



# St Dominic's Catholic Primary School

*We Learn and Love in Faith  
This term we celebrate...Generosity*

## International Week

Dear Parents

### Harvest Festival donations:

Harvest Festival donations were kindly delivered to the Food Bank last week by Gordon and Annie Norris. Stroud Foodbank were delighted to see such a generous selection, which was a combination of items provided by families of St Dominic's and parishioners. Eight crates were needed to hold all the items. Thanks to everyone for their generosity.

### The Curriculum:

This week in the curriculum we have had lots of active learning opportunities. The week began with our whole school trip, spread over two days to the Nympsfield glider airfield where the children had a lovely time exploring the planes and learning more about flight. I would like to say a big thank you to Mrs McLaughlin and the people at Nympsfield for organising this for us; the children loved it and it was great way to learn about aspects of their locality.

There has been a real buzz in learning over the last term across the school.

Children have been carrying lots of science experiments in all classes and using their mathematical and writing skills to complete practical tasks. Mr Peter Lead visited school and all classes were engaged in the extraction of the honey and Class 4 have had their forest school day at Copsegrove Farm focused on team building skills.



In addition this week we have had a multi-cultural focus week, where the children have been exploring other faiths by learning about the Hindu festival of Diwali. Today, I would like to say Kon'nichiwa, irasshai (Hello, welcome) to the Japanese students who are visiting us. We are very much looking forward to their visit and hope they enjoy their time at our school. This is a great fantastic opportunity for the children to explore similarities and differences between our two cultures. I am sure the children in KS2 will also love developing their origami skills through the activities that they will be sharing. I would especially like to thank our school governor Mrs Thurbon for organising the morning for us and for assisting on the day. Over half term the teachers will be putting together more pictures and information for their class pages on our website to show case some of this term's learning.

**Parent Information Evening.** Thank you to those parents who attended our meeting class night and visited classes to learn more about the curriculum and the age related expectations for the specific year groups. I hope that you found it a useful opportunity to explore the learning that takes place and ask vital questions. I also asked parents if there were any other topics that they would appreciate some further information on. If you couldn't attend the meeting last night, please let us know of further topics that you feel would be helpful to know more about. At the meeting Mr Reid and Mr Beard kindly offered to come in next term to help broaden children's knowledge and understanding in aspects related to Science. If you would like to offer some time to share with the children your specific skills, interests or occupation we would love to hear from you.

**Parent Consultation Evenings:** We will run the usual parent consultation evenings in week commencing 13<sup>th</sup> November - on Tuesday from 3.30 pm until 5.30 pm and on Thursday evening from 5.30 pm until 7.30 pm. The sheets for signing up for a 10 minute slot will be available in the entrance hall after half term. However, if you feel that you would like longer than the allotted 10 minutes, please arrange another suitable time to meet with the class teacher so that we can keep the meetings running to time.

**Chaplaincy Team:**

I would like to say thank you to the children who have put themselves forward to help lead our school community in this way. On our special reflection day at St Peter's they had the opportunity think of ways in which they will support the community, lead prayer in our school and work towards the mission of bringing hope to others. Thank you also to Mrs Drumm who came accompanied us.

**Church Grounds:**

Thank you for heeding the Parish request for the children not to play around the graves. The parish have also noted that the bottom step of the Cloister Cross (the cross on the church lawn) is damaged and is likely to move or slip and so they have asked, for the children's safety, that they not climb around this. Thank you for your support.

**Class Masses:**

We have tentatively arranged the class Masses for the coming term. Please see dates below or the school website calendar. All will be held in Church at 9:15am- Class 4 Mass 3<sup>rd</sup> November, Whole school Remembrance Mass 10<sup>th</sup> November, C3 Mass 17<sup>th</sup> November, C2 Mass 24<sup>th</sup> November, C1 Mass 8<sup>th</sup> December.

Finally, I wish you all a very enjoyable half term holiday and I look forward to seeing you back in school on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October.

**best wishes**

*Jacqui Sollars*

A time to reflect... *Generosity*

Dear Lord

Teach me to be generous as You have been generous with me. Teach me that all I am and have are gifts from You. And gifts, Lord, are meant to be shared.

Show me the joys of generosity. Help me to understand that others, perhaps unknown to me, depend on me for help.

Remind me that my world, my parish, need "Good Samaritans" to heal the wounds of our times.

Make me a gift to others in Your name.  
Amen.

**Dates for your diary...**

C2 trip to Copsegrove: Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October  
Flu vaccinations for R – Y4: Wed 15<sup>th</sup> November  
Whole school trip to 'We The Curious': Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Dec  
Whole school trip to Bath panto 'Snow White':  
Monday 18<sup>th</sup> Dec  
Last day of term 2: Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> Dec, finish 1:30pm