



# The Oratory R.C. Primary and Nursery School

*"Shine as to be a light to others"*



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## **Key dates:**

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October – PTA meeting in the school hall – all invited (9:00-9.30)

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October - KS2 Benediction Mass at Oratory Church (2.00pm)

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October – Parent/Carer coffee morning (9:00-9:45)

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October - Break up for half-term

## **Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October – INSET day (school closed to pupils)**

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November – school reopens for pupils

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November – Parents' evening (3:45 – 6:30pm)

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December – school closes for pupils at 1:20pm (3:15pm for those who stay)

## **Future dates for your diary:**

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June – First Holy Communion (Year 4)

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June – Blessed Sacrament procession (Year 4)

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July – Confirmation at 7pm (Year 6)

## **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Collective Worship**

We joined together as a school for Mass in the hall on Monday. Father Anton spoke to us about the Feast day of Saint John Henry Newman. He told us about his love of learning and we sang some of the hymns that we have been practising with Father David. It was a lovely time coming together to nourish our spiritual lives. KS2 are looking forward to going to the Oratory Church on Monday for Benediction.



### **Remember: October is the month of the Holy Rosary**

The Rosary is a meditative prayer that reflects upon the life, ministry, and death of Jesus and also on His Blessed Mother. As we repeat the familiar prayers, we allow our minds to think about the lives of Jesus and Mary here on earth – a mystery.

#### ***The Mysteries***

There are four parts to the rosary, known as 'mysteries':

The Luminous Mysteries, The Sorrowful Mysteries, The Glorious Mysteries, The Joyful Mysteries.

For each set of mysteries, we are introduced to five different elements or 'snapshots' of the lives of Jesus and Mary. Each snapshot taken from Scripture is an opportunity to reflect and pray. To respond, we pray a set of prayers, which together with the reflection is called a 'decade'. The prayers we say as part of this set begin with one Our Father, followed by ten Hail Marys and one Glory Be to finish. We use the beads of the Rosary to keep track of our prayers!



### **Black History Month**

During this week the children have been learning about the lives of prominent Black People. Roesha, Zavian, Damian and Janet in Y6 enthused about Benjamin Zephaniah and the fact that he lived in Handsworth. They really enjoyed his poem Talking Turkeys. Year 4 have been able to choose different people and Markus was inspired by Usain Bolt. He wants to be as fast, if not faster than Usain when he gets older.

Mrs. Pickup has been reading Silence Is Not An Option by Stuart Lawrence. It is a really honest, inspirational book that makes you think about how you can impact the world for change.



### **Sacramental preparation**

It is very 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.

Link for Mass times at the Oratory Church: <https://www.birminghamoratory.org.uk/mass-times/>

### **Friday Assembly**

#### **British Values – Democracy**

This week in our assembly, we focused on the British Value: Democracy. We had some very brave Y5 children who came to the front of the assembly hall to share what democracy is and how fortunate we are to live in a democratic society. Well done to those children for speaking so clearly and confidently to the rest of the school!

#### **Certificates**

To further celebrate our Catholic Virtues: Compassionate and Loving, we are displaying certificates in school for a WHOLE WEEK, before the children take them home. This is so that every child, member of staff and visitor can see these certificates proudly on display. The children who receive them will still be named in the newsletter and will still come out in assembly to receive the round of applause they deserve.

### **School Developments**

This week we welcomed teachers from the Cromwell MAT to school to support the learning in Early Years and Year 2. They noted that the children are more settled and focused on their learning than they have previously been. They also shared with us some action points to work on to help us make the children's learning experience even better.

### **PTA calling!**

On Monday morning we welcome PTA members, established and new, to come into our school hall for a meeting (9-9:30). During the meeting future events will be discussed in order to raise funds for our children. If you cannot make the meeting, but would like to join the PTA, a link to the joining form can be found here: <https://www.oratory.bham.sch.uk/fotos.htm>

**Awards 14<sup>th</sup> October:**

**Catholic Pupil Profile Virtues: **Compassionate & Loving****

Living our Catholic Virtues of **Compassionate & Loving** this week are:

Nursery	Eliyada	Aron
Reception	Hewar	Alana
Year 1	William	A'mara
Year 2	Emelia	Debare
Year 3	Blerim	Amen
Year 4	Fatima	Grace
Year 5	Desiire	Brielle
Year 6	Peter	Amelia

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

Nursery	Diyako	Mia
Reception	Aliya	Jay
Year 1	Muhmad	Eden
Year 2	Ruslana	Amanuel
Year 3	Israel	Lily
Year 4	Finnlee	Maribel
Year 5	Oliver	Ava
Year 6	Roesha	Ryan

Have a wonderful weekend!

God Bless,

Mrs Wilson.

## **Reminders**

### **Nursery places**

We currently have a few places left in our Nursery. Hours are 8:40 – 12pm, Monday to Friday. Please contact the school office if you are interested in a Nursery place for your child. Please do share this information with your friends and neighbors too.

### **Breakfast club**

A reminder that we operate a breakfast club every morning from 8am (£2.50 per session). It is run by two of our own staff. Please let Mrs Yaman in the office know if you would like a place.

### **Labelling clothing**

Please label all jumpers, cardigans and coats!

### **PE days:**

Nursery - Friday

Reception – Wednesday

Year 1 - Tuesday & Thursday

Year 2 - Tuesday & Thursday

Year 3 - Monday & Wednesday

Year 4 - Tuesday & Wednesday

Year 5 - Monday & Thursday

Year 6 - Monday & Thursday (\*Thursday = swimming)

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.

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

If you've not yet sent your Home School Agreement back to school, please do so.

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

Next week we will be on **Week 2** of the school dinner menu. If your child is in Reception, Year 1, and Year 2 they are entitled to Universal Free School Meals.

**PLEASE** park safely, considerately and responsibly when dropping off and picking up your children. Do not pull up or wait in the middle of the road or on the zigzag lines.

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

**Please be prompt in collecting your children.**