



St Dominic's Catholic Primary School



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

Remembrance ...

Dear Parents

I hope you all had a lovely half term break and have come back refreshed and ready for the very busy term that lies ahead of us. There is so much booked into the school diary already that I feel sure the weeks until Christmas will go very quickly! This week Class 2 enjoyed a wonderful day at Copsegrove Farm on their Forest School Day. The children said that they loved everything about the day. They had a great time making Space Rockets, clay aliens and energy wraps to take with them up into space. I am currently in the process of organising a Forest School Day for Class 3 and Reception children!

Remembrance: Next Friday, 10th November at 9:15am, we will be joining the parish for Friday Mass to reflect and remember those who were sacrificed in war. The children in Class 4 will lead us in this service and we will then walk to the Wayside Cross to show our respects. All are welcome to join us for this special service. The children in Class 4 are currently selling poppies, bracelets and snap bands etc, each day around the classes at break times. If you would like your child to have a poppy then please send in a donation for this worthy appeal. They are also available from the school office.

After School Clubs: We have a wide variety of afterschool clubs available and they are as follows:

Monday: Arts and Crafts

Tuesday: Stay and Play

Wednesday: Dance (This includes preparation for the Spring Country Dance festival if you would like your child to take part)

Thursday: Textiles or Cricket skills (Y1-Y6). Cricket will run from Thursday 9th November – Thursday 7th December

I am delighted that we are able to offer a further sports club, with **cricket** coaches coming in to teach key skills on Thursdays on the above dates. Children from Year 1 to Year 6 are welcome to attend this club. Please complete an Out of School booking form and return to the office as soon as possible. After Christmas there will also be the opportunity for your child to join a **gymnastics club** on a Friday after school club from 3.15pm to 4.15 pm. This is an independent club, which will be run by a specialist Gymnastics teacher. It will be offered to children from Year 1 to Year 6. The children will have the opportunity to take their gymnastic badges. More information about this will follow shortly.

Please note we will be changing the Out of School booking form, so that if you wish to book slots in the club continuously, you will be able to indicate this on the form and then no future booking forms will be necessary.

A message from Dario, guitar teacher:

If your child would like to learn to play the guitar, I have spaces in my schedule for new learners. In some cases, pupil premium will cover 50% of the cost if your child is eligible.

Parent Consultation Evenings: Many parents have already signed up for the teacher and parent consultation evenings on Tuesday 14th November from 3.30 pm until 5.30 pm and on Thursday 16th November from 5.30 pm until 7.30 pm. At the meeting teachers will provide you with your child's mini-written report which you can take away. For the meetings to run smoothly and avoid long delays, it is very important that everyone keeps to time. However, if you feel that you might need longer please contact your child's teacher and they will arrange another suitable time for you.

Whole School Trip to 'We The Curious' (formerly @Bristol):

On Monday 4th December we will be taking the children to 'We the Curious' with a particular focus on the Space theme which is a large part of the science curriculum this term. An information letter will be sent out shortly.

Christmas Nativity and Christingle: In order to give an opportunity to all our children to explore music, drama and dance, and experience the true spirit of Christmas, the teachers and I are planning something slightly different this year. We are developing a whole school Nativity Service that will enable all ages of children to be involved. We had originally agreed on Thursday 14th December at 6:30pm but unfortunately there has been a clash of dates, so we will let you know as soon as we have a new date. The younger children in Reception (C1) and Key Stage one (C2) will help recreate the Nativity, whilst the older pupils will work together to support them. Each class will be involved in acting, singing and reading. We will include the traditional lighting of Christingles which the children will learn about so that they fully understand the significance of the symbolism contained within this Christian tradition. We also hope that they might be involved in helping making them with the assistance of parent volunteers. By holding this event in the church we will be able to accommodate all our families and bring the community together. I would also like to thank the PTA for service refreshments at this Christmas celebration.

We have decided to make this change as we are also planning a whole school production of **Beauty and the Beast** in the summer term, which Year 6 and Key Stage two will lead for us. I am sure that this will also be a tremendous success, especially with the young talent and skills of children and teachers that we are lucky to have at our school.

Whole School Trip to the Pantomime: We will be taking the children to the Pantomime 'Snow White' in Bath on Monday 18th December, and the PTA have kindly agreed to fund the travel cost. More information to follow very soon.

Flu Vaccinations: A reminder that these are for reception children to Y4, and will take place on Wednesday 15th November in school, and that consent needs to be given before the vaccination can be administered. Please either send consent straight to the office, or give consent online via the homepage on the school website.

Christmas Bazaar

We are all looking forward to supporting the Christmas Bazaar, and the children will be involved again this year helping to produce lots of lovely items which will be on sale. There are great plans for this wonderful fundraising event. I know the committee will be very grateful of any support and offers of help they receive to ensure this is a real success. It will take place on Saturday 9th December from 12pm – 3pm. The committee would like to include a craft section to promote local arts and crafts and provide a lovely Christmas shopping experience. If you are interested in having a stall please contact Alison on 07525 268533 for details.

Finally, another reminder about **Head lice** which we still have in school unfortunately. Please can you check your child's hair regularly using a nit comb as this really helps keep on top of this persistent problem – many thanks!

best wishes

Jacqui Sollars

A time to reflect... Compassion

Compassionate God and Father of all,
we are horrified at violence
In so many parts of the world.
It seems that none are safe, and some are terrified.
Hold back the hands that kill and maim;
turn around the hearts that hate.
Grant instead your strong Spirit of Peace -
peace that passes our understanding
but changes lives,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Dates for your diary...

Fri 10th November Whole School Remembrance Mass, 9:15am, all welcome
Fri 17th November: C3 Mass, 9:15am, all welcome
Fri 24th November: C2 mass, 9:15am, all welcome
Fri 24th November: choir singing at Nailsworth Noel
Mon 4th Dec: whole school trip to 'We the Curious'
Mon 18th Dec: whole school trip to Theatre Royal Bath
Tue 19th Dec: last day of term, close 1:30pm
Thurs 4th Jan 2018: start of term 3
Wed 10th Jan: Young Voices