



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

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AUTUMN TERM 2023

Friday 24th November

Dear Parents and Carers,

On Monday morning, a guest speaker from The Passage charity came to tell the children about the work the charity does for the homeless. The Passage was founded in 1980 with a single paid employee and a small number of volunteers. Today, they run one of the largest resource centres for those experiencing, or at risk of, homelessness in Westminster and offer a wide range of innovative accommodation projects that both help to prevent and end street homelessness. On Tuesday 19th December (Christmas Jumper Day) St. Theresa's will be raising money for this cause.

A number of parents have recently contacted the school regarding the School Attendance and Punctuality Policy, which can be found on the school website here: <https://www.st-theresas.barnet.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Attendance-and-Punctuality-Policy-May-2023.pdf>. The Barnet Educational Welfare Officer (EWO) visits the school every half term, and every half term the registers are monitored. All children are expected to attend school for 96% of the school year. Therefore if your child's attendance falls below this number, it is very likely you will receive a letter from the school informing you of this. You will receive the letter regardless of whether the absences were authorised or not – this is standard procedure and simply alerts parents to the fact that their child's attendance has fallen below 96%. In some cases, children's attendance may fall below 90%; any child whose attendance falls below 90% is considered a "Persistent Absentee" and will trigger more formal monitoring directly from the EWO.

Can I please remind all parents to note that teachers are in class during the day and are therefore unlikely to be logged onto Seesaw. If you have general queries about school, or a message about pick-up arrangements etc. please contact the school office. If you do leave a message for the teacher regarding homework etc., the teachers will aim to respond as soon as they can, within normal office hours.

By the time this newsletter is published the children in Y1 to Y6 will have performed their dances for the parents and carers. The children have been learning these routines for the past couple of months; thank you to all the children and staff who had been practising to get ready for this morning's festival. I am told it was hugely enjoyable! We will let you know which class has been selected to represent the school at the Barnet Schools' Dance Festival at the Arts Depot in next week's newsletter. Have a lovely weekend.

Barbara Costa

Please visit our website where you will find our weekly newsletter, diary dates, curriculum information and lots more! <https://www.st-theresas.barnet.sch.uk/>

NEWS from the FRIENDS

Thank you for all your support over the past few events. Please see the total money raised for the school, below:

- 2nd hand uniform sales - £164.24
- Halloween disco - £271.23
- Year 3 sweet sales - £170.56
- Year 5 cake sale - £166.70

Thank you again.

MOVIE NIGHTS

Junior (Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6) Movie Night: Wednesday 29th November

Applications for Reception

Applications are invited for the **Reception Class** for **September 2024** – this is for children born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020.

The deadline to return this to the school office is 15th January 2024.

The forms are available to download on the school website.

Please also be advised that you must also complete a CAF (Common Application Form) from Barnet - the on-line system is already open.



Christmas/Red Jumper Day Tuesday 19th December!



The children are invited to come to school on Tuesday 19th December replacing just the top part of their uniform with a Christmas or red jumper in return for a donation of £2. The money raised will be donated to 'The Passage'. The Passage runs London's largest voluntary sector resource centre for homeless and vulnerable people.



Winners of the Book Cover Design Competition

This week, to celebrate the book fair, the children were asked to design a book cover for a well-known book.

The joint winners of the first prize were: Nathaniel (Y6) and Amelia (Y6); in second place was Narvin (Y2).

All three children will be awarded with book tokens to buy a book of their choice from the book fair. Well done children.

St. Theresa's pupil attendance target for 2023-2024 is 96%

Period	Whole school attendance
From 5/9/23 - now	97.3%

Class with highest attendance to date - Y6 is still in the lead with 97.7% attendance so far with Y3 now in second place!

At the end of the year, in July 2024, the class with the highest record of attendance will win a non-school uniform day!

The Wednesday Word

"Give something however small, to the one in need. For it is not small to one who has nothing." St Gregory Nazianzus

This Sunday's Gospel reminds us about the true value of kindness. Ask your child what the word 'kindness' means to them. To be kind is to be considerate and helpful – to have concern for others. Each of you speak about a kind person: at school, at work, or in the community. How do they show their kindness? Who has been especially kind to you? Have you done anything especially kind recently?

"How marvellous it would be if, at the end of the day, each one of us could say: 'Today I have performed an act of charity towards others!'" Pope Francis

We learn to be kind by receiving kindness – and our homes are great places to learn: families can be schools of kindness. In this coming week, in what ways can we show kindness to each other or to those who really need help? Perhaps we can: be more helpful around the house; share more and donate to a local food bank; as a family, show compassion through visiting or sending a card to someone who is lonely, sick or housebound; support a Charity that helps the homeless.

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/kindness?pid=MTA101634&v=110.1>

New Year Camp 2024!

Non Stop Action are looking forward to **New Year Camp 2024!!!** We are running **Multi Sports** at Moss Hall Junior School (N3 1NR) and **Football** and **Dance** at Millbrook park school (NW7 1JF)!

We will be running for 1 week, from **Tuesday 2nd January – Friday 5th January**. Bookings made before **Saturday 16th December** will automatically get our Early Bird discounts, and you can also save money by booking week blocks - book from as little as **£27.50** for a day, or **£109** for a week! Head to our website to book now: <https://www.nonstopaction.co.uk/>

Message from Public Health Barnet

MMR vaccine rates are still worryingly low in Barnet. Protect your children against measles and prevent disruption to school attendance.

Measles is a viral illness that can be serious and sometimes fatal. Cases of measles are rising in London, and with around 75% of 5-year-olds fully vaccinated in Barnet, we are well below the World Health Organisations target of 95% needed to prevent an outbreak.

Symptoms of measles include high fever, runny nose, cough, red and watery eyes, small red spots with a bluish-white centre inside the mouth. A rash can appear later, usually on the face, upper neck, hands and feet, fading after 5 to 6 days.

Vaccination can help prevent outbreaks and protect against serious illness. Any child identified as a close contact of a measles case without satisfactory vaccination status may be asked to self-isolate for up to 21 days.

Hear from Dr Colin Campbell on the importance of the MMR vaccine:

•<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xe7FPKZgNgw>

Read more about the importance of ensuring your child is up to date with their childhood vaccinations here.

Check your child's red book and contact their GP to make sure they are up to date on their routine vaccinations.

If your child has missed the vaccine as a baby or pre-schooler, contact your child's GP to make an appointment or visit a catch up clinic:

•Mill Hill Clinic, Hartley Avenue, Mill Hill, NW7 2HX

Phone: 0208 447 3622

Email: clcht.barnetimmunisationteam@nhs.net

For more information

visit: <https://nclhealthandcare.org.uk/keeping-well/baby-and-childhood-vaccinations/>



Reception	Emilia for her positive attitude and settling so well into her new class. Daniel for working hard on his sounds and tricky words and making sure he always does his homework.
Year 1	Theo for his wonderful singing during our Christmas play preparation. Anduena for being such a wonderful role model in our class.
Year 2	Emmanuel for working hard and striving to achieve your best. Kornelia for settling well into her new school and Year 2 group.
Year 3	Nikolay for completing fantastic homework and always trying his hardest. Liliana for always putting your hand up to have a go at answering questions and always having a smile on your face.
Year 4	William for working so well in learning his times tables. Carlos for getting double marks in his times tables check.
Year 5	Kourtney for volunteering to answer difficult questions in class and having a go. Matylda for consistently improving in Maths.
Year 6	Nathaniel for your engaging and well written biography of Charles Darwin. Well done. Martha for your excellent manners and great listening skills. You are a fantastic role model.
<i>The Golden Ticket Winners are:</i> Bruna Y4 Iliad Y1	

Dates for your diary

Mon 27 th Nov	3.45pm Grosvenor Hall residential meeting for Y5 parents
Wed 29 th Nov	Y3 Advent Carol Service at Westminster Cathedral
Wed 29 th Nov	Junior Movie Night
Fri 8 th Dec	6pm-8pm Jingle Mingle
Fri 15 th Dec	9.30am Y1 and Y2 Christmas Show
Mon 18 th Dec	6pm Y5 Carol Concert
Tues 19 th Dec	Christmas Jumper day
Tues 19 th Dec	Christmas Lunch day
Thurs 21 st Dec	Last day of Autumn Term – 1pm finish
Mon 8 th Jan	INSET Day – school closed for children
Tues 9 th Jan	Children return to school
Wed 24 th Jan	Year 6 Trip to RAF Museum
Wed 31st Jan	Year 1 trip to Science Museum
Thurs 1 st Feb	4pm-6.30pm Parent Consultations (face to face)
Tues 6th Feb	Safer Internet day
Tues 6 th Feb	4pm-6.30pm Parent Consultations (face to face)
Mon 12 th -Fri 16 th Feb	Half Term

***New dates in bold**