



The Oratory R.C. Primary and Nursery School

“Shine as to be a light to others”

Headteacher: Mrs C. Wilson



Friday 5th May

Dear Parents and Carers,

Collective Worship

*Liturgical Year and Cycle: 4th Sunday of Easter | Cycle A
Key Scripture: John 10: 1-10*

This week, due to the bank holiday, our Gospel assembly took place in classes. Class teachers discussed Vocation Sunday, and that the Gospel is Jesus' teaching about living 'life to the full'. Insights were shared about people with various vocations to inspire children to feel fulfilled both now and in the future, and to pray for priests and those in the religious life.

I have come that they may have life and have it to the full. John 10: 10

Celebration Assembly

We celebrated those children who have been demonstrating our virtues: Curious and Active and our school rules: Ready, Respectful, Safe. We also celebrated the success of exceptional presentation across school with one child from each class coming up to share their excellent pieces of work! This work will be displayed in the corridor for all to see!

Healthy Eating

Please help us in delivering our healthy lifestyles curriculum by making sure that the children only bring fruit/vegetables or healthy snacks like crackers for break time. The children should also start the day with a healthy breakfast, we have noticed a number of children coming into school in the morning eating sweets. This does not provide the right nutrients for the children to feed their brains and bodies to make the most of their learning. Thank you for your continued support.

Year 2

In Maths this week we have begun our new topic about telling the time. Children have used the clock resources to show o'clock, half past, quarter past and quarter to. We linked it to the big clock in our classroom and key times in the school day. Our new geography topic is the world around us and we identified the key landmarks of Birmingham and the four countries that make up the UK.

School Developments

Over this week we have continued to develop our Early years environment and ensure that there are clearly defined areas in each classroom. The children are enjoying more time outside now we have the better weather.

Staff received Safeguarding training on Operation Encompass. This is the mechanism through which school and the police work together to highlight awareness of domestic violence and support the children and their family should any incidents happen or reports be made.

Uniform

We have an amount of good quality second hand uniform in school at the moment. If you need any items please do come and ask and we will see if we have the items you need in the right sizes. Like-wise if your children have grown out of their uniform and you would like to donate it we are always grateful.

Sharing Shelf

Our sharing shelf is being regularly used. If you have any items you would like to donate please feel free to just place them on the shelf. We hope the contributions being placed and taken are helping those who need it.

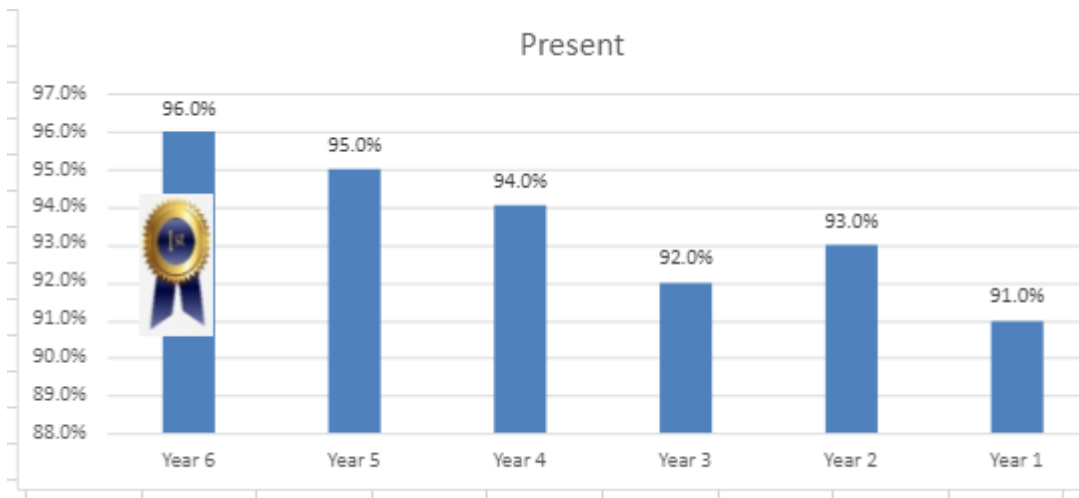
Year 3

In Year 3 this week we investigated the hardness of rocks and we also designed a statue of Mrs Wilson. In maths we investigated volume and capacity where we tested the capacity of different jugs and then added and subtracted different volumes of 3D shapes. In English we wrote an independent explanation text about Vicious Volcanoes!

Attendance

Please bring your children to school every day! It is so important that they don't miss out on their learning. If they are under the weather slightly, you can still send them in and we will monitor them closely as long as they have not vomited/had diarrhoea or a temperature.

Well done to our **Y6** class this week who have won the attendance cup with **96%** attendance!



Awards

Well done to these children!



Catholic Pupil Profile Virtues: Curious and Active

Living our Catholic Virtues of **Curious and Active** this week are:

Nursery	Evan	Laylie
Reception	Jay	Fatima
Year 1	Lotanna-Kyra	Malachi
Year 2	Hidyah	Amanuel
Year 3	Ellie-Maye	Melvin
Year 4	Elijah	Oba
Year 5	Ava	Isaac
Year 6	Karolina	Thomas

Following our school rules: **Ready-Respectful-Safe** this week are:

Nursery	Rose	Quoc Anh
Reception	Yadiel	Aliya
Year 1	Abigail	A'Mara
Year 2	Tommy-Lee	Cattleya
Year 3	Simon	Betania
Year 4	Theresia	Leyla
Year 5	Aryan	Lee-Rhiane
Year 6	Zavian	Simran

Sacramental preparation

It is so important that children are prepared for these significant events in their life. The teaching that goes on in school is only part of what the children need in preparation for making their First Holy Communion and Confirmation – there is an expectation that parents/carers take children to Mass every week to further prepare them. Remember to take Mass attendance cards with you to have them signed at the end of Mass.

Sunday Mass times at the Oratory Church:

7.30am Mass (Latin)

8.30am Mass (English)

10.30am High Mass (Latin)

12.15pm Mass (English)

4.30pm Sung Vespers & Benediction (Latin)

5.30pm Mass (English)

Safety

Parking

Please make sure that if you are dropping off or collecting your children from school that you do not park or stop on the yellow zig-zag lines outside either of the school entrances. They are there to make sure that the pavements are clear for people wishing to cross the road. Parking or stopping in these zones puts the children in danger. Please help us to keep all the children safe.

Play Equipment

Please don't let your children play on the trim trail or go onto the grass in the mornings or after school please. This is to keep everyone safe before and after school.

Scooters and Bikes

Please make sure that all children walk their bikes or scooters in the school grounds. They can ride and scoot as soon as they have left the school gates.

Thank you for your support in keeping everyone safe on our site.

Absence reporting procedures

If your child is going to be absent please call school **on each day of your child's absence by 9am.**

Please call 0121 454 0600 and leave a message on the absence line. Include your child's full name, class and reason for absence. Please tell us where possible the nature of the illness as 'sick' or 'unwell' does not outline the reason for the absence. This will ensure that we have an accurate attendance record for your child.

If no reason is given it will be an unauthorised absence.

Please ensure that your children are on time for school. School doors open at 8.40am (8:30 Y6) when the children come into school for a prompt start to their learning which begins at 8.50am. At 8.50am we expect all children to be seated in class ready to commence their learning as this is when lessons will start promptly. Some children are consistently arriving after the school gates are shut and this is impacting on their well-being and leading to lost learning time.

A big thank you to the majority of parents and carers who make sure their children attend school regularly!

Attendance Monitoring

If your child's attendance has fallen below 95%, or they have a number of unauthorised absences we will be in contact with you, and depending on the reason for their absence we may ask you to come to school for a meeting.

If you have received an attendance letter and would like to come into school to meet with Mrs Wilson to discuss it, please make an appointment at the school office.

PLEASE NOTE: Family holidays in term time are not allowed in law and are unlikely to be authorised. Family emergencies also need careful consideration. It is not always appropriate or in the best interests of the child to miss school for emergencies which are being dealt with by adult family members. Notifying the school of leave due to a family emergency does not mean it will be authorised. Any notifications must be made in writing and addressed to the Headteacher (communication@oratory.bham.sch.uk can be used).

Physical Education

Nursery - Friday

Reception – Thursday

Year 1 – Wednesday & Thursday

Year 2 - Wednesday & Thursday

Year 3 - Monday & Wednesday

Year 4 - Tuesday (*Thursday = Swimming)

Year 5 - Monday & Tuesday

Year 6 – Monday & Tuesday

On PE days, children should come to school wearing:

- Plain white t-shirt (no football tops or t-shirts with logos)
- Black shorts
- Black pumps
- Tracksuit - black or dark blue for colder weather (no logos)
- Trainers (to be worn for outdoor PE only)

Children in Y5/6 may also bring a small towel and roll-on deodorant on their PE day.

Please ensure children come to school in the correct PE kit. It is important that they are wearing suitable clothing and footwear for physical activity and that the kit is in line with school expectations. Speak with your child's class teacher if there are any problems with this. Reminders will be sent out to parents of children who do not have the correct kit.

Current Clubs:

- Breakfast club (every morning) £2.50, 8am – 8:40am

Monday –

- Football (Y4/5/6)

Tuesday –

- Multi sports (Y1/2/3)
- Y6 Maths club (by invitation)

Wednesday

- Multi Sports (Y4/5/6)

Thursday –

- Football (Y1/2/3)
- Choir club (Y3/4/5/6)

After school clubs finish at 4:30pm

Send your children to school with their own water bottle, a coat and their reading book and reading record every day.

Encourage healthy eating through the snacks / lunches you send to school.

On Friday, school finishes at 1:20pm. For those who stay on a Friday, they need collecting at 3:15pm.

Please be prompt in collecting your children

Operation Encompass

The Oratory is an Operation Encompass School, working closely with West Midlands Police to identify and support victims of Domestic Abuse. We remain vigilant and urge anyone suffering domestic abuse to contact the school or Police for help.

Due to staff absence this week, I send apologies that Y4 and Y5 may not have received their usual homework. Hopefully normality will resume from next Tuesday in these classes when their teachers return.

I don't want to have a moan... but several issues have been brought to my attention this week by staff, pupils and parents. Therefore, I have been in speaking with class teachers and also the children in today's assembly.

The first issue is that on several occasions, snacks have been going missing from children's bags, in KS2. Myself and class teachers have spoken with the children many times now and have put a system in place whereby all lunchboxes are stored in the hall and all breaktime snacks are to be given to the class teacher at the start of the day to store safely until breaktime. You can imagine my disappointment to find out that this is still continuing. We pride ourselves on our Catholic values and virtues and therefore should respect the property of others and not take what is not ours. I will continue to investigate this matter and hope that with your support of talking to your children at home, that this stops as it is unfair on those who it is happening to. I also take this opportunity to remind you that children should only be bringing in healthy snacks for breaktime.

The second issue is that some children have been using unkind words to one another, or even swearing in the playground. Inappropriate language used within school is not acceptable and will be and has been treated very seriously. Again, with your support, and the conversation that I have had with children today, I hope that this will stop.

Finally, I have spoken to several children about their conduct around school and the way in which they speak to staff members. There have been a number of children answering school staff back when they have been asked to do something, and again, this is not appropriate. I have spoken with the children in assembly today to let them know that all the adults in school are equal and they should not talk to (for example) their lunchtime supervisor in a different way to which they speak to their class teacher.

I hope the long weekend will give everyone the chance to reflect on their behaviour – should the above concern them – and that we have a much more positive Oratory vibe to next week!

As you know, next week, Year 6 are taking their SATs. This is an important time for our Year 6 children and we wish them the best of luck with their tests! They may decide over the weekend to do some more revision in preparation for next week, but parents and carers, please ensure that the children also have some time to relax so that they are calm, refreshed and ready for Tuesday morning. Yes, SATs are important, but they do not define a child. Their personal qualities and God-given talents are what define them and we will be proud of them whatever their outcome after next week.

Enjoy the long weekend and the King's Coronation! We hope the children enjoyed being able to wear red, white and blue today – they looked spectacular! See you all on Tuesday.

**God Bless,
Mrs Wilson & Team**

Key Dates

Sunday 7 th May	May procession at Oratory Church after 12:15 Mass. All invited.
Monday 8 th May	Bank Holiday for King Charles III Coronation
Tuesday 9 th May	Y6 SATs week begins
Tuesday 16 th May	Reception parents invited in to read with their children (Mrs Leontiou will send out details)
Tuesday 16 th May	Year 1 parents evening
Wednesday 17 th May	King and Queens Day! Dress up as a King or Queen or in royal attire to celebrate King Charles III's Coronation! We will celebrate in school by having a special themed lunch at lunchtime
Thursday 18 th May	Special lunch menu: all day breakfast

HALF TERM 29th May – 2nd June

Monday 5th June	INSET DAY
Tuesday 6th June	School reopens for pupils
Sunday 11 th June	First Holy Communion (Y4)
Sunday 18 th June	Blessed Sacrament procession (Y4)
Wednesday 12 th July	Confirmation at 7pm (Y6)

**One more INSET day TBC*

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Email: communication@oratory.bham.sch.uk

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