

Friday, 16th July, 2021

## St Bernadette's Roman Catholic Primary School

*Live the Gospel and when necessary use words*



# Bernadette's Blog

## Mrs Fallon Writes...

I remember sitting down to write this thank you last year and truly believing that once we reached September 2020, life would be back to 'normal.' Therefore, it seems somewhat surreal that 1 year later Covid is still dominating school life and sadly at this point in the year, we have a large number of children and staff at home isolating.

However, I feel exceptionally grateful and privileged to have weathered this particular storm with the most resilient and courageous group of children, the most dedicated and committed group of staff and governors and a parent body which has been so incredibly supportive and understanding each and every step of the way.

The children have, as always, surpassed our expectations in every way. They have adapted to every change put before them and done so with a great sense of responsibility and resilience. A very special mention must go out to our Year 6 pupils. It has been such a privilege working with you all and getting to know you over the years. The pandemic may have stopped certain things happening in the 'traditional' way, but it didn't stop you shining, it didn't stop your personal growth or the ways in which you have supported friends when they needed you; it didn't stop you coming together and working together; It didn't stop your teachers from feeling incredibly blessed to have had the opportunity to work with and alongside you this year; it didn't even stop your SATs really as you asked for this week to go ahead in school! It will be hard for us all to adjust to life without you next year but we wish you well on your new journey and look forward to seeing you all when you come back to visit.

Being a parent comes with all kinds of challenges and none as much as this year! I honestly cannot express the gratitude I feel to you all for the amazing support and generosity you have shown school staff this year. Remote learning, changes to routines, changes to staffing, isolations, last minute school closures to name but a few of the relentless challenges you have faced this year but through it all you have encouraged and supported your children, asked for help when needed, maintained such positivity towards school and staff and made the whole ordeal so much more manageable. Staff have truly appreciated every log on to remote learning, every piece of work submitted, every card, well-wish, email sent into school and every kind gesture sent our way - especially the cakes and treats that found their way into our staffroom. I sincerely hope you all manage to have a restful summer and I look forward to welcoming you all back to school in September.

Of course, I have always known the staff at St. Bernadette's to be selfless, hard-working, innovative and dedicated but never has this been more evident than throughout this year. They have worked extremely hard under incredible pressure, with lockdowns, school closures, isolations, children zooming into lessons, teachers zooming into homes and staffing challenges whilst juggling their own families and childcare needs. I would like to congratulate them and thank each and every one of them sincerely for their incredible effort and dedication to the children and our school. THANK YOU.

Hopefully September will bring us back to a level of normality but St. Bernadette's will see some big changes! This summer, Mrs McConville and Mrs O'Brien have made the decision to retire. Between them they have worked tirelessly and dedicated 60 years to the children and community of St. Bernadette's. They will be a HUGE miss to our school but we wish them every best wish in their retirements - definitely well deserved!

As we close our doors for Summer, we hope you can enjoy some quality time with family and friends before we return to school on Tuesday 7th September.

Take care and stay safe From all the staff and governors of St. Bernadette's.

# Leaving Today

The last day of the summer term, is always one of mixed feelings. Excitement for the holidays ahead of course but also the knowledge that people are moving on, to a new chapter in their lives and won't be with us in September.

So, today we say "Goodbye and good luck!" to our Year 6 pupils.

We are so proud of you all and wish each and every one of you the very best for all the adventures which you have ahead.



Our best wishes go out to Mr Gillie our Y3/4 class teacher, who is moving on to pastures new. We have loved getting to know you over the past few years and will never forget you amazing lockdown videos! Thank you for all your hard work!



It's impossible to believe that Mrs O'Brien is retiring as she looks just the same as she did twenty five years ago, when she began working at St. Bernadette's.

Always a favourite with pupils, teachers and her fellow support staff, because of her amazing ability to keep calm and carry on invariably with a smile! How will school manage without you?

Enjoy every moment!



It's even more impossible to believe that this will be my last blog.

So, I am taking a moment to say "Thank you everyone!"

Since 1985, St. Bernadette's has played a very special part in my life.

Thirty years of teaching the Wallsend community was a privilege.

Watching generations of children grow up; many pupils returning with their own children. Finally hearing the words "You taught my gran!" has been an amazing journey. Six more years working in the office was a

brilliant way to end that journey. I have had so many very special colleagues, but none more incredible than the current staff.

St. Bernadette's future is in safe hands!

# Can you play the hoop game? Year 3 can!



Year 3 had great fun learning the hoop game.



## Don't forget!

The staff at St. Bernadette's would like to remind you that they are unable to accept gifts at the end of the school year. Please do not make collections or purchases. Our children always do their best and that is all the thanks that we need. Thank you!

# Natural Artists



Today Years 5 and 5/6 went outside and did some nature printing using leaves! It was very messy but so much fun!



# Summer Reading Challenge



The Summer Reading Challenge 2021 is now here! We can't wait to introduce you to our brilliant heroes and get you set up on your reading journey!

Visit [www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk](http://www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk)

We're teaming up with WWF for a very special nature-themed Challenge that will inspire you to stand up for the planet!

Take a trip to Wilderville, where the Wild World Heroes are learning how to make their town a cleaner, greener place for all the people and wildlife that live there. As you read books for the Challenge, you'll get to go exploring all over Wilderville, from the woods to the farm and even the beach!

With your help, the heroes will transform Wilderville into an even cooler place to be, and will discover lots of brilliant books along the way!

## Meet the Heroes

Journey through the woods with Willow and Hazel

Travel along the river with David and Webster

Get creative with gamer Faiza and Mouse

Get down to the beach to meet Callum and Shelby

Make some noise with activist Carys and Doug

Take a trip to the farm with Marcus and Charlie

## Taking Part in the Challenge

You can take part in the Challenge by signing up at your local library.

It's completely free to sign up! Your library will give you a special Collector Poster map of Wilderville and help you find books to read.

As you read books for your Challenge, return to the library to receive stickers to add to your map - some of them even have smells!

Collect all the stickers to complete the Challenge and transform Wilderville.

You'll get a special Wild World Heroes certificate too!

Or you can take part in the Challenge on our website!

Choose a summer reading goal - we recommend six books, but you can challenge yourself to read as many as you like!

Each time you finish a book, add it to your website profile to unlock special badges and activities. You'll unlock a Wild World Heroes certificate when you reach your summer reading goal.

If you already have a website profile from a previous Summer Reading Challenge, you can sign in to get started with Wild World Heroes. If you're taking part online for the first time, you'll need a parent or carer to help you sign up - click the 'Join' button at the top of the page to get started.

There is plenty to do on our website, from games to activities and competitions.

## Reading books for the Challenge

You can choose any books you like to count towards your Summer Reading Challenge.

Fact, fiction, poetry, graphic novels, joke books - the choice is yours!

eBooks and audiobooks count too, so you can read wherever and however you like!

This website allows you to keep track of the books you read and to unlock digital rewards.

To find books to read, there's no better place to start than at your local library.

# Sports and Achievements

Stephen plays for North Shields Under 8s football team.

Here he is with the super trophy he received at the club's presentation evening.

Congratulations, Stephen!



Joshua passed his first grading this week.

He's very proud of himself and we are proud of him too!

Well done, Joshua!



Theo passed his kickboxing red belt grading recently.

Good stuff!!

Well done, Theo!



Double congratulations to Luke, who earned his purple belt in ninjitsu and did a PB for 50m breaststroke and front crawl.

Bumper week for Joshua this week as he was given his first medal at football to mark the end of the season and achieved his final badge at his swimming!

Congratulations!



Kacper has passed his Grade 1 piano exam with excellent marks.

That's wonderful!

We are so proud of you Kacper!



Noah managed to pass his first stage of swimming this week AND learnt how to ride a 2-wheeler bike!!

Two fantastic Achievements!

Well done, Noah!



# Happy Birthday!



Best wishes to everyone who has a birthday this summer. Enjoy!!



## Action for Children - Boycott your bed Challenge



Joshua not only camped out with his daddy last Friday night. He also helped make and deliver 60+ pizzas for his neighbours who also boycotted their beds. They haven't counted the total raised by this massive effort yet but they are hoping to have beaten last year's funds.

Absolutely amazing!

Well done to everyone who took part.



Thank you to everyone who has contributed to Bernadette's Blog this year. It has been a great way of keeping us in touch with one another during this challenging year.

Remember, all our past blogs are archived on the school website.

# Holiday List 2021-2022



St Bernadette's R C Primary School

## Holiday List

September 2021 – July 2022

### Advent Term (Autumn Term)

<i>*Training Day</i>	-	<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021</b>
School opens	-	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> September 2021
School ends for half term	-	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2021
School re-opens	-	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2021
School ends for Christmas	-	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2021

### Lenten Term (Spring Term)

<i>*Bank Holiday</i>	-	<b>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2022</b>
<i>*Training Day</i>	-	<b>Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022</b>
School opens	-	Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2022
<i>*Bank Holiday</i>	-	<b>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2022</b>
School ends for half term	-	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> February 2022
School re-opens	-	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2022
School ends for Easter	-	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> April 2022

### Trinity term (Summer Term)

<i>*Training Day</i>	-	<b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022</b>
School opens	-	Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> April 2022
<i>*Bank Holiday</i>	-	<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2022</b>
School ends for half term	-	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2022
School re-opens	-	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2022
School ends for summer	-	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2022

**School Reopens Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

## Planning For The Holidays!



The Raring2go! Summer magazine from Newcastle, North Tyneside and Gateshead is full of fabulous places to go, events, holiday camps and things to do this summer.

Visit <https://bit.ly/SUMMER21magazine>

## Class Teachers For September

Nursery	Mrs Chamley	Year 3/4	Mr Milner
Reception	Miss Kincaid	Year 4	Miss Rogers
Year 1	Miss Dempsey	Year 5	Miss Smith
Year 1/2	Mrs McGuigan	Year 5/6	Miss Love
Year 2	Miss James	Year 6	Mrs Satterley
Year 3	Mrs Walker		

Mass: Sunday 11.30am  
Fr John McElhone— 0191 2623820



Message from Fr John

We have launched new more interactive websites

These can be found at:

[www.staidanschurch.uk](http://www.staidanschurch.uk)

[www.stbernadetteschurch.uk](http://www.stbernadetteschurch.uk)

From the latest government update on 12th April Covid restrictions remain in place across the UK, however, under these guidelines Places of Worship are allowed to remain OPEN for public service. We will continue to celebrate Masses as we have been since January. Mass will be celebrated at St Aidan's on Sunday (10.00am) and Wednesday (9.30am) only and will continue to be held at St Bernadette's at 11.30am each Sunday.

Private Masses with no congregation will be celebrated outside of those times.

# Stars of the Week

Nursery	All
Reception (AW)	our
Reception (SK)	wonderful
Year 1	pupils
Year 1/2	have
Year 2	been
Year 3	stars
Year 3/4	this
Year 4	year.
Year 5	Enjoy
Year 5/6	your
Year 6	holidays!

## Prayer for the Week

**Pope Francis**  
Prayer for protection from Coronavirus

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen. We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas -we who are put to the test - and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.



Our value for this half term is the  
Common Good

We've been working together for the good of the community

## Important Reminder

Dates for your diary!

We shall be closing for the summer holidays,

this afternoon

Friday, 16th July.

We return to school on

Tuesday, 7th September.