



**We learn together, we play together, we pray together,
we grow together in the love of God**

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SPRING TERM 2023

Friday 21st April

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to everyone who contributed towards the CAFOD Lenten appeal; the school will announce how much was raised in next week's newsletter.

A reminder that parents are invited to Education Child Protection (ECP) Ltd's Online Safety Meeting for Parents/Carers next Wednesday 26th April at 3.45pm in the school hall - the presentation will finish at 4.45pm (a crèche will be available for young children). The presentation will provide parents with an insight into the latest trends of what children are doing online, details of the current 'apps' and games that children are using and playing, and the issues and dangers children face online. This session is a 'must' for all parents whose children have a presence in the digital world. The outcome is to empower parents to keep their children safe when using technology. I urge you all to make the time to attend this meeting.

Parents will be aware that the National Education Union (NEU) announced that teachers would strike over pay in England and Wales on a further two dates; **Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May**. This is the result of a national pay dispute between education unions and the government – it is not due to any actions taken by the school, and it is a matter for the unions and the government to resolve independently of the school. Therefore, school attendance on Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May will be restricted as follows:

- Reception Class – OPEN (Reception pupils must attend school Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May as normal)
- Year 1 Class – OPEN (Year 1 pupils must attend school Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May as normal)
- Year 2 Class – OPEN (Year 2 pupils must attend school Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May as normal)
- Year 3 Class – CLOSED (there will be no school for Year 3 pupils on Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May)
- Year 4 Class – CLOSED on Thursday 27th April (there will be no school for Year 4 pupils on Thursday 27th April)
- Year 4 Class – OPEN (Year 4 pupils must attend school Tuesday 2nd May as normal)
- Year 5 Class - CLOSED (there will be no school for Year 5 pupils on Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May)
- Year 6 Class – OPEN (Year 6 pupils must attend school Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May as normal)

Have a lovely weekend.

Barbara Costa

Message from the Friends of St. Theresa's

We are delighted to let you know that the amount actually raised in the Bunny Hop was £1,168 and our second hand uniform sale raised £152 which is amazing. Thank you to all our volunteers who made these events possible.

Dates for your diaries:

Happy Bags collection is on Friday 25 May 2023 at drop off in the morning 8.30-9.00am. More bags will be available from the office - it's time to start your spring cleaning!

St Theresa's Summer Fair and BBQ is on Saturday 24 June 2023 from 2pm to 4.30pm.

St. Theresa's School Attendance Policy

Illnesses that will prevent your child from coming to school

- Vomiting and diarrhoea (your child can return to school 48 hours after the last episode)
- High temperature with a diagnosed infection
- Hospital admission
- Dental surgery
- Medical emergency

Illnesses that will not prevent your child from coming to school

- Mild cough
- Cold/Sneezes
- Tiredness

Authorised and Unauthorised Absences

Examples of authorised absences

- Proof of illness from GP/Hospital provided
- Phone call from parent / carer explaining that their child is ill
- Proof of medical appointment
- Permission given from Headteacher following a written request for exceptional leave of absence (i.e. Religious days etc.). All requests for exceptional leave of absence must be made in writing to the Headteacher. Request forms are available from the school office.

Examples of unauthorised absences

- Holidays
 - Days out
 - Birthdays
 - Parent / carer or sibling unwell
 - Tiredness
 - No reasonable explanation received from parent / carer
- Could parents/carers please ensure that any absence is reported to the school office by 9am.

St. Theresa's pupil attendance target for

2022-2023 is 96%

Period	Whole school attendance
From 5/9/22 - now	94.7%

Class with highest attendance to date - Y5 is now in the lead with 95.6% attendance and Y4 is in second place!

At the end of the year, in July 2023, the class with the highest record of attendance will win a non-school uniform day!

The Wednesday Word

"Each encounter with Jesus changes our life. Jesus is with us today! He is alive, Jesus is in our hearts." *Pope Francis*

Why were the disciples feeling sad when they were travelling to Emmaus? A After his resurrection Jesus was seen by his closest friends and over 500 of his followers. Ask your child if they know what the name 'Jesus' means (parent help: the name 'Jesus' in Hebrew means 'God saves'). Jesus came to save us from doing wrong - to show us and to teach us how to live good lives.

Does your child have a favourite story about Jesus? What does your child like about Jesus? It may help your child if you tell them something that you know and like about Jesus.

"We must not fail to help our neighbours, because in them we serve Jesus." *St Rose of Lima*

Our lives are enriched when we know Jesus. He is with us at all times and in all places. We can encounter him in prayer and in one another. The more we know about Jesus through reading the gospels, the easier it is for us to recognise him. Knowing and following Jesus helps happiness and love to grow in our families. Each of you choose something to do for each other at home or at school to be more like Jesus. Perhaps we can: decide to pray each day; read the gospels together; remember to regularly ask ourselves, "What would Jesus do?" and then try to do the same ourselves.

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/half-term-holiday-special?pid=MTA101634&cv=89.2>

Mid Morning Snacks

A reminder to parents that children may only have fresh fruit as a mid-morning snack. No other snack will be permitted.

Polio and MMR routine vaccinations for children aged 1 to 11

Polio and MMR (Measles, Mumps and Rubella) vaccinations both provide important protection against serious illness for your child. To keep your child safe, it is important to follow the childhood immunisation vaccination schedule.

Children aged 1-11 who are not up to date with their vaccinations are being offered polio and MMR catch-up vaccinations in school or at their registered GP surgeries. The NHS will be contacting the parents of children who are not fully vaccinated to sign a consent form for school-based vaccination.

Check your child's red book or contact your GP to check your child's vaccine status. If your child has missed one of their vaccinations, please contact your GP to book an appointment and get your child up to date.

Read more about routine vaccinations:

<https://bit.ly/vaccination-tips-for-parents>

Little Saints After School Club

Where? St. Theresa's School multi-purpose room

When? Every day after school until 6pm

Please contact Vicky for further information.

Email: Vicky_avraam@hotmail.co.uk

Telephone: 07968 498 364

Safeguarding at St. Theresa's

Miss Costa is the Designated Safeguarding Lead at the school; Mr Troy and Mrs Folan are members of the safeguarding team. However, safeguarding and child protection at St. Theresa's is everyone's responsibility and is taken extremely seriously. Click the link to read the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy: <https://www.st-theresas.barnet.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Child-Protection-and-Safeguarding-Policy-September-2022.pdf>

Emergency Alerts - National Test 23rd April For Information

The Government's new Emergency Alerts system is now live, enabling people to be contacted through their mobile phone in the event of there being a danger to life near to where they are, for example severe flooding or fire in their area. If that were to happen near you, your mobile phone or tablet will receive an alert with advice about how to stay safe.

The Government plans to test the system by sending a national test alarm to all smartphones that use 4G and 5G phone networks, **at 3pm on Sunday 23 April 2023.**

On that day, compatible mobile phones across the UK will sound the alarm – a siren and vibration, lasting for up to 10 seconds.

The emergency alert will appear on your device's home screen and you will need to acknowledge it before you can use other features on the phone. **It will however just be a test**, so other than to acknowledge it, **you do not need to take any further action.**

It's important to note that the alarm will sound even if your phone is on silent. If you're a victim of domestic abuse and you're worried that this could put you or someone you know in danger because they have a hidden phone, or you're concerned for someone else's safety, please watch this video from Refuge to find out how to turn the alert off.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I2MBcHwmiy8>

Polite Parking Notice

Can we please remind parents/carers to park safely and in such a manner that they pose no risk to pedestrians or other road users, particularly in the immediate vicinity of the school gates. Please also be mindful when parking to ensure that local residents driveways are not blocked and that bus stops are kept clear.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club runs daily from 7.45am - 8.30am in the school hall for £3.50. Please let the school office know if you would like your child to attend. **Please ensure you pay for breakfast club charges in advance of your child attending, or on the morning.**

Dates for your diary

Wed 26 th April	3.45pm Online Safety Meeting for parents
Thurs 27 th April	Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5 classes closed
Mon 1 st May	Bank Holiday Monday (school closed)
Tues 2 nd May	Year 3 and Year 5 classes closed
Wed 3 rd May	Planetarium Workshop
Fri 5 th May	Coronation Celebrations (details to follow)
Mon 8 th May	Bank Holiday for the Coronation of King Charles III (school closed)
Mon 8 th May	Year 6 SATs week
Tues 9 th May	Year 2 Trip to Stephen's House
Mon 15 th – Fri 19 th May	Year 6 Residential Trip
Thurs 18 th May	9.15am Ascension Thursday Mass
Mon 22 nd May	3.45pm Secondary transfer meeting for Y5 parents
Mon 29 th May-Fri 2 nd June inclusive	– Half term

New dates in bold

*All parents welcome