripture: Matthew 4: 1-11

The Gospel this week shows Jesus resisting temptation and putting God's way above all things. Through a quiz involving resisting temptation and making good choices, children learnt that we can trust in Jesus to be our path and the Holy Spirit to be our guide, leading us to God the Father.

Mass

This week's Mass was led by Father David in our school Chapel with Y3.

Celebration Assembly

This week we celebrated our new virtues this half-term: **Learned and Wise** and those children who demonstrated our 3 school rules: ready, respectful and safe.

Mrs Pickup explained to the children how Father Hudson's Charity helps everyone in the community.

Father Hudson's

On Thursday, children will have taken home a Father Hudson's Care Charity box. This is a worthy charity that we have supported for many years during the season of Lent. Father Hudson's is a Catholic organisation that works within our local community offering support to vulnerable people in society. Any change you are able to spare would be greatly appreciated. Please bring the boxes back to school on **Tuesday 28th March** so we can send the monies back before we break up for Easter.

If you would like to know more about the charity visit www.fatherhudsons.org.uk

School Developments

This week we have welcomed Miss Da-Costa in Y5 and Mrs Ralif in Y1 to the Oratory. Children in both classes have had a successful week with their new teachers.

We have successfully and permanently appointed Mrs Leontiou and Miss da Silva who will be starting with us after Easter and will be teaching in Reception and KS2: we will ensure a smooth handover takes place.

We welcome our new staff to the Oratory!

SLT and staff have been revamping our current marking policy to ensure that our marking is informative and moves children's learning on.

School Council have almost decided on the new names for our house teams! Watch this space!

Letters

This week, letters have gone out to Y4/5 girls about the football tournament that will take place at St Paul's School for Girls. It will take place next Wednesday. Please send consent forms back to school by Monday if you wish to participate. Thank you to SPG for inviting us to this event!

This week we celebrated World Book Day with children and staff coming in to school dressed up as a character, or wearing their PJs and talking about their favourite books and authors. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves!

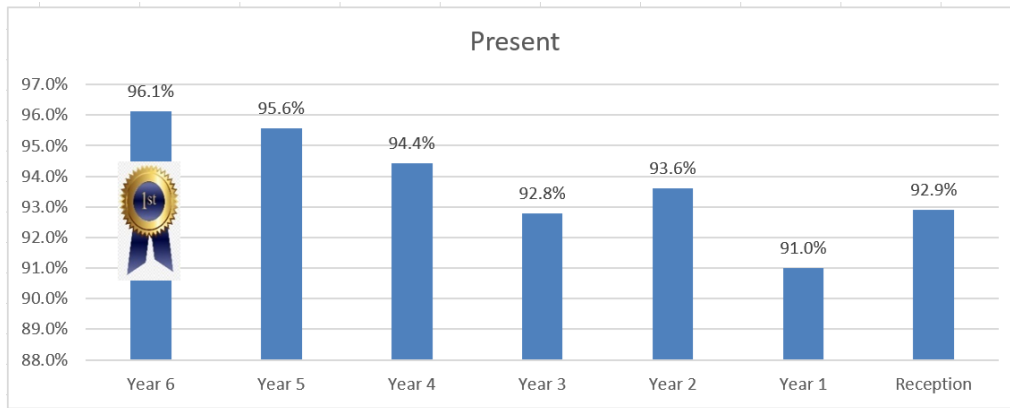
Next week, we will celebrate International Women's Day (8th March).

Optional homework: tell us about an inspirational woman in your life! Some ideas: share a photo / poem / piece of writing about them and how/why they inspire you!

Attendance

Please bring your children to school every day! It is so important that they don't miss out on their learning. If they are under the weather slightly, you can still send them in and we will monitor them closely as long as they have not vomited/had diarrhoea or a temperature.

Well done to our **Year 6** class this week who have won the attendance cup (for the 6th time in a row!) with **96.1%** attendance!



Awards

Well done to these children!



Catholic Pupil Profile Virtues: Learned and Wise

Pupils are growing to be learned, finding God in all things; and wise in the ways they use their learning for the common good.

Living our Catholic Virtues of **Learned and Wise** this week are:

Nursery	Skye	Evan
Reception	Samyar	Alana
Year 1	Daniel	A'mara
Year 2	Nathan	Sandara
Year 3	Mya	Liam
Year 4	Oba	Grace
Year 5	Dexter	Ninnette
Year 6	Diego	Amelia

Following our school rules: **Ready-Respectful-Safe** this week are:

Nursery	Noel	Mia
Reception	Jay	Oliwia
Year 1	Thani	Lotanna
Year 2	Henrik	Fatima
Year 3	Erin	Israel
Year 4	Finnlee	Chentiwini
Year 5	Rafaella	Aryan
Year 6	Maksymilian	Dior - Rose

Sacramental preparation

It is so important that children are prepared for these significant events in their life. The teaching that goes on in school is only part of what the children need in preparation for making their First Holy Communion and Confirmation – there is an expectation that parents/carers take children to Mass every week to further prepare them. Remember to take Mass attendance cards with you to have them signed at the end of Mass.

Sunday Mass times at the Oratory Church:

7.30am Mass (Latin)

8.30am Mass (English)

10.30am High Mass (Latin)

12.15pm Mass (English)

4.30pm Sung Vespers & Benediction (Latin)

5.30pm Mass (English)

Household support fund

Although requests for specific items have now closed, we do have some fleece blankets, hot water bottles, food vouchers and food parcels left over. If any of these items would be helpful to you, please contact the school office and the remainder of the items will be distributed on a first come, first served basis.

Safety

Parking

Please make sure that if you are dropping off or collecting your children from school that you do not park or stop on the yellow zig-zag lines outside either of the school entrances. They are there to make sure that the pavements are clear for people wishing to cross the road. Parking or stopping in these zones puts the children in danger. Please help us to keep all the children safe.

Snacks and food in school

A number of children have been bringing unhealthy snacks into school for break time. Any snacks should be fruit or vegetable based or plain biscuits. Can I also remind you that we have a number of children with **severe nut allergies** in school so products containing nuts should not be bought into school, this includes chocolate spreads. We are aware that some chocolate spreads do not have nuts in them however as we cannot see the ingredients list, **we cannot take the risk.**

Absence reporting procedures

If your child is going to be absent please call school **on each day of your child's absence by 9am.**

Please call 0121 454 0600 and leave a message on the absence line. Include your child's full name, class and reason for absence. Please tell us where possible the nature of the illness as 'sick' or 'unwell' does not outline the reason for the absence. This will ensure that we have an accurate attendance record for your child.

If no reason is given it will be an unauthorised absence.

Please ensure that your children are on time for school. School doors open at 8.40am (8:30 Y6) when the children come into school for a prompt start to their learning which begins at 8.50am. At 8.50am we expect all children to be seated in class ready to commence their learning as this is when lessons will start promptly. Some children are consistently arriving after the school gates are shut and this is impacting on their well-being and leading to lost learning time.

A big thank you to the majority of parents and carers who make sure their children attend school regularly!

Attendance Monitoring

If your child's attendance has fallen below 95%, or they have a number of unauthorised absences we will be in contact with you, and depending on the reason for their absence we may ask you to come to school for a meeting.

If you have received an attendance letter and would like to come into school to meet with Mrs Wilson to discuss it, please make an appointment at the school office.

PLEASE NOTE: Family holidays in term time are not allowed in law and are unlikely to be authorised. Family emergencies also need careful consideration. It is not always appropriate or in the best interests of the child to miss school for emergencies which are being dealt with by adult family members. Notifying the school of leave due to a family emergency does not mean it will be authorised. Any notifications must be made in writing and addressed to the Headteacher (communication@oratory.bham.sch.uk can be used).

Physical Education

Nursery - Friday
Reception – Thursday
Year 1 – Wednesday & Thursday
Year 2 - Wednesday & Thursday
Year 3 - Monday & Thursday(*Thursday = Swimming)
Year 4 - Tuesday & Wednesday
Year 5 - Monday & Tuesday
Year 6 – Monday & Tuesday

On PE days, children should come to school wearing:

- Plain white t-shirt (no football tops or t-shirts with logos)
- Black shorts
- Black pumps
- Tracksuit - black or dark blue for colder weather (no logos)
- Trainers (to be worn for outdoor PE only)

Children in Y5/6 may also bring a small towel and roll-on deodorant on their PE day.

Please ensure children come to school in the correct PE kit. It is important that they are wearing suitable clothing and footwear for physical activity and that the kit is in line with school expectations. Speak with your child's class teacher if there are any problems with this. Reminders will be sent out to parents of children who do not have the correct kit.

Current Clubs:

- Breakfast club (every morning) £2.50, 8am – 8:40am

Monday –

- Football (Y4/5/6)
- Dance (Rec/Y1) **4:15pm finish**

Tuesday –

- Multisports (Y1/2/3)
- Y6 Maths club (by invitation)

Wednesday

- Multi Sports (Y3/4/5/6)

Thursday –

- Netball (Y4/5/6)
- Choir club (Y3/4/5/6)

After school clubs finish at 4:30pm

Send your children to school with their own water bottle, a coat and their reading book and reading record every day.

Encourage healthy eating through the snacks / lunches you send to school.

On Friday, school finishes at 1:20pm. For those who stay on a Friday, they need collecting at 3:15pm.

Please be prompt in collecting your children

Operation Encompass

The Oratory is an Operation Encompass School, working closely with West Midlands Police to identify and support victims of Domestic Abuse. We remain vigilant and urge anyone suffering domestic abuse to contact the school or Police for help.

Have a wonderful weekend.

God Bless,

Mrs Wilson & Team

Key Dates

Monday 6th March Parent's evening slots will go live on Arbor for: Rec, Y2, Y3, Y4, Y6

Monday 13th March Parent's evening: Rec, Y2, Y3, Y4, Y4A, Y6 **NEW DATE**

Tuesday 14th March Parents' evening: Rec, Y2, Y3, Y4, Y6

Tuesday 28th March Parents' evening: Y1, Y5 (TO BE CONFIRMED)

Wednesday 29th March Parents' evening: Y1, Y5 (TO BE CONFIRMED)

Friday 31st March **END OF TERM – School closes for Easter**

Monday 17th April **School reopens for pupils**

Monday 1st May Bank Holiday

Monday 8th May Bank Holiday for King Charles III Coronation

Tuesday 9th May Y6 SATs week begins

Wednesday 17th May King and Queens Day!

Dress up as a King or Queen or in royal attire to celebrate King Charles III's Coronation! We will celebrate in school by having a special themed lunch at lunchtime

Thursday 18th May Special lunch menu: all day breakfast

HALF TERM 29th May – 2nd June

Monday 5th June **INSET DAY**

Tuesday 6th June **School reopens for pupils**

Sunday 11th June First Holy Communion (Y4)

Sunday 18th June Blessed Sacrament procession (Y4)

Wednesday 12th July Confirmation at 7pm (Y6)

**One more INSET day TBC*

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