



## St Monica's Catholic Primary School

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Friday 13th September, 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Mission Day

It has been St Monica's Mission Day today. On Mission Day, our whole school came together to celebrate our Mission Statement: ***"Success for All in a Christ Centred Community"***. Today, each year group looked at how the word of our Lord helps **all** members of our school community thrive and become successful, how we can use Faith to bind us together, celebrate our differences and teach us to be proud of the unique light that shines within us all.

As we always say, "Diversity is our Superpower"!

In our assembly this afternoon, pupils from each year group presented songs, poems and speeches about the power of inclusion and diversity to the rest of the school. Linking these messages with scripture was a wonderful way to celebrate the power of Faith and togetherness in our modern world. In these times of real conflict and division, to hear our children state loud and proud that, in St Monica's, our Faith binds all members of our community together in love was a joyful and powerful experience.

I could actually see our children sit up proudly and with beaming smiles as they heard these messages in our assembly.

### Meet the Teacher

We will start our Meet the Teacher meetings next week in the hall. We will host these presentations at 5pm so as many parents and carers as possible can attend.

In the presentation, you will meet the teachers in your child's year group, and also get to learn about the curriculum for the year ahead. It is so important to get to know your child's teacher for the year, put a name to the face and make connections - so please come along.

Year Group	Meet the Teacher - 5pm start, 4:50pm doors
Year 1	Tuesday 17th September
Year 2	Wednesday 18th September
Year 3	Thursday 19th September
Year 4	Tuesday 24th September
Year 5	Wednesday 25th September
Year 6	Thursday 26th September

We held the sessions for Reception and Nursery in Summer Term, but if any parents or carers missed those, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to meet with the class teacher to discuss the school day and the curriculum ahead of us.

### **Term Dates**

Our term dates for [Term dates can be found here](#), Autumn Half Term is Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November. We break up on Thursday 19th December for the Christmas holidays.

### **Attendance Updates**

You will have received an important update about new attendance measures, please ensure you read this information. Details can be found [here](#).

### **Photographs**

Photographs for individual pupils and siblings will be on: Friday 4th October. Reminder texts will be sent out in advance. All pupils are to wear full school

uniform on the day. If your child has PE, we will complete lessons that can be done in uniform.

### **School Council Elections**

Year 1 to Year 6 pupils will get the chance to become a School Councillor next week - one per class. On Monday, pupils will learn about the democratic process of becoming a School Councillor - they will be asked to write and rehearse a speech at home. On Wednesday, pupils will be given the chance to deliver this speech and explain to their class why they should vote for them. Pupils will cast the all important votes on Wednesday afternoon. We will announce the winners in assembly on Friday.

### **Final Word**

Sleep hygiene is key to success in school and beyond. Getting children back into a good sleep schedule in September is a difficult achievement for all of us who are parents. I advocate the “Book Before Bedtime” approach.

Set a time each night and make it a routine time. All digital away (“Digital Sunset”) and then start **“Book Before Bedtime”**: your child reads their reading book to you for a set time, then you read a novel to your child for a set time. Make it a special event, celebrate it - “I can’t wait for Book Before Bedtime, tonight!”. Then lights out at a set time and straight to sleep. Well, I have to admit it isn’t always that easy, but the structure does help, I promise.

Yours sincerely,

Mr James Gouldbourne  
Headteacher