



31.1.2025



Dear Parents,

Goodness me January went by in a flash!

At our Celebration Assembly this morning the children shared what they had been learning in class and we also shared individual successes. Well done everyone, lots of hard work going on.

First Holy Communion Enrolment Mass

Last Sunday at 9:15am we had our Enrolment Mass for First Holy Communion at St Wilfrid's Church. It was a wonderful Mass and lots of the parishioners commented on the joy the Year 4 children (and staff!) brought to the occasion. Thank you to Mrs Cannavan and Mrs Bold who are our RE Leads in school. They organised the event and worked with the families afterwards. Thank you too, to Fr Paul and Sr Phyllis who work so closely with us. We are blessed to have their support.

Parents' Evening

Just advance notice that our Spring Parents' Evenings will be held after school on Tuesday March 25th and Thursday March 27th. The appointment booking will go live a couple of weeks before this. It will be an opportunity to talk to your child's teacher and to look at your child's work.

Congratulations

Mrs Hughes began her Maternity Leave after school last Friday. She was looking forward to a couple of weeks rest but baby had other ideas! Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Hughes on beautiful baby Florence who was born shortly before 8am on Saturday 25th January! Mum and baby are doing well.

Healthy Snacks

Another plea for healthy snacks at breaktime please. We are still seeing some chocolate bars and high sugar content snacks. These may give a short energy boost but it will not be lasting and it is not good for children's teeth. The NHS have lots of information on this link about choosing healthy snacks.

<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/food-facts/healthier-snacks/>

You can even download an APP to scan shop bought snacks to find out how healthy they really are.

TT Rockstars

We buy into this resource for our children from Year 3 to Year 6. Each child has been given a login. It is a fun way to practice these vital multiplication and division facts and we would encourage you to help your child(ren) to access this resource.

If your child has forgotten or does not know their login they can ask their class teacher. Please **do not** request passwords from the office or via the admin email address as the logins are generated from the teacher accounts and are not held centrally.

Mary's Meals

Fr Paul popped into school on Wednesday and was telling us about the Parish of St John Vianney supporting a primary school in Zambia with Mary's Meals. Mary's Meals is a wonderful charity and you can find out more on this link:

<https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/>

The parish have sponsored a hot meal for every child at Ndundundu Primary School. They would like this to be an ongoing commitment so we are happy to lend our support. Lots more information can be found on the parish website:

<https://www.stjohnvianney.co.uk/newsletter/>

To support this wonderful cause, we are collecting **aluminium cans** which can be recycled. Rather than sending them in book bags, we'd rather you dropped them in the Mary's Meals bin which will be at the front of school from Monday. I am conscious that the edges of the cans can be sharp so feel free to put a few in a bag and either tip them into the bin or put the bag in.

Please rinse out all tins before donating them. Thank you.

Parking

Here I go again.....it has been a while.....

The rules are there to keep everyone safe, the campus is a very busy place, particularly at the start and end of the day.

At collection time, please park off site or pay to park on St Nicholas playground through the blue gates, manned by our staff. We charge 70p a day or £35 for a term to cover staffing costs. Tickets or passes can be bought at the school office. Tickets and passes will be checked next week.

Only parents who have a child currently attending St Nicholas can use their car parks, accessed up the ramp.

Parking at the front of school is for Pre School parents only and they must be off site before 3pm.

If the disabled parking bays are full, blue badge holders may park at the front of school too. The blue badge holder must be in the car. Anyone parking there **MUST** display a current blue badge. There are a few parents who park there routinely without having a blue badge and then join the queue in the middle much to the annoyance of other parents.

Do not park on the hashed circle at the front of school. Walking children to cars parked here is very dangerous as cars and taxis navigate round you.

Please set a good example to the children and walk on the paths rather than cutting the corner by crossing the road.

Being late is not an excuse to park at the front of school or speed down the campus road.

In the morning, we aim to have four cars dropping off at any one time. If you are the lead car please pull up by the grass. Following cars need to park close to the car in front so we can fit four cars in at a time.

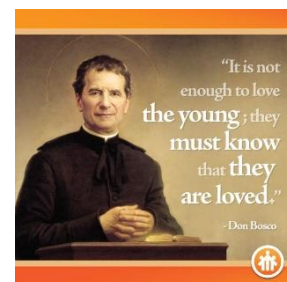
Please be considerate to school staff and other parents by parking responsibly. Thank you to the vast majority of parents who follow our rules, it is the small minority that spoil it for others.

Lockdown Drill

Schools are required to have a 'Lockdown Procedure' in place and we have adopted the Department for Education template. This is in the unlikely event that children and staff need to be locked within buildings for their own safety. Next week the teachers will be talking to the children in an age-appropriate way about our Lockdown Drill. We will compare it to the Fire Drill we have every term and we will have a practice drill to check our procedures. In most cases the children will remain in their classrooms. Only Year 3 and 4 will move as they will join the rest of school in the main building. We will not be using any alarmist terms or referring to terrorism. We will not be asking the children to hide under tables. For obvious reasons our Lockdown Procedure is not made public. In my career, I have been involved in two lockdowns, both were not terror related, they were relatively short lived and the children and staff were calm at all times. If you have any questions about this, catch me at the front of school and I will be happy to answer them.

St John Bosco

Today is the feast day of St John Bosco, a most inspirational man. Known as Don Bosco, he dedicated much of his life to education and the welfare of disadvantaged young people, with teachings centred around 'reason, religion, and loving kindness'.



Welcome

Welcome to the Onwuka and Thompson families who have joined us recently with children in Year 1, Year 3 and Year 5. You are most welcome to our school family.

These letters are also on the website under the Parents tab.

God Bless,

Justine McEniff, Headteacher

I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. John 10:10