



ST BENET'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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1st March 2024

God's Perfect Promise to Abraham was that He would bless Abraham and his family. We are descendants of Abraham and receive the blessings of God's promise through Jesus. Children explored how they can be a blessing to others this Lent.



"I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore."

Genesis 22:17

Key Messages

Children will understand that:

- We receive blessing from God as we are Abraham's descendants.
- We also receive blessing from heaven through our relationship with Jesus.
- We can share our blessings to bless others as we GIVE, ACT and PRAY this Lent.

I hope that you all had a restful and enjoyable half term. It is good to be back and to see the first signs of spring all around.

During Lent we talk about 'Fasting' and I always come back to and reflect on the words of Pope Francis which I find really help me to centre my thoughts and actions.

DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

Fast from hurting words and say kind words.

Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.

Fast from anger and be filled with patience.

Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.

Fast from worries and have trust in God.

Fast from complaints; contemplate simplicity.

Fast from pressures and be prayerful. Fast from bitterness; fill your hearts with joy.

Fast from selfishness and be compassionate.

Fast from grudges and be reconciled.

Fast from words; be silent and listen.

These are very powerful things to think about and ones we will be sharing with children as we journey through Lent towards Holy Week. I hope you too can draw something from at least one of the things he suggests we try to do.

This term we have some special Lent events to look forward to these include, Reconciliation services for KS2 children, Stations of the Cross and our annual Prayer Station Day, where the children will design and lead their own class prayer stations for others to engage with.

As part of our charity work for CAFOD we will have an own clothes day on the last day of term and ask you give a contribution so that we may purchase something from their World Gifts. Please see the website here for what we can buy <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/blogs/whats-new>.

Last half term the 'Big Speech' was an absolute success and both schools saw brilliant presentations from the children who took part. So my big question this term is;

Can kindness change the world? Think about the effects of kindness and unkindness on the world.

"No act of kindness, however small, is ever wasted."

- Aesop

The Big Speech for this will be:

St Edmund's 2:30pm 27th March

St Benet's 2:30pm 26th March

All parents welcome to attend.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Barlow

Attendance

We strive to achieve at least 94% to be in line with national average. Please consider the information below and the impact of nonattendance on your child's progress and attainment.



DID YOU KNOW? A two week holiday in term time means that the highest attendance you can achieve is 94.7%

Year Group	St Benet's	St Edmund's
R	93%	98%
1	93%	95%
2	87%	94%
3	94%	93%
4	78%	95%
5	92%	93%
6	91%	95%

Unfortunately, St Benet's still consistently is falling well below the national average in most year groups. This has to be better going forward. Where there are persistent absences we will be following this up with the Education Welfare Officer and of following a letter of concern no improvement is made you could face prosecution. This is the reality of the situation now for the families who are not ensuring their child is in school consistently. I really do hope that we can start to see a vast improvement going forward.

World Book Day - Thursday 7th March

Children are invited to come to school ready for a bedtime story (in pj's/onesies/dressing gowns/slippers). They can also bring in one (named) bedtime book of their choice from home.

As we cannot guarantee good weather on this day, please can your child still bring in school shoes for playtimes/lunchtimes and a warm, waterproof coat.

Classes will be doing a range of book based activities on this day - so look out for photos on the newsletter and website.

There are lots of parent and child resources, links to free audiobooks etc. on this website:

<https://www.worldbookday.com>

Your child will receive their WBD token on this day.

We are looking forward to our day of reading and books!

The Class assembly for Class 3 has moved because of World Book Day.

The Class assembly will now be **Tuesday 12th March** at 2.45pm.

Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

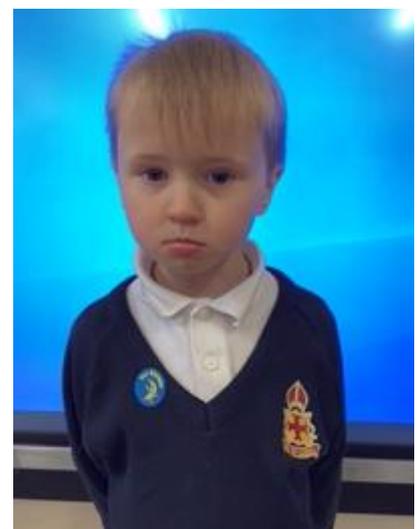
Re-Scheduled Forest School Date for Year 1 Pupils is Monday, 11th March. Thank you.



This week Class One's Heart of Gold is awarded to Isaac. He has been

working very hard this week in his sound work and when we talked about how to help our friends, Isaac told us that we help them by playing together. Well done Isaac, you are a star!

Heart of Gold in Class 2 this week is George. George has modelled hope this week by having a fresh and positive attitude every day!





This week's heart of gold in class 3 was chosen by the children. We have been thinking about the value of hope in our lives and who shines their light of kindness to others. Therefore, the children were asked who had put this value into action in our school and been kind to them. Many children nominated Lincoln and said that he was always helpful to them and offered to play with them at breaktime.

Well done Lincoln.

This week's Class 4 heart of gold goes to Lily for her excellent contributions in our collective worship this week. She spoke in such a caring way about having hope in our lives. Well done!



St Benet's Walkathon

All the children will be partaking in a School Walkathon on Tuesday 19th March to raise money for art materials for the new lunchtime Art Club.

It will start at 2pm and may run over time depending on how much the children want to raise. Adults are welcome to attend to cheer on their children from the sidelines and you may want to help count the children's laps too.

We kindly ask that you look out for your children's sponsor form soon and we will be very grateful for any sponsor monies that you can give.

Kind regards

St. Benet's School Council

Treat Tables and Mrs Dunn

We are very sad to say goodbye to Mrs Dunn today who leaves us after many years working as a midday supervisor, we will all miss her but wish her well in her new endeavours and thank her for all her hard work.



Dates for your Diaries

Tuesday, 19th March - 2pm - 3:15pm - School Council Walkathon

Monday, 25th March – Parents Evening – 3.30pm – 5.20pm – book via school office

Tuesday, 26th March – Parents Evening – 3.30pm – 5.20pm – book via school office

Wednesday, 27th March – Finish for Easter

Monday, 15th April – Return to School

Mass Times at St Benet's Catholic Church 10.30am every Sunday.



**Artsmark
Silver Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England