



Friday 19th January 2024

Dear Families,

Catholic Life of the School

This week we spoke about Ordinary time, recognising that this is the time in the Liturgical calendar where we can focus on growing our faith and love of God.

We reflected on the work we regularly do on Catholic Social Teaching and spoke about ways in which we might help promote Peace and Solidarity this half term. I look forward to seeing the imaginative ideas we come up with as a school community to help enrich our school and wider community.



Nursery Applications – September 2024

Monday 26th February – Applications open (application via online form available on our website <https://www.stmore.herts.sch.uk/page/?title=Nursery+Admissions&pid=122&action=saved>)

Thursday 28th March – Applications close for on time applications

Friday 19th April – Nursery places offered Friday 26th April – Deadline for accepting Nursery places

Nursery Tour Dates: Monday 5th February @ 9am

Friday 16th February @ 9am

Tuesday 27th February @ 9am

Wednesday 13th March @ 9am

Please contact the school office via admin@stmore.herts.sch.uk if you wish to attend. If you are unable to make the available dates, please contact us and we will do our best to accommodate you.

Year 5 Trip – Young Voices at the O2

The Year 5s had a super time on Thursday as they went to perform in the O2 in London with thousands of other Year 5 children. They were incredibly excited setting off and spoke so highly about the day and experience. Thank you to Mrs Firmin, Mrs Morgan and Mrs Rogers for taking the children.

OPAL Update

This week we had another Free Play Friday. It was strongly requested and looked forward to by children across the school. We will be looking to put down hardstanding in the coming weeks to facilitate outdoor storage for the OPAL scheme. If you would be able to help in any way or know someone/a company who might, please let us know as any help or advice is greatly appreciated.

NSPCC Number Day

On Friday 2nd February we are taking part in the NSPCC Number Day to raise awareness around Maths - the importance of it and how we use it all the time in everyday life. To raise money for this wonderful charity we are asking you to make a donation via <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/support-us/ways-to-give/donate/> and for your child to come dressed in their **own clothes with a digit on their clothes somewhere**. The teachers will be planning lots of Maths related activities for the whole day to really immerse the children in a fantastic experience. We look forward to sharing the activities we complete with you on this day and thank you for all your support. More information about Number Day can be found here: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/support-us/charity-fundraising/schools-fundraising-ideas/number-day/>

Smart Watches and Fitness Trackers

A reminder that smart watches and fitness trackers are not permitted at school in line with our ICT policy and acceptable use agreement. They can be a distraction to learners and can pose a safeguarding risk as these devices can have the capability to make external contact, take photographs and encourage comparison of stats. Any smart watches/fitness trackers will need to be handed in to a staff member if brought into school.



Learning to love, live and celebrate as we grow in the knowledge and love of Christ.



Year 3 Trip to Ashlyns – Target Games

On Wednesday 24th January, Year 3 are participating in a Target Games event at Ashlyns school. We would appreciate some more parent or carer walkers to accompany us on the journey there and/or back to school. Please contact the school office if you are able to help with this.

Fundraising Efforts

We were delighted to receive a letter from members of the Berkhamsted Royal British Legion. As a school, we support the Poppy appeal. The Berkhamsted Poppy Appeal raise money for local charities and a chosen school each year. This year they have gifted us £350 from their fundraising for which we are very grateful! Thank you!

Author Visit

We were delighted to welcome Steve into school on Monday and Tuesday as he ran a series of workshops for classes across the school based upon using their imagination in free writing. Lots of fun was had and it was great to see so many children engaged and buying some of his books. Thank you to Miss Addison for arranging and to Steve for visiting.

End of Day Dismissal

A reminder that school staff will be unable to release children to a different adult/person collecting if this information has not been shared with the school by the parent or guardian of the child. Please ensure any changes in pick up routine are relayed to the office and/or classroom staff ahead of time as well as any changes to regular routines including childminder collection. Thank you

First Aid

A letter was shared last week explaining the coloured forms and bands which children now receive for accidents or injuries. Please speak to a member of staff if you would like any further details or information.

Attendance

Whole school attendance is up to **97.40%** this week. Thank you for your support.

Reception	97%	Year 4	97%
Year 1	98%	Year 5	99%
Year 2	96%	Year 6	98%
Year 3	95%		

Congratulations to Year 5 who achieved the highest attendance this week!

Community News:

Prayer at Home

Hopefully you and your families are enjoying the Prayer at Home resources. They are all available on our school website [here](#).



STMSA News

Welcome back - we hope it is a great Spring Term for our community!

Bags2School - Tuesday 23rd October

Our next Bags2School drop is on Tuesday 23rd - please start collecting any items for donation. Full list of items that can be donated can be found here: <https://bag2school.com/what-we-collect> - all bags can be brought into the office from Monday 22nd.

AGM

The AGM was meant to be 19th Jan but a large number of the STMSA Committee couldn't make that date, so we've had to move the date to 24th January 7.30pm. All parents (on the committee or not) are encouraged to join us at this event where full details of our fundraising activities and plans for 2024 will be discussed, as well as the voting in of our new chair(s). Please keep this date free in your diary and we hope to see you there!

January 100 Club Winners

1st (£100) Bill Readman
2nd (£50) Marina Burke
3rd (£25) Terri-Ann Nichol

If you would like to sign up please go to <https://forms.gle/p6w6TZoL76wpEvFc7>

Calendar dates:

Spring Term:

January

23/1/24 Bags2School collection (STMSA)
24/1/24 STMSA Annual General Meeting (AGM) @ 7.30pm – *all welcome*

February

2/2/24 Number Day – *own clothes with a digit on somewhere!*
7/2/24-9/2/24 Year 5 Trip to St Cassian's Centre
14/2/24 Ash Wednesday – Mass in school @ 2.15pm – *families welcome*
19/2/24-23/2/24 Half Term
27/2/24-1/3/24 Book Fayre after school

March

7/3/24 World Book Day – pyjama theme
11/3/24 Science Week
20/3/24 Parent Consultation Evening
26/3/24 Start of Holy Week
26/3/24 Year 3 & 4 Easter Production Dress Rehearsal @ 9.30am – *families welcome, limited capacity*
27/3/24 Year 3 & 4 Easter Production @ 6pm – *families welcome*
28/3/24 End of Term @ 1.30pm

April

15/4/24 INSET Day – school closed to pupils
16/4/24 Start of term for pupils

Have a lovely weekend,
Miss Lally
Assistant Headteacher



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