



Bernie's Bulletin

Thursday 19th September 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

It is hard to believe that the children have only been back at school for three weeks! They have done a wonderful job of settling back into school and have been so busy with all the fabulous things around school.

A special welcome to our new children and parents who have joined our school family. We hope that your time at St Bernadette's is a very happy one.

Thank you to all parents who attended our 'Meet the Teacher' sessions. We hope that they were useful and, as always, if there is anything else you feel that school can provide to make you feel equipped and confident in supporting your child's learning at home, please do let us know.

Please read our newsletter below to keep up to date with everything that's happening in our school.

Thank you for your ongoing support,

Mrs Helen Crowder

Headteacher

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

☎ 01257 401125



SCAN ME

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 1:30pm).
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 \(chessck.co.uk\)](#)

Year 4 First Holy Communion

We are ready to start our First Holy Communion sessions with our Year 4 children. Parents/Carers have been sent a letter outlining the programme of events, culminating with a wonderful celebration in May 2025.

Thank you for supporting the children on their very special journey. Please send in any remaining forms / baptism certificates so we are able to allocate the First Communion mass dates to families as soon as possible.



Class Worship and Celebrations

All parents and carers are invited to join their child's class worships and celebrations throughout the year. We will keep you informed of dates/times through the Parent APP, newsletter and school website. In the coming weeks we have:

Year 5 Rosary Class Worship—Friday 27th September 9:10am in the school hall.

Reception Class Welcome Mass – Monday 7th October 10:30am in the school hall.

Year 2 Harvest Celebration—Friday 11th October 9:10am in the school hall.

Tesco Community Grant Scheme

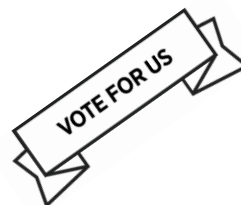
Votes are still open until the end of September 2024 in the following stores.....

Wigan Extra, WN1 1XE

Pemberton Express, WN5 8AX

Wigan Gidlow Lane, WN6 7PL

Wigan Whelley Rd, WN1 3UP



Please continue to vote for us. We will hear the outcome later in the year.

Retirement

Mr Heaton, our school caretaker, has been an essential part of our school community over the past few years, ensuring that our school is safe, clean and welcoming for everyone. He has happily gone above and beyond, always willing to do anything asked of him but, sadly for us, it is time for his retirement.

We are seeking a new caretaker to join our team. If you know someone who would be a great fit for our school, please share this job advert:

[Caretaker in Wigan | greater.jobs](#)

Thank you Michael for your kindness and dedication—you will be greatly missed.

Our office manager position is still available:

[Office Manager in Wigan | greater.jobs](#)

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

Here is a gentle reminder to return any care plan information forms to our office. 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.

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.



Harvest Collection

Following on from the success last year we will be supporting The Brick charity, who support vulnerable local people, with this year's Harvest Collection.

We will be collecting donations of dried food goods (packets, boxes, tins and jars) and other non-perishables from Monday 30th September to Monday 14th October.

We understand that times are tighter than ever for our families who may be struggling themselves. Any donations, large or small, are always truly appreciated.



Polite Reminder

A little reminder that when children are collected at 3.20pm, they are not allowed to play on the climbing frame or tyres. We politely request that you do not allow children to do this as we cannot guarantee supervision from a member of staff or the safety of the children. Thank you for your support in this.

Secondary School Admissions

If your child turns 11 between 1st September 2024 and 31st August 2025, they will transfer to secondary school at the start of the new school year in September 2025.

The online application is now open and the closing date for applications is 31st October 2024. [Secondary schools \(wigan.gov.uk\)](https://www.wigan.gov.uk/secondary-schools)

The online applications for primary school places will open on 30 September 2024.





Spotlight on FOSB

Our first 'Friends Of St. Bernadette's' FOSB meeting of the year was a real success with great ideas for the year ahead. Below are the events for the Autumn Term. Please support us where you can.

If you wish to join the 'Volunteer FOSB' Whatsapp group, please contact the school office.

Monster's Ball 2024

On Thursday 17th October the children are invited to one of their favourite events of the year.....The Monster's Ball.

Please sign up via our Parent's App and send the £3 per ticket money into the school in a labelled envelope.

Nursery and Reception parents must stay with their children during the party. The KS1 and 2 children can be dropped off and picked up at the end of the party. We will be operating a one-way system, dropping off at the front entrance to school and picking up at the hall door.

Nursery, Reception and KS1 – 5:30pm – 6:30pm

KS2— 6:45pm – 7:45pm

Cake Sales

Parents and carers from each year group are asked to contribute by donating cakes which are then sold after school at pick up time.

This year FOSB have agreed that ALL the profits from each cake sale will go back into the class who ran the sale! This means that the funds raised will directly support class activities, projects, and resources allowing our children to enjoy even more enriching experiences. Thank you to FOSB for being so kind.

We ask that parents, carers and family members volunteer on the day of their child's cake sale. Please let the school know if you are able to give a few minutes of your time. Thank you.

Year 6—11th October

Year 5—22nd November

Year 4—17th January

Year 3—7th February

Year 2—2nd May

Year 1—13th June

Reception—4th July



Santa Dash 2024

On Thursday 12th December, children from Nursery to Year 6 will be taking part in a sponsored Santa Dash.

The Santa Dash will be a sponsored Fun Run that your child will complete with their class throughout the day. Your child is encouraged to wear Christmas clothes (Christmas jumper, Christmas dressing up or Christmas related items) to complete the run. They will be dashing around like reindeers whilst completing a variety of fun activity stations en route!

This year there will be an electronic and paper-based sponsorship form which will be sent home nearer the time.

FOSB Class Reps

As we look ahead, we want to ensure the continued success and sustainability of our FOSB. To help achieve this, we are proposing the creation of FOSB Year Group Representatives.

We invite all interested parents to consider stepping into this important role. If you'd like to learn more or express your interest, please chat to the office or Mrs Crowder or sign up via our school APP.

Thank you for your continued support in making our school a thriving place for our children!

School Levy

As you are aware St. Bernadette's is a Catholic Voluntary Aided school. This means that while the Government provides money for staff wages, books and equipment, the building costs and repairs are paid for by the Archdiocese of Liverpool.

All Catholic schools in the diocese are requested to pay an equal share of money towards the building fund.

Therefore we respectfully request parents to pay a voluntary contribution of £10.00 per year per child, or per family if you have more than one child.

This week we have sent home a reminder of this via our school APP where you can make your contribution via your Parentpay account. Alternatively, payments will be gratefully received through the school office.

Thank you for your generosity.

Free School Meals

You may not be aware that schools receive additional funding depending on the number of children eligible for free school meals.

If you think your child may qualify for free school meals then the school could benefit if you apply – even if you choose to provide packed lunches.

If your financial circumstances have changed and you think you may be eligible, please visit: [Free school meals, pupil premium, and EYPP \(wigan.gov.uk\)](https://www.wigan.gov.uk/free-school-meals) to check eligibility and apply.

A form has also been sent home to collect information. We ask you fill this in and return it to school ASAP so we can check potential funding for St Bernadette's.

Dates Autumn Term 2024 (more information to follow)

Monday 23rd September—Year 3 and 4 Road Safety Workshops

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*

Monday 30th September—Harvest collection starts until Monday 14th September

Monday 30th September and Tuesday 1st October—Nursery Keyworker Sessions

Wednesday 2nd October - Flu vaccinations

Friday 4th October – Number Day / Timestable Rockstars Day

Monday 7th October—Reception Class Welcome Mass in school - *parents and carers invited*

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 October—Year 2 Harvest Celebration 9:10am - *parents and carers invited*

Friday 11th October—Year 6 Cake Sale

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

Wednesday 30th October—Parents Workshop in School—Understanding Anxiety

Friday 1st November—Parents Workshop in School—Understanding Anxiety

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 to Wednesday 13th November – Year 6 Residential

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

Wednesday 20th November—School Photograph Day

Friday 22nd November – Colour Day!

Friday 22nd November—Year 5 Cake Sale

Wednesday 27th November—CAFOD whole school assembly

Tuesday 3rd December—Whole school trip to a Pantivity at The Edge (Nursery to Year 6)

Thursday 5th December—Year 1 and Year 2 Music Performance— *parents and carers invited*

Monday 9th December—Year 4 First Reconciliation Mass 6:00pm at St Bernadette's Church

Monday 9th December and Tuesday 10th December—Nursery Key Worker Christmas Craft Sessions— *parents and carers invited*

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 – Christmas Lunch Day

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)