

# St Monica's Catholic Primary School Newsletter

Advent Term

October 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.

Looking for a Reception Class for September 2022? Open morning – Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> November, from 10.00am

There will be an open morning for parents whose children will turn four years of age this academic year for Reception entry for September 2022.

It will take place on Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> November, from 10.00am until about 11.00am.

If you wish to come in and visit at another time or speak over the phone, please email [stmonicas@st-monicas.co.uk](mailto:stmonicas@st-monicas.co.uk) and we will get back to you.

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 15<sup>th</sup> 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.



## First Holy Communion in our School Parish and the St Barnabas Cluster – pick up a form from Church

First Holy Communion preparation will be starting at the St Barnabas Cluster Churches over the coming weeks. This includes our Parish, St Augustine's at Heelands.

If you wish for your child to make their First Holy Communion and they are in Year 3 or above, then you will need to complete an application form that can be picked up from any of the St Barnabas Cluster Churches, including St Augustine's, Heelands. You may have children in year groups higher than Year 3 as there was no First Holy Communion in the Parish last year due to COVID.

Please see <https://st-augustinesmk.org.uk/> for details of our Parish Church.

Please note that preparation classes no longer take place at school due to Diocesan policy. However, there will be plenty of opportunities to celebrate with the children who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

## PTA (FOSM) Events

Thank you for your excellent attendance at the FOSM annual general meeting this week.

Dates for future events for children include: -

Wednesday, 10th November, 3.30pm - 5.00pm - Film Night for children

Friday, 10th December, 3.45pm - 5.15pm - Children's Christmas Party

Please see <https://st-monicas.co.uk/about-us/friends-of-st-monicas-pta/> for more details on FOSM including contact details so you can get involved in providing these excellent opportunities for the school.

Please may I thank all those involved with FOSM and we look forward to seeing former helpers getting involved again and new helpers getting involved this year.





## Mass at St Augustine

With the easing of restrictions, we are now able to join the parish for Mass on Tuesday mornings. Year 6 attended Mass this month and got involved with readings and serving on the altar.

In November, Year 5 will be walking to St Augustine's for Mass on Tuesday 2nd November at 9.30. Year 4 will then attend Mass on Tuesday 7th December. All are welcome to attend.



*"St Augustine was an amazing experience. We felt as if the holy spirit was in our hearts. It felt good to celebrate mass as a class again!"*  
- Oreoluwa and Dorcas, 6LH

## Stay and pray

Over the course of the year, each class will be inviting parents to stay and pray. These sessions will provide an opportunity for the children to plan and lead a worship to share with families.

Over the coming months, the following classes will hold their stay and pray in the hall at 9am.

5th November - 6AC

3rd December - 6LH

14th January - 5MS

Dates for other class Stay and Pray sessions will be shared in the new year.

*"I loved that the parents were there and that they joined in with the actions to the song."* - Megan, 4AP

Please see below a list of clubs which will be running in school from next half term. We are glad to have clubs back in school and thanks to those staff who are leading them. Children have been notified of the availability of those clubs running in school time and letters will go out for consent for those sports clubs running after school.



### Clubs List – Advent Term 2<sup>nd</sup> Half 2021

Think about which clubs you would like to be in – more information coming soon...



Club Name	Day	Time	Place	Teacher	Start date
Cinema/Colouring Club (10 children from Reception, Year 1 and Year 2)	Tuesday	12.00 – 1.00	Mrs Cosstick's YR1 Class	Mrs Cosstick	After half term
Share a Story Club (Key Stage 1 – Year 1 and Year 2)	Friday	12.00 – 1.00	Miss Shanahan's Y2 Class	Miss Shanahan	After half term
Computing – Purple Mash Games (Key Stage 1 – Year 1 and Year 2)	Tuesday	12.00 – 12.30	Mrs Read's Y2 Class	Mrs Read	After half term
Lego Club (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2)	Monday	12.00 – 12.30	Miss Carman's YR/1 Class	Miss Carman	After Half Term
Colouring/Free Drawing Club (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2)	Monday	12.00 -12.30	Miss Shannon's Y2 Class	Miss Shannon	After Half Term
Key Stage 1 Multi Sports Club (Key Stage 1 - Year 1 and Year 2)	Thursday	3.15 – 4.15 (after school)	On the field	Mr Cranston	2 <sup>nd</sup> week back after Half Term



Club Name	Day	Time	Place	Teacher	Start date
Year 4 TT Rockstars Club (Year 4)	Tuesday	12.30 – 1.00	Mrs Paul's Y4 Class	Mrs Paul	After Half Term
Board Games Club (Key Stage 2 – Years 3 to 6)	Tuesday	12.30 – 1.00	Mrs Pickles' Y3 Class	Mrs Pickles	Tuesday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2021
Year 5 and 6 Football Club (Year 5 and 6)	Tuesday	3.15 – 4.15 (after school)	On the field	Mr Cranston	2 <sup>nd</sup> week back after Half Term
Year 5 Homework Club (Year 5)	Friday	12.15 – 1.00	5MS Classroom	Mr Stothers	After Half Term
Cross Country (Key Stage 2 – Years 3 to 6)	Monday	3.15 – 4.15 (after school)	On the field	Mrs Parlett Miss Collins	Already started
Choir (Key Stage 2 – Years 3 to 6)	Monday	3.15 – 4.15 (after school)	School Hall	Mrs Cockerill Mrs Daggett	Monday, 8 <sup>th</sup> November 2021
Music Ensemble (Year 4 to Year 6)	Fridays	3.15 – 4.15 (after school)	School Hall	Mrs Cockerill	Friday, 5 <sup>th</sup> November 2021

**Thank you to all the adults who have volunteered to lead clubs!**



## Sport news

We are delighted that sports events with other schools have started up again this year after 18 months without events. So far we have taken part in four badminton and basketball competitions against the other MK Catholic Schools, coming first place in one and second place in all the others.

We have also taken place in an MK city wide Kommando Kidz event which took place at Sir Herbert Leon School.

We look forward to getting school after school sports clubs going after half term.

Well done to the long distance runners who took part in the cross country competition at the MK Bowl on 16th October, particularly to Amelia who came third in the city in Senior Girls.



## 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
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Prices include  
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Order online at [www.stikins.co.uk](http://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?

A recent issue of complaint has been around parking on the grass along Currier Drive as illustrated by this picture sent in by a neighbour. Your help with avoiding these issues is very much appreciated.



## News from Reception and Year 1

In Reception and Year One we have become very settled in our new classrooms. We have worked hard to learn our daily routines and we are getting to know our friends well. We have had lots of fun taking part in our lessons. We have enjoyed reading lots of new stories and we have even done some role play! We really like reading about the Gruffalo and we thought the little mouse was very sneaky!





## Diary Dates for next half term

Please see below diary dates for next term.

These have been amended from the dates which went out to you previously – the Key Stage 2 (Years 3 to 6) Parents' Information Evening is now **on Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> November at 6.30pm**. This is instead of the 8<sup>th</sup> November date as previously stated.

Week no.	Week Commencing	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9	1-Nov-2021	Back to School	Y6- Whipsnade zoo ----- Mass at St Augustine's Year 5		Cross Country- St Paul's	<b>Stay and Pray Y6AC - 9.00am</b>
10	8-Nov-2021		6pm- KS1/ Reception Parents Evening (Phonics workshop)	10- 11:30am Reception Admission Morning ----- FOSM- Film Night 3:30-5pm		
11	15-Nov-2021	<b>Change of Date 6:30pm- KS2 Parents information Evening</b>			RE Cross Phase Day	
12	22-Nov-2021	Year 2 Phonics Screening ----- School Nurses- ScreeningY1	School Nurses- ScreeningY1	6pm- Y6 SATs Parents Evening	Mexican Day- Y5	Y5/Y6 Girl's football
13	29-Nov-2021		Nursery visit- new intake	Nursery- stay and play Xmas decs 8:45-12:30 ----- Y2 Reptile Roadshow		<b>Stay and Pray Y6LH - 9.00am</b>
14	6-Dec-2021	Nursery dress Rehearsal to YR/1 and siblings 10am ----- 1pm- Y1/R Dress Rehearsal ----- Carol Singing in Neath Hill	Mass at St A Year 4 ----- 9:30am- Y1/R Dress Rehearsal ----- 6pm Evening Performance Y1/R			Christmas Jumper Day ----- FOSM Children's Christmas Party 3:45-5:15pm
15	13-Dec-2021	Year 2 Dress Rehearsal 9:30am ----- Y2 Perf to parents- 2pm	Year 2 Dress Rehearsal 9:30am ----- Y2 Eve perf to parents 6pm	KS2 Carol Service- 6:30pm	Christmas Party day	Last day of term



**St Lucy - 4AP**



**St. Francis – 1AC**



**St Joan – 5EK**

Group	% Attend
St. Luke	93.8
St. Francis	97.4
St. Therese	94.2
St. Catherine	93.1
St. Thomas	95.4
St. Mark	95.3
St. Clare	96.8
St. Lucy	97.9
St. James	95.2
St. Joan	97.2
St. Augustine	96.7
St. Peter	96.9
St. Joseph	94.2
Totals	95.8



**Attendance  
Matters**

Every student. Every day.