

St Monica's Catholic Primary School Newsletter

Pentecost Term

May 2022

News from the school

Hello and welcome to our newsletter.

Well done to all the Year 6 children and Year 2 children for their excellent work during their recent SATs weeks. It was great to see the children concentrating so well and I am sure they will be well placed for the next stage of their education.

Thanks to so many of you for supporting the school this term in returning RE questionnaires, attending our Nursery open morning, letting your children attend the Friends of St Monica's film night and in so many other ways.

School will end for half term break this Friday, 27th May. School will re-open to children on **Tuesday, 7th June**, as Monday, 6th June, is a staff training day.

Nursery Places available for September 2022 and January 2023.

We have a number of places available in our school Nursery for September and the following January. We take children from the term after their third birthday. If you want any more information, including assistance in getting Government funding for your children's Nursery places, please contact the school office.

All the best for half term, see you all on Tuesday 7th June.

Mr O'Malley



Sports News

I am glad to say that we have started sports clubs again this term and so far have had over 120 children attend. Letters have gone out this week for five after school clubs per week which will run after half term. There is no charge for these clubs as the cost is paid from Sports Premium Government funding we receive.

I am really pleased to report that the Girls' Football team have qualified for the finals of the MK competition, having come second in their pool after 6 matches – well done to them!



Music News

We were fortunate earlier in the term to have woodwind players and teachers from the MK Music Hub visit us to play for the children in Key Stage 2. We now have over 65 KS2 children now taking music lessons each week on instruments (the highest we have ever had) and hopefully this visit will inspire some more...



Collection for Ukraine

On behalf of a group of Ukrainian, English and Polish volunteers working together to help Ukraine by sending regular transports to Ukraine – I'd like to kindly ask you for your support.

We send transport to Ukraine almost every week with much needed items such as:

- General medical items (painkillers, anti-inflammatories, first aid, antiseptic etc)
- Food – canned or dry / non-perishable food, energy bars etc
- Baby items – tins / jars of baby food, nappies, baby milk powder / sterilising tablets
- Basic toiletries and feminine hygiene products
- Dioralyte / multivitamins
- Water purification tabs
- Candles / torches / head torches and batteries

The amazing group of volunteers is based at the warehouse in: Blakelands, 50 Tanners Drive.

You can find more information on the volunteering action on our FB page: [“Help Ukraine BAMK - Bedford, Aylesbury, Milton Keynes”](#) and FB group under the same name.

If you'd like to donate any of the items above (please note strictly no clothing) you can bring them to school.

Alternatively, you can bring your donations directly to the Blakelands warehouse (at 50 Tanners Drive – warehouse entrance with Ukrainian flag) Mon-Fri 9-5.

Best regards,

Anna Wieczorek (school parent) on behalf of Help Ukraine BAMK volunteers group



News from Reception!

We arrived at school in the morning and found that our classroom had been ruined! There were things everywhere and it was a big mess. We found some clues on the floor which helped us to predict who we thought might have made the mess. The clue was a picture of the story 'There's a T-Rex in Town.' We all thought it must have been a T-Rex that made the mess and then we watched the CCTV which showed us that a dinosaur had been in our classroom!



Reception Reading Cafe

Reception enjoyed having their parents in for a morning of fun at our Reading Cafe! We read the story 'We're Going on an Easter Egg Hunt' and completed lots of fun activities based on the story. Thank you to all the adults who came and joined us!



News from Year 2

A group of children in school uniforms are sitting on a blue rug with colorful alphabet borders. They are surrounded by various toys, including a globe, a dinosaur, a dollhouse, and a doll. The children are smiling and looking at the camera.



This half term Year 2 had a visitor from Animal Kind, who spoke to them all about how they can look after and be kind to animals. They watched a short video on how to look after animals such as horses, spiders and pigeons. They then created some posters on the different ways in which they can look after and protect the animals.



News from Year 3

Year 3 have been working scientifically to investigate rocks. They used magnifying glasses and recorded their careful observations using scientific vocabulary.



Year 3 have also been working collaboratively to choreograph and perform their very own group dance, with a 'Rainforest' theme.

The children enjoyed discussing their ideas and thinking about a range of movements, before performing their dance to the whole class.



News from Year 4



Year 4 have been privileged to have clarinet lessons from Milton Keynes Music Hub this half term. The children have a clarinet each! It's been amazing to see how the children have been learning to get a good sound out of such a difficult and expensive instrument.

News from Year 5

On Tuesday 24th May, Year 5 and 6 took part in a cricket engagement day. Each class had a skilled coach who talked them through the game of cricket and children were given the opportunity to develop their bowling and fielding skills.



News from Year 6

Year 6 have had a very busy time this half term. It began with a belated Easter egg hunt for our Accelerated Reader reward. After two weeks of intense revision, we were ready to sit our SATs.

We enjoyed coming in for breakfast before our papers, having extra breaks and the treats of biscuits and drinks. We worked hard throughout the week remaining focused in all papers and our teachers were very proud of us. We celebrated the end of SATs week with a visit to the local park and an ice lolly.

As a further treat, we went to the cinema the following Friday, to see 'Bad Guys'. After a long walk, we thoroughly enjoyed the movie and our marvellous Munchboxes.



Project Prayer Garden

Our Prayer Garden Project is going well and we are hoping to complete before the summer.

There will be a reflective area, a working area and a remembrance area. We are hoping that in the nicer weather it can be used by small groups of children to work in and be a place for shared prayers.

Our chaplaincy and school council have been busy planning the layout and we are looking forward to a grand opening.

If anyone would like to donate any plants in pots, we would love to build a peaceful and green garden in which to reflect in.



The Rainbow Club

Come and join our lively and thriving Breakfast and After School Club!

We have a wide range of activities to meet the needs of every child in a fully inclusive environment.



We are open from 7.30am until 6.00pm and offer great value for money with every session providing a nutritious snack.

Please check us out and sign up on our school website.

Alternatively email Liz.murphy@st-monicas.co.uk for further information. Our fully trained staff offer a friendly service and give you reassurance that your children will be well cared for.

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 constantly have complaints from neighbours 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 parking spaces, junctions, driveways or park on corners of the paths.



Attendance figures



St Joseph – 6AC



St Lucy – 4KB



St Joan – 5FC

| Class | % Attend |
|---------------|----------|
| St. Joseph | 97.7 |
| St. Lucy | 97.4 |
| St. Joan | 97.4 |
| St. Francis | 97.1 |
| St. Mark | 96.8 |
| St. Thomas | 96.7 |
| St. Peter | 96.3 |
| St. Therese | 95.5 |
| St. Augustine | 95.5 |
| St. Clare | 94.9 |
| St. Luke | 94.8 |
| St. James | 94.5 |
| St. Catherine | 93.1 |
| Average | 96 |



**Attendance
Matters**

Every student. Every day.

Diary Dates

| Week no. | Week Commencing | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|----------|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 40 | 6-Jun-2022 | Staff Training day | St Paul's Y5 taster day | | Class Photographs | St Paul's Y4 Taster Day ----- Governor visit- PP |
| 41 | 13-Jun-2022 | History Day | Catholic Schools Sports Day ----- September Reception Open Evening 6pm | Nursery New Intake meeting | St Paul's Y5 Taster Day | Queens Jubilee Celebration (cake sale) ----- Stay & Pray YR/1 - 9.00am |
| 42 | 20-Jun-2022 | | EYFS/KS1 Sports Day 9-11:30am | Nursery Sports Day 9-11:30am | Year 2 Musical Festival 1pm | St Paul's visit to Y5 Q&A ----- TBC FOSM Summer Fete 3:15-6pm |
| 43 | 27-Jun-2022 | | EYFS/KS1 Sports Day 9-11:30am (Reserve) | Nursery Sports Day 9-11:30am (Reserve) | | Manor Adventure Y6 Residential Fri- Sun |
| 44 | 4-Jul-2022 | KS2 Sports Day 9:30-11:30am ----- Sept YR Stay & Play 9:30-10:30am | St Paul's Y4 Taster Day | Transition day ----- FOSM - Disco Night KS1 and KS2 | Woburn Trip- Y2 ----- KS2 Sports Day 9:30-11:30am (Reserve) | |
| 45 | 11-Jul-2022 | Woburn Trip YR/1 ----- School Council day at St Paul's | Woburn Trip YR/1 ----- Year 6 Dress Rehearsal | Woburn Trip YR/1 ----- Year 6 Dress Rehearsal + Year 6 Perf to Parents- 7pm | Year 6 Perf to Parents- 7pm | Ice cream van on the playground 15.15 |
| 46 | 18-Jul-2022 | | | | School Closes for Summer | |