



Bernie's Bulletin

Thursday 5th September 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back to school! The children have been wonderful settling back into school routines and are enjoying their new classes. A special welcome to our new children and parents who have joined our school family this year. We hope that your time at St Bernadette's is very happy.

Class newsletters containing helpful information will be sent home at the end of this week and our 'Meet the Teacher' evenings will be held on **Tuesday 10th September at 6:00pm**. These are an ideal opportunity to speak face to face to your class teacher and learn all about the routines in class. Alternatively, please speak to staff at the end of the day with questions about your child's new school year.

Thank you for your continued support and co-operation. I wish everyone a happy and successful new school year.

Mrs Helen Crowder
Headteacher

✉ enquiries@admin.saintbernadettes.wigan.sch.uk

☎ 01257 401125



Do you know anyone who is starting Reception / Nursery in September 2025?

St Bernadette's will be offering tours of the school in an Open Day on
Wednesday 30th October 2024 (9:30am and 1:30am).
Please call the school office for an appointment.

Masses

Our children love going to Church, enjoying the sense of reflection and peace that it brings. If you would like to attend Church too, please see below for the Mass times:
Saturday Vigil Mass

St. Bernadette's - Saturday 4:45 pm / St. Marie's – Saturday 6:15 pm

Sunday Morning

St. Bernadette's - Sunday 9:30 am / St. Marie's - Sunday 11:00 am



THE WEDNESDAY WORD: You can enjoy the Wednesday Word as a family by following the link to this week's edition: [Wednesday Word](#)

OUR LADY OF THE ANNUNCIATION AND ST. BERNADETTE'S PARISH NEWSLETTER:
Our parish weekly newsletter can be found on: [Our Lady of the Annunciation and St Bernadette's P - Newsletters \(chessck.co.uk\)](#)

St Bernadette's Children's Liturgy group

We are very lucky to have such friendly and welcoming liturgy leaders who lead Children's Liturgy in the 9:30am Sunday morning Mass at St. Bernadette's Church.

Children from Nursery upwards are able to attend to explore and reflect on the meaning of the liturgy that grown-ups in the main body of the church read or listen to.

If you would like your child to attend but are not sure how they will be in the group, please speak to one of the leaders. All children are welcome, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Extra support can be agreed with the leaders, if this is needed.

It is an excellent way to help children to develop confidence in becoming an important and valued part of our parish. Our children are the Church of tomorrow.

Tesco Community Grant Scheme

We are so excited that we have been chosen to be part of the Tesco Community Grant Scheme where you will be able to vote for St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School with your blue token.

The grant will be used for our outside area which has been developed lately, but could be so much more with your help!

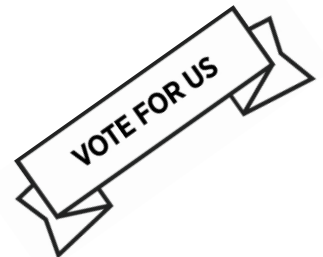
Votes are still open until the **end of September 2024** in the following stores.....

Wigan Extra, WN1 1XE

Pemberton Express, WN5 8AX

Wigan Gidlow Lane, WN6 7PL

Wigan Whelley Rd, WN1 3UP



Staffing

We are very pleased to welcome our new staff to St. Bernadette's. Mrs Mitchell in Year 5 and Miss Lee in Nursery have both enjoyed meeting their new classes this week and we hope they will enjoy being part of our beautiful school community.

Mrs Fisher has decided she will not be returning after the summer break and Mrs Boe is temporarily supporting Mrs Newbold in the office until a permanent position can be filled. Please see our advert below for an Office Manager:

[Wigan Council | Jobs | Search here for your perfect career - Job Information | Apply for Office Manager \(greater.jobs\)](#)

KS2 Healthy Snack

In Year 3 - Year 6 children may bring their own healthy snack to school for morning break. We are promoting healthy eating so snacks can include fruit (fresh or dried) or toast. No cereal bars or cakes/biscuits please.

It is also important that all children remember to bring water to school in their bottle each day.



Pencil Cases

We kindly ask that children in KS2 do not bring pencil cases into school. Our classrooms are fully equipped with all the necessary equipment needed and this will help us maintain consistency and minimise distractions. Thank you for your understanding and support.

Attendance

A new National Framework for Penalty Notices for school absence, including unauthorised holiday absence, is being introduced following changes to the law. These new Government regulations came into effect from 19 August 2024, and will affect when penalty notices are issued in Wigan.

1. There will be a new national threshold of 10 unauthorised sessions for any reason (equivalent to 5 school days) within a rolling 10 school week period for when a penalty notice must be considered.
2. The new rules mean you will no longer be able to take your child out of school for one week's holiday without a penalty notice being issued.
3. There will be an increase in the penalty fine from £60 to £80 if paid in 21 days. If the fine is not paid by the first 21 days, it will rise to £160 if paid within 28 days of being issued.
4. If a second penalty fine is issued to the same parent for the same child within a 3-year rolling period, the fine will automatically rise to £160 with no option to pay the lower rate of £80.
5. If a parent then commits a third offence in a 3-year rolling period, the local authority will need to consider other enforcement options available to them.

We would like to thank parents and carers for their support in making sure that children do not miss any learning time.

Extra-Curricular Timetable



Our extra curricular timetable will be released next week for clubs to start w.c 16th September for 5 weeks. Parents/Carers will be notified when they are up on Parent Pay.

Bernie's Bears 'Stay and Play' Sessions

We are re-starting our Bernie's Bears 'Stay and Play' sessions every Wednesday 9:30am – 10:45am (term time). Our first one will be next week, Wednesday 11th September.

If you have a child under school age, or know anyone who does, why don't you come along, get to know our Nursery staff and join in the fun! If you would like any further information or to book your session, please contact the school office on 01257 401125.

Homework and Reading Records

We know you are always very keen to support your child at home and we hope the poster below will be helpful in supporting you to do this. Firstly, one of the best ways to do this is simply talking with your child about their day and their learning experiences.

To find more information about what your child is learning throughout the curriculum, please follow the link to our curriculum overviews / reading books on our school website: [Yearly Overviews | St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School \(saintbernadettes.wigan.sch.uk\)](https://www.saintbernadettes.wigan.sch.uk)

KS1 and KS2 children have beautiful new homework/reading diaries which reflect our Catholic life and teachings. Children must bring their homework / reading diary to school every day and we would like parents to continue to use them as a communication tool and write comments about their child's reading.



Spotlight on Homework



Reading

The most significant thing that you can do to support your child's learning is to share books with them on a regular basis. By this we mean reading to your child; listening to your child read and talking about what you are both reading.



Your child should spend short periods of time (10-15 minutes) each night, engaged in reading activities at home. Each child has a reading record and we ask that you record any reading activities in the home. Your child has a home reader and also a 'reading for pleasure book' from our school library.

Maths

Maths homework is given weekly using platforms called Numbots (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) and Times Table Rockstars (Year 2—Year 6).



Facts to Learn

Children will also be asked to learn number facts to help them with their fluency.

Reception—Year 2 — Number of the Week and Number Bonds

Year 2—Year 6 — Multiplication Facts to learn

Year 5 and Year 6 — Arithmetic Questions

Spellings / Phonic Work



Each week, children will be sent home with a list of spellings to learn. They will have been taught the spelling rule or sound in school.

RE

Children can read and carry out activities based on the Gospel reading for the week. KS1 and KS2 children can find this in their homework diaries.



Being an Expert!

Please look at the curriculum overview for the units of work and books your child will study in the next half term. By pre-learning about the topic, or reading the book beforehand, your child will go into the lessons **BEING AN EXPERT!**

Cashpot for Schools

Please can we ask our families and community, who shop at Asda, to download the Asda Rewards App and help raise money for our school with the 'Cashpot for Schools' campaign.

If you nominate St Bernadette's as your chosen school then, each time you use your reward card, school will receive money from Asda. Thank you!



Care Plans—Please return to the school office

New care plan information forms have been sent home to those children on our medical register. These forms are crucial for ensuring we have up-to-date information on your child's health and can provide the necessary care and attention during school activities.

All new children in Nursery and Reception class have received these forms.

If your child has any new medical information we need to be made aware of, please contact school to request a form and we will be more than happy to help.



Nut Allergy

We want to remind you of the importance of being mindful of nut allergies within our school community.

To ensure the safety of children with nut allergies, we kindly ask that you refrain from sending any nut-containing products to school, including in lunches or snacks e.g Nutella.

If you have any questions or need further guidance on safe food options, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

School Library

Each child will be allocated a designated library day during which they can borrow books from our school library. We kindly ask that you take note of your child's allocated library day so books can be returned and exchanged.

Nursery—Tuesday

Reception—Monday

Year 1—Tuesday and Thursday

Year 2—Tuesday

Year 3—Friday

Year 4—Friday

Year 5—Thursday

Year 6—Friday

Tuesday Mass

As a school, we have very close links with St. Bernadette's Parish. One way we work together is when our children attend the 9:15am Tuesday Mass at St. Bernadette's Church.

We always open our invitation to parents and family members to attend Mass with your child/children and, to help with this, the dates are below:

Tuesday 10th September—Year 6

Tuesday 17th September—Year 5

Tuesday 24th September—Year 4

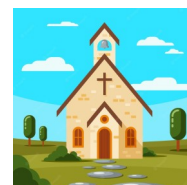
Tuesday 1st October—Year 3

Tuesday 8th October—Year 2

Tuesday 15th October—Year 1

Tuesday 29th October—Reception

Further dates will be sent home nearer the time.



Nursery Places Available!

**St Bernadette's will be offering tours of the school at your convenience.
Please call the school for an appointment—01257 401125**



St. Bernadette's Nursery

Church Lane, Shevington
WN6 8BD
● 01257 401125 ●
www.saintbernadettes.wigan.sch.uk

**Children can join FREE the term after their third birthday
OR paid sessions the day after they turn three.**

What we offer:

- A warm, safe, comfortable environment within a nurturing school community
- Learning based on children's interests and talents
- Extensive grounds to explore and learn
- A place in the heart of the local village
- Educating pupils with skills for life
- 15-30 hours funding available

**Wrap around care
7:30am - 5:30pm**



**FREE NURSERY TASTER
SESSION**
(ring school to book)

**FLEXIBLE
SESSIONS
AVAILABLE**

Dates Autumn Term 2024 (more information to follow)

Tuesday 3rd September – KS1 and KS2 children return to school for Autumn Term

Wednesday 4th September – Nursery children return

Wednesday 4th September - Reception staggered starts begins

w.c. 9th September – Musical instrument lesson start

Tuesday 10th September – ‘Meet the Teacher’ evening at 6:00pm (*staff from St. Peter’s will be attending Year 6*)

Tuesday 10th September – Year 6 swimming starts

Wednesday 11th September – Stay and Play returns

w.c. 16th September – Extra-Curricular clubs start

Wednesday 18th September – FOSB meeting

Tuesday 24th September – Reception Tea Party afternoon – *parents and carers invited*

Friday 27th September – Year 5 Rosary Class Worship 9:10am – *parents and carers invited*

Wednesday 2nd October - Provisional date for flu vaccinations

Friday 4th October – Number Day / Timestable Rockstars Day

Monday 7th October – Year 4 First Holy Communion first session 6:00pm St Bernadette’s Church – *parents and carers invited*

Tuesday 8th October – Year 6 Residential Information Evening 5:30pm

Friday 11th Friday – Year 2 Harvest Celebration 9:10am - *parents and carers invited*

Tuesday 15th October – Parent’s Evening from 1:00pm

Wednesday 16th and Thursday 17th October – Reception and Year 1 Bikeability

Thursday 17th October – FOSB Monster’s Ball

Friday 18th October - School closes at 3.20pm for half term

Monday 28th October - School re-opens for 2nd half of Autumn Term

Wednesday 30th October – Open Day

w.c. 4th November – ‘Growing Together in.....’ parent workshops with children in school time

Friday 8th November – Year 6 Remembrance Reflection 9:10am - *parents and carers invited*

Monday 11th November – Wednesday 13th November – Year 6 Residential

Monday 11th November – Year 4 First Holy Communion second session until 4:20pm. No parents needed

Friday 22nd November – Colour Day!

Thursday 12th December – Santa Dash!

Tuesday 17th December – Reception and Year 1 Nativity 2:00pm and 6:00pm

Wednesday 18th December – Year 2 Christingle 9:10am

Wednesday 18th December - Nursery Nativity 2:00pm

Thursday 19th December – School party day

Thursday 19th December – KS2 Carols Around the Christmas Tree 3:00pm

Friday 20th December - Finish for Christmas 2:00pm (no after school club)