



HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE BOARD

The Wedding at Cana



'Do whatever He tells you' (John 2:1-11)

In this weekend's Gospel reading, Jesus performs His very first miracle to reveal God's power and glory, working through His beloved, Son; it is in response to a plea from His mother. Jesus shows His divine power turning water into wine and Mary instructs us, today, just as she did then, when she told the servants, 'Do whatever He tells you'. We too, must be ready and willing to open ourselves to the will of God in our daily lives. This reading also shows us that Mary, the mother of God cares for us and is always ready to intercede or plead on our behalf to Christ, when we ask for her help to do so.

Loving Father,
Fill us with your life and love,
so that You may live in us,
and we may live in you.
Amen.

Safeguarding: Attendance and Punctuality

All schools have a legal duty to keep pupils safe and Attendance & Punctuality is part of this. As a school I have to report to the DfE, Local Authority and Blessed Christopher Wharton Catholic Academy Trust, regularly about attendance matters. **It is a parent's responsibility to ensure that their child attends school and informs the school directly, on the 1st day of absence, if their child cannot attend.** As a school, we have a range of measures to implement, as part of our policies and procedures, to safeguard pupils e.g. Home Visits and Attendance Contracts.

Persistent Absence, below 90%, is a serious cause for concern and letters are sent to inform parents; and we start to directly engage with parents/carers and to address this in Attendance Contract Meetings. The Local Authority may become involved in matters where a child's attendance falls below 85% because of the negative impact this has on the child's personal

development and their progress and learning – if they are not here, then they are missing out!

Recently, **Lindsey Fallon (Safeguarding Team Manager for the Prosecution Office)** has started to work with myself and Mrs Gadd on Attendance issues and as a result, where a child's absence is a serious cause for concern, she comes into school to hold a Formal Police Caution Meeting with the parent(s); when parent(s) do not address their child's attendance they are likely to be fined and this may further result in a prosecution in court.

I fully appreciate the challenges we have faced during this pandemic and the concerns parents may have had at the start about risks for their child to be infected with Covid-19; however, with the robust safety measures we have to reduce the risk of covid-19 and the fact that these systems have always been shared with parents, parents should have confidence in the measures that we are implementing and trust that I will always take the appropriate action needed to protect our pupils, staff and parents.

Breakfast Club we try to support parents/carers, opening the school at 8am and offering After School Clubs, so parents can avoid traffic congestion to help their working patterns. We accept children do have illnesses but when attendance DOES NOT MEET A REASONABLE THRESHOLD we will expect medical evidence to support further absences. Arriving after 8:55am means your child is late and has missed the start of their learning. This would not be good enough for my son or daughter and therefore it is not acceptable for any pupil at St. William's School. Punctuality is an essential life skill and it is not reasonable to use, 'The taxi was late', 'The roads were congested' or 'I slept in'.

If you would like to discuss any of the matters I have raised here, I will be happy to arrange a mutually agreeable time to meet with you, please contact the school office to arrange this. **Thank you for your support to provide the very best start for your child's future.**

Headlice

Please understand that headlice like to live in clean hair/head and that it is not a reason to be absent. Children may get headlice from time to time and it is advisable to regularly check your child's head/hair so you can treat it immediately. The most effective way to remove headlice and eggs that latch onto the scalp of the head is to comb the wet hair with a fine tooth-

comb, over the bath so you can see headlice and eggs on the surface of the bath or in the comb. **Repeat this process everyday for 7-10 days and it will be treated successfully.** A special shampoo for headlice is not necessary. Please do not become upset or angry with school staff or accuse other children in your child's class of giving these to your child as this is not kind or respectful. As soon as we are aware of headlice in school we send letters to inform parents that they need to check their child's head. Thank you.

Staffing Update

Miss O'Brien left St. William's School at the end of last term. I want to express my appreciation to her for all she did to support the pupils in her care during her time at our school and we wish her all the very best for the future. Following a successful recruitment process the Local Academy Councillors and myself appointed Miss Hamilton as Class teacher for Beech Class on Monday, 10th Jan. Miss Hamilton is a qualified teacher and already has established relationships with the children. I am sure you will all wish her the very best in her new role. Miss Collins has also joined Beech Class, as teaching assistant.

Sacramental Preparation 2022

Applications will be available from the School Office from Monday 17 January 2022 or from St. William's presbytery for baptised Catholic children:

Pupils in Y4 (+8yrs) - Reconciliation

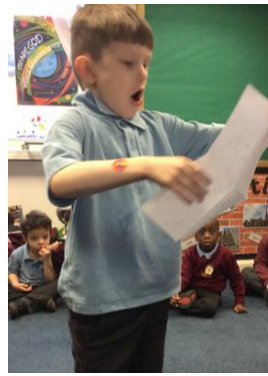
Pupils in Y5 (+9yrs) - 1st Holy Communion (for those who completed the Reconciliation programme)

Pupils in Y6 (+10yrs) – Confirmation (for those who have completed Reconciliation & 1st Holy Communion programmes)

If you wish to be baptised yourself or you wish to have your child, in school baptised, please contact Fr Michael directly.

Ash Class

Ash Class were given a little challenge to do at home this week! They had to draw a picture of their favourite part of the story Supertato or favourite character and then send a photo of it to class dojo by uploading it to your portfolio. On Tuesday, we received a letter from The Evil Pea from the story SUPERTATO! The Evil Pea trapped some of the snacks on our snack table!!



Keeping children safe online



Free Online Safety Guide

What parents and carers need to know about

Replika

Unlike some AIs, Replika can't answer trivia questions. It can't order a takeaway. It can't control your domestic appliances. What it can do is chat – about anything from your favourite book to how your day was. The software learns to imitate its user, aiming to produce more rewarding interaction. The more a person talks to their Replika, the more it sounds – and thinks – like them.

Straight away, there's an obvious potential issue. An advanced chatbot, constantly reflecting someone's own thoughts back at them, could create a personal echo chamber where even extreme or distasteful opinions become normalised. As our #WakeUpWednesday guide this week discovers, that's not the only possible threat posed by the AI companion app Replika.

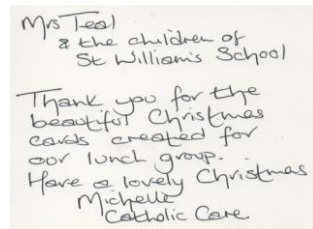
Read on to access your free guide and catch up on the latest online safety news ...



Do you know who your child is talking to online?
useful websites for further information:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk> ,
<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk> ,
<https://childnet.com> ,
<https://www.internetmatters.org>

Catholic Care - Well done everyone for your contribution and wonderful Christmas card designs.



Addressing any concerns, regarding your child.

Please see your child's class teacher, if you have any concerns regarding any incidents of inappropriate behaviour towards your child, from another pupil; rather than approaching another pupil's parent/carer directly. As a staff, we do try hard to be on the playground at the start and the end of the school day, for you to approach to make a mutually convenient time to meet and discuss any issues or concerns you may have. Equally, you can contact Mrs Gadd 01274 545743 to arrange an appointment with your child's class teacher. Teachers and support staff share the responsibility to engage and interact with children during breaks and lunchtimes and often we are able to give a full account of what may have been said or happened at these times. We will listen and investigate any issues raised to us, thank you.

COVID – 19

The Risk Assessment has been updated and is available for you to view on the school website. We must all continue to work together to ensure we keep our selves safe and that the school can remain open - we do not want to have to close to school to classes!

As a result, only one adult on the school playground at any one time **and I recommend adults wear a face covering as they bring and collect their child(ren), as it is not always possible to maintain safe distances at the bottom gate.** Any adult coming into the school must wear a face covering to see any member of staff.

If you suspect you have Covid-19 or your child is showing symptoms you need to do a Lateral Flow Test as soon as possible and self-isolate. If a child tests positive they must **self-isolate for 7 days and on days 6 and 7 have a Lateral Flow Test (2 negative results mean they can attend school from day 8).** If they do not have a Lateral Flow Test on days 6 & 7, then they must self-isolate for 10 days and return from day 11. Confirmatory PCR tests following a positive lateral flow device (LFD) test result are temporarily suspended from **Tuesday 11 January.** This will mean that anyone **who receives a positive LFD result will be required to self-isolate immediately and will not be required to take a confirmatory PCR test.**

Adults and children aged between 5 & 18 years of age that have close contact with someone who tests

positive **must take Lateral Flow Test for 7 consecutive days and if they get negative results every day and DO NOT show symptoms of Covid-19 they can attend school.**

Remote Learning will be provided via Class Dojo for those pupils who cannot attend school because they have tested positive for Coronavirus. Please contact school staff if you have any issues, as we want all our pupils, to be able to access the same learning that their peers are having in class. This will support your child's progress and development. **It is a statutory requirement for schools to provide remote learning and it is in your child's best interests that they are encouraged, by parent(s) to complete this.** I thank you for your continued support with implementing our safety measures and seeing your child completes the learning that is on Class Dojo.

Winter Weather & School Closure

We have a text messaging system in school as well as Class Dojo which we use to contact you with any important messages. This will include any school closures due to bad weather conditions. You can also hear the school closures on Pulse Radio or by visiting Bradford Schools Online (emergency school closures). **Always assume we are open unless you receive a text or class dojo message saying the school is closed.**

Warning: No Holidays in Term Time

Please book holidays for when school is closed. We do not authorise any holidays in term time **and fines will be issued for taking your child/children out of school during term time. Please be mindful of the travel restrictions in place and the need to self-isolate after visiting certain countries.**

Attendance & Punctuality

Give your child the best start in life – every school day counts!

This week's Trophy Winners!

Class	%	Number of Lates per class	Time lost through lateness	Number of pupils on time
Ash	94.4%	3	3hrs 25mins	25
Oak	89.6%	2	20mins	26
Beech	86.4%	6	1hr 25m	22
Lime	97.8%	2	10mins	21
Holly	91.2%	1	10mins	29

91.7% Overall school attendance

92.9% Overall school attendance to date

Congratulations...Bravo...Well done!!!



Class teachers' Achievement Awards:

Congratulations to these fabulous award winners:
Harley, Kacper, Hakeem, Eesah, Megan, Suzanna,
Sofia, Ruby, Sofia and Kevins

Hot Chocolate Friday:

Iyaan, Connor, Moyin, Karolina, Femisola, Leodette,
Cassidy, Vania, Faiza and Hashim

Virtue Certificates this week:

Sylviane – Love, Ralfs – Faith, Mia – Love, Ahmad –
Faith and Abu'Hurairah - Love

Golden Table Monday:

Marcella, Abby, Amanda, Julie and Samica

'Golden Mention to our lunchtime stars'

Elif, Brodie, Isla-Grace, Hakeem, Sofia, Megan, Ruby,
Ingrid, Nikoleta and Sophia.

Dates for your diary:

07.02.22	Oak Class – Homework Project due in
07.02.22	Parent Consultation Letters sent home to parents/carers
14.02.22	Parents' Consultation Monday, 14 th 3.30-6pm & Wednesday, 16 th February 3.30-5.30pm
14.02.22	Lime Class – Homework Project due in
14.02.22	Holly Class – Homework Project due in
16.02.22	Parents' Consultation Evening 3.30-5.30pm
18.02.22	School Closes for half term & re-opens 28.02.22

Breakfast Club opens every day at 8am,
50p per child per day.
A lovely way to start the day!
Please arrive before 8.30am

P.E. Lessons

Oak Class – Monday's and Thursday's
Beech Class – Tuesday's and Thursday's
Lime Class – Thursday's
Holly Class – Friday's Swimming

After School Clubs

Monday **Music Club** – 3.15 – 4.00pm in Oak
 Arts & Craft Club – 3.15 – 4.15pm in Pine

Tuesday **Minecraft Club** – 3.15 – 4.00pm in Lime

Thursday **Board Games** 3.15pm – 4.00pm in Holly
 Homework Club 12.25pm – 12.55pm in Lime

Friday **Choir Club** 12.25pm – 12.55pm in the Hall



Happy birthday to you, happy birthday to you,
happy birthday dear

Eesah

happy birthday to you! Hope you have a special day.

**Have a lovely weekend and see you
all Monday 17 January 2022, at
8.45am**



HOW TO CONTACT US



<https://twitter.com/SWCPSBradford>
[@SWCPSBradford](https://twitter.com/SWCPSBradford)



| facebook.com/st.williams.catholic.primary.school



Use **class dojo** to send home learning work back to
your child's class teacher to be checked.

office@wil.bcwcat.co.uk

constantcontact@stwilliams.bradford.sch.uk

01274 545743