

St Monica's Catholic Primary School Newsletter

Advent Term
December 2021

News from the school

Thanks for taking the time to read this newsletter and a particular welcome to parents new to our school. We are glad to see more taking place as school COVID restrictions lift, including in sport. Please see the dates in this newsletter for interesting events to come.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Thanks for all the lovely presents you have sent in for your children's friends and teachers. Thanks also to so many of you for helping the children with Christmas jumpers, play costumes, toys for Toy Day and so on.

Return to school dates are: -

Wednesday, 5th January 2022 – all children return except Nursery children.

Thursday, 6th January 2022 – Nursery children already in our Nursery return.

Children new to Nursery will be visiting school on Wednesday, 5th January and will be starting their sessions on Monday, 10th January.

We are still working under local COVID restrictions, including for arrangements for dropping off and picking up children. These are likely to continue in January and I will contact you over the holidays if anything changes.

In case of any further disruption due to COVID in the new year, please make sure the office has up to date email contact details for you. If you need to make any changes, please email the office on stmonicas@st-monicas.co.uk as soon as possible.



Reception Places

You will need to apply for a Reception place even if your child is already in our Nursery.

You need to apply directly to Milton Keynes Council who administer primary school admissions for all MK primary schools, including for us. Please see their website at <https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/schools-and-lifelong-learning/school-admissions/starting-primary-or-junior-middle-school-in-september-2022>

You will need to apply by 14th January 2022. If you need any assistance with the application process, please let us know.

Thanks for your interest in our Reception classes and please tell your friends if you know anybody looking for entry into any year group in our school.



School Council News

A big thank you to all the children and their families that so generously donated to the Food Bank for our 'Brighten up for Harvest' Day. The food bank was very impressed and grateful to the School Council for organising this.



Afternoon Tea

We had a lovely Afternoon Tea this morning for those children in Yr3KF who successfully passed their Accelerated Reader target. We enjoyed jam and cheese sandwiches, as well as crisps and a variety of delicious cakes!



'I enjoyed everything! It was the best!' - Luca 3KF



'The day has finally arrived! I am so excited!' - Erin 3KF



News from Reception!

In Reception and Year 1, we have been learning about castles. We learnt all about William the Conqueror and had a go at role playing his journey to England on the sea. We then had to build a castle thinking about all of the things it would need to defend it, such as a drawbridge, a moat, a portcullis and battlements. We used lots of different materials and worked in groups to build a castle. We had to choose what we would use to join our materials together and how we would create the castle features. We have also been busy learning about knights and their armour.



We finished our topic about castles with a special day where we came to school dressed up in our 'royal' clothes. We wrote invitations to a knight to join us at the banquet we were hosting! We made jam sandwiches with biscuits to eat at our banquet and listened to medieval music. We were very excited to go to our very own banquet and couldn't believe it when a real knight turned up! He shared a story with us and answered our questions about knights. He told us he had a dragon called Dippy and his dragon was very good at flying. We all had a lovely day!

Lost Property

Please can you make sure your child's full name is on each item of school uniform which they bring to school as we have had a lot of lost property already this year. If your child's property is named clearly it is likely to get back to them very quickly - unnamed uniform is much more likely to remain unrecovered.

Looking for Name Labels?

Name labels are the latest initiative from (our PTA) FOSM.

St Monica's is registered with Stikins, a family owned business, which promotes a school fundraising scheme through which the school can receive 30% commission on every order placed quoting the school reference number (21229).

Why choose Stikins Name Labels?

1. Easy to use!

Stikins® name labels are made of an advanced material; all you have to do is stick them onto the wash-care label of clothes. They are a one-size, multipurpose label, which can also be used on school items such as shoes, plastic boxes, water bottles, pencil cases etc.

2. Help your school!

For each order placed ordering St Monica's unique code (21229), we earn 30% commission for the school. You can order online (<http://www.stikins.co.uk/>), over the phone (01270 668076) or by using the order form on the leaflet we've given you. If you use the link on the uniform page of our school's website, the school's code is automatically filled in for you.

<https://st-monicas.co.uk/information/uniform-and-dress-code/>



We print labels every working day
up to 3pm & send them out same day
by first class post.

Packs

120 STIKINS® Name Labels - N120
90 STIKINS® Name Labels - N90
60 STIKINS® Name Labels - N60
30 STIKINS® Name Labels - N30

2021 Prices

£14.20
£12.00
£9.50
£6.80

Prices include
VAT & UK delivery

Order online at www.stikins.co.uk – Pay by Credit/Debit Card, PayPal, or Apple Pay
Order by phone on **01270 668076** – Pay by Credit/Debit Card

Parking

We have had a number of complaints from neighbours this term about disruption from parking, particularly at the end of the school day. Please can you park observing the rules of the road, including with regard to stopping in the middle of the road and parking on yellow lines? Please do not block driveways or park on corners of the paths.

A recent issue of complaint has been around parking blocking their driveway. As a result, they were unable to leave their house.



Diary Dates for next term

Please see below diary dates for next term. An updated calendar will be sent out in the new year once further events have been confirmed.

18	3-Jan-2022		Staff Training day	Children return today ----- Nursery Home visits all day		
19	10-Jan-2022	Music Perf in School Hall - St Paul's 9:10am	Mass at St Augustine's Class TBC			Stay & Pray 5MS - 9.00am ----- Maths G&T comp at St Paul's
20	17-Jan-2022					
21	24-Jan-2022					
22	31-Jan-2022		Mass at St Augustine's Class TBC			Stay & Pray 5FC
23	7-Feb-2022	Parent's Evening	Parent's Evening	Parent's Evening	Y5 Trip to Space Centre	
24	14-Feb-2022					
25	21-Feb-2022					
26	28-Feb-2022			Ash Wednesday Service - time TBC		Stay & Pray 4LD - 9.00am
27	7-Mar-2022			St Paul's Science- Y6		
28	14-Mar-2022					
29	21-Mar-2022					
30	28-Mar-2022	Year 4 Dress Rehearsal 9:30am	Year 4 Dress Rehearsal 9:30am ----- Y4 Perf to parents- 2pm	Y4 Evening Performance 6pm	Stay & Pray Y3 - 9.00am	
31	4-Apr-2022					
32	11-Apr-2022					



St Augustine – 5MS



St Joan – 5EK



St Lucy – 4AP

Group	%Attend
St. Augustine	97.1
St. Joan	96.3
St. Lucy	96.1
St. Francis	95.8
St. Peter	95.5
St. Thomas	95.3
St. Clare	95.1
St. Catherine	91.1
St. James	94.8
St. Luke	94.7
St. Mark	94.3
St. Therese	94.1
St. Joseph	93.7
Totals	95



**Attendance
Matters**

Every student. Every day.