



The Oratory R.C. Primary and Nursery School

"Shine as to be a light to others"

Head Teacher: Mrs C. Wilson



Key dates

Next week:

Monday 5 th December	Y5 parent/carer workshop
Tuesday 6 th December	Y4 parent/carer workshop
Wednesday 7 th December	Christmas lunch and children to wear suitable party clothes
Wednesday 7 th December	Christmas Fayre (organised by the PTA) 3:30pm-6:30pm
Thursday 8 th December	Mass at Oratory Church (Reception – Year 6) 9:30am
Friday 9 th December	Nativity (whole school participation) at Oratory Church, 12:45 start Parents/carers welcome from 12:30 in Upper Cloister Hall Children will be dismissed from Oratory Church

Key dates:

Monday 12 th December	Y1 parent/carer workshop
Tuesday 13 th December	Y3 parent/carer workshop
Thursday 15 th December	Professor McGinty History workshops (Year 3 – 6)
Friday 16 th December	Mass at Oratory Church (Reception – Year 6) 9:30
Friday 16 th December	School closes for pupils at 1:20pm (3:15pm for those who stay)

Future dates for your diary:

Tuesday 3 rd January	Teacher Training Day
Wednesday 4 th January	School reopens for pupils
Sunday 11 th June	First Holy Communion (Year 4)
Sunday 18 th June	Blessed Sacrament procession (Year 4)
Wednesday 12 th July	Confirmation at 7pm (Year 6)

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Friday 2nd December

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another busy week this week!

Healthy Body Healthy Mind Week

The children have really enjoyed learning about different aspects of being healthy this week. Kieron discussed the importance of healthy eating and exercise at the right time. A huge thank you to the 3 parents who volunteered to come in and work with the children this week. Mr Koryang delivered a workshop to Y5 and 6 entitled “Why we do what we do” where they thought about the decisions they make. Blu and Mya’s dad and Thani’s mum both delivered dance workshops to Reception, Y1 and Y3. The children really enjoyed these sessions thank you for giving your time to them.

Parent Workshops

Thank you to all those who were able to attend the Y6 and Y2 SATs workshops on Thursday and Friday. The children really enjoyed working with their grown-ups and we hope you found the sessions useful.

Year 3

This week we have been learning all about Ancient Egypt and the Pharaoh Tutankhamun. In maths we have been learning out 3 and 4 times tables and how to share into equal groups. In Science we have learnt about rocks with waterproof properties and the different jobs they would be best used for. *Madison*

Year 4

This week we were learning about health, by eating and exercising at the right time and eating a healthy diet. We also planned and drafted an explanation text about ‘How to grow a plant’. *Maribel*

Children from 4B also went on a visit to the Oratory Church and were lucky enough to go into the library. This really captured the children’s imaginations and they were all very excited to tell us all about it when they got back. Anayath was fascinated by the age of the books and how fragile the pages were.

Celebration assembly

Congratulations to all our super stars who received certificates today. Keep up the good work and continue being role-models for the rest of the school!

Thank you to Y2 pupils who led part of our assembly today to remind us the safest way to cross the road—especially now the nights and mornings are getting dark. The children may remind you of the best way to cross the road. Stop, look right, look left, look right again, when it is safe cross.

Faith-Filled and Hopeful

Children who received these certificates will have them displayed in school for a WHOLE WEEK, before bringing 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 Development

We had our visit from Ofsted this week. The Inspectors commented many times on the good conduct, politeness and friendliness of the children I hope you are as proud of them as we are. Thank you to all those who responded to the Parent and child questionnaires for our Ofsted visit this week or spoke to them on the playground. The report will be published in a few weeks and we will share it with you once we are allowed.

PTA

The Christmas Fayre is next Wednesday 7th December (3:30—6:30). This event does not happen by itself and lots of work goes on in the background as well as on the day. We are so appreciative that we have a PTA to organise these events for us all to enjoy. If you can help in any way, please contact us: communication@oratory.bham.sch.uk.

Our PTA are very welcoming and if you are new, don’t worry as they will show you the ropes! Ideally, we would like to have a parent (or two) from each class to act as class reps. This would involve heading up a WhatsApp group for your child’s year group and keeping parents/carers within that year group informed of upcoming events etc. If you like the idea of becoming involved in this way, please get in touch! The PTA would love to have you on board!



2nd December

Catholic Pupil Profile Virtues: Faith-filled & Hopeful

Living our Catholic Virtues of **Faith-Filled & Hopeful** this week are:

Nursery	Caleb	Anahi
Reception	Mia	Samyar
Year 1	William	A'Mara
Year 2	Amanuel	Anas
Year 3	Ebuka	Ellie-Maye
Year 4	Finlee	Makai
Year 5	Cayden	Ava
Year 6	Kelsey	Eli

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

Nursery	Melab	Skye
Reception	Nathan	Aliya
Year 1	Eden	Levi
Year 2	Ruslana	Samson
Year 3	Victoria	Mya
Year 4	Dan	Eyob
Year 5	Elena	Omodesire
Year 6	Rhylee	Karolina

Well done to all of these children!

Have a lovely weekend!

God Bless,

Mrs Wilson.



Attendance & Punctuality!

Punctuality

Absence reporting

Please ensure that your children are on time for school.

School gates open at 8.40am 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. 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.

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.

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

Did you know?

Absence disrupts the education of the individual pupil and the whole class. Are you aware those children who do not attend regularly:

- do not achieve well in exams
- find it difficult to maintain friendships
- are more likely to become involved in crime
- miss out on opportunities in further education and the world of work?

Every minute counts!

Frequent absence can add up to a considerable amount of lost learning and can seriously disadvantage your child in adult life.

5 minutes late every day means around 3 ½ days of education are missed

a score of 90% in a test would be a good result but 90% attendance means that a child will have missed around 100 lessons over a school year.

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.**

Attendance during one school year	equals this number of days absent	which is approximately this many weeks absent	which means this number of lessons missed
95%	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	150 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	200 lessons

Your Details!

Please check Arbor to ensure that all personal details held about you and your child are up to date. It is so important that we are able to contact you, in case of an emergency.

Dietary requirements

We are undertaking our annual dietary requirement checks, so please ensure your details are up to date. From January, we will no longer be offering pork products. Please also note, as a Catholic school we do not offer Halal meat.

Intolerances—Mrs Yaman has contacted some parents/carers regarding intolerances. Any intolerances that you inform us about need to be backed up with a letter from your GP, so that we can record these on our system with accuracy.

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.

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/>

PE days:

Nursery - Friday

Reception – Thursday

Year 1 – Wednesday & Thursday

Year 2 - Wednesday & Thursday

Year 3 - Monday & Tuesday

Year 4 - Tuesday & Wednesday

Year 5 - Monday & Thursday (*Thursday = swimming)

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.

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.

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.