



The Oratory R.C. Primary and Nursery School

"Shine as to be a light to others"

Head Teacher: Mrs C. Wilson



Key Dates

Future Dates:

Thursday 2nd February Whole school Mass at Oratory Church (*Parents / Carers welcome, 9:30am*)

HALF TERM 20th – 24th February

Monday 27th February **School reopens for pupils**

Thursday 2nd March World book day

Friday 31st March **END OF TERM – School closes for Easter**

Monday 17th April **School reopens for pupils**

Monday 1st May Bank Holiday

Monday 8th May Bank Holiday for King Charles III Coronation

Tuesday 9th May Y6 SATs week begins

HALF TERM 29th May – 2nd June

Monday 5th June **School reopens for pupils**

Sunday 11th June First Holy Communion (Y4)

Sunday 18th June Blessed Sacrament procession (Y4)

Wednesday 12th July Confirmation at 7pm (Y6)

**Two more INSET days TBC*

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Website: www.oratory.bham.sch.uk

Friday 13th January

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week children have been working really hard in all their lessons and have been enjoying learning facts from our new curriculum. Myself and Mrs Pickup have been into classes this week looking at the amazing work the children have been completing and have asked both children and teachers to ensure that pride is taken in all pieces of work. The focus of the curriculum is for the children to know more and remember more. Please do ask them what they have learnt during that day.

On Monday, some of our Year 4 children dressed up as Kings and camels and processed around the school with Father Anton and Brother James to bless the school. They went to each and every classroom and office, singing carols as they went – with other classes joining in the singing during their visit too.

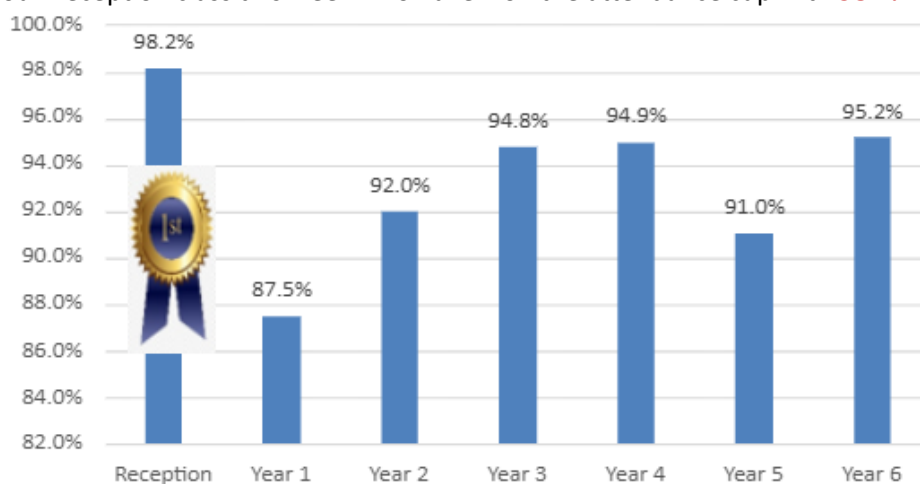


Celebration Assembly

Our new house teams still need a name, we have only had a couple of entries so far. Mrs Pickup and I have challenged the children to come up with names for the houses which may be to do with the Oratory school, Oratory Church or to do with Ladywood or Birmingham. We are excited to see what names the children come up with! Once the School Council, Mrs Pickup and I have chosen our three favourite ideas, we will take them back to the children so that a democratic vote can take place!

Attendance

Well done to our Reception class this week who have won the attendance cup with **98.2%** attendance!



School Developments

This week the Assistant Heads from the CLCMAT came in to help support with the implementation of our new curriculum. We looked at lessons and in books to ensure that children are learning the key facts needed for each unit of work being taught.

Enrichment

Today Y6 parents/carers will receive a letter electronically with details of the Alton Castle residential which will take place on 19th – 21st June, 2023. A payment plan will be set up on Arbor and details are in the letter. Please contact the school office if you have any questions. A paper copy of the letter will be sent out on Monday to enable you to send back the consent slip.

Breakfast club

Children have enjoyed another busy week at breakfast club with Mr Milligan. This week they have been painting a new sign for the display where they will be sharing all their exciting activities!



PE

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.

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)

God Bless,
Mrs Wilson.

Awards - 13th January

Catholic Pupil Profile Virtues: **Eloquent and Truthful**

Pupils at the Oratory are growing to be *eloquent and truthful* in what they say of themselves, the relations between people, and the world. Schools in the Archdiocese of Birmingham help their pupils grow by developing an *eloquent* language which pupils can use to understand and articulate their emotions, beliefs, and questions, encouraged by the example of their teachers to be *truthful* in the way they represent themselves and speak about the world.



Living our Catholic Virtues of **Eloquent and Truthful** this week are:

Nursery	Soren	Skye
Reception	Matthaios	Blu
Year 1	Massi	Abigail
Year 2	Nae	Moshe
Year 3	Lily	Israel
Year 4	Dextra	Leyla
Year 5	Tamarah	Elena
Year 6	Maksymilian	Dior-Rose

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

Nursery	Rose	Srihan
Reception	Marnie	Natan
Year 1	Daniel	Tanna
Year 2	Antoni	Evelyn
Year 3	Blerim	Melvin
Year 4	Tomas	Shenaya
Year 5	Essay	Eliab
Year 6	Fabian	Daniella

Well done to all of these children!

Reminders

Attendance and punctuality

We want to make sure that all the information we have regarding absence on Arbor is correct as we have a large number of children with unauthorised or no reasons for absence. Please can you log into Arbor for your child and check their attendance information. On the first screen you will see their current attendance percentage. If you click on this graph you will be able to see the overall number of sessions, lates, authorised and unauthorised absences. If you click on the by date option on the left-hand side of the menu screen under attendance you will be able to see the exact dates for any absences or late marks. Please let the office know if you cannot access this and need a paper copy.

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!

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).

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.

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.**