

# St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Primary & Pre School



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Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

## Lent

This week marked the start of Lent. This is a time to be grateful for what we have and consider what sacrifices we can make to make things better for us and for others.

On Shrove Tuesday **Mrs Forde** led pancake making for the whole school! The children enjoyed a pancake and also learnt more about Shrove Tuesday.

The next day, Ash Wednesday, Years 4 – 6 celebrated Mass at church and as always behaved impeccably.

On Thursday 3 St Bernadette led a wonderful class assembly teaching us about Lent. They taught us that Lent is not only about giving things up but also adding things to our life. Some ideas included, spending less time on electronic devices and instead spending time with family or maybe giving a small amount of money to charity. It really was a thought provoking assembly and has helped me to look at Lent in a different way. Thank you **Miss McCabe** and 3 St Bernadette!

*For forty days of Lent,  
to do my best I'll try.  
I remember how you suffered Lord  
and on the cross you died.*

*I thank you that on Easter day,  
You rose and came alive.  
Be with me, Lord, throughout this Lent;  
Be with me as I strive.*

*Be with me as a I promise,  
to do some good each day.  
To keep my resolution;  
Please help me, Lord, I pray. Amen.*



### The Big Lent Walk

During this season of Lent we are, along with the other schools in our Academy, supporting CAFOD's Big Lent Walk. Between now and when we break up for Easter each member of our school will log how much walking they have been doing. These weekly tallies will be totted up over the term to see which school walked the most. Our Academy target is to do a virtual pilgrimage from Northampton Cathedral to Jerusalem and back (almost 5000KM each way!). If you would like to follow our progress or sponsor your child you can do so by using the following Just Giving Link: <https://schools.walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/st-margarets-big-lent-walk-2024-fundraising-p>

Remember to tell your child how many kms you may have walked if you went out as a family over the weekend so this information can also go towards our total. We will be offering an opportunity for you to join your child on our 'walk a mile' track later on in the term. Further details to follow.



### ZSL Sustainability Assembly

An employee from ZSL, Marcus came to visit our school to teach our KS2 pupils about sustainability. He illustrated how habitats are being destroyed due to deforestation in the Rain Forest and gave us the message of the 3 Rs –

- Reduce** the amount we consume
- Reuse** instead of single use of as many things as possible
- Recycle** as much as possible.

He showed us 3 trademarks to look for when shopping so that we can help to be more sustainable.



Marcus commented to a number of staff how wonderfully behaved our children were, he said it had been one of his favourite visits to a school he had made! #proudheadteacher!

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## Road Safety

This week I have had a number of reports of dangerous driving and parking outside our school. Can I please remind you that **you must not park on the yellow zigzag lines or on the pavement**. Both actions cause a lot of danger and mean accidents become more likely. This ultimately puts our children in danger.

I have also had reports of damage being caused to cars through reckless driving. Please drive carefully, especially near our school. Help us to keep you and your family safe.

## Bikes

It is brilliant that a number of our children ride their bikes to school. Please note that after half term children will not be able to leave their bikes in our reception area. This is causing a health and safety risk. We have bike and scooter storage both on our Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 playgrounds, please use this. If you arrive after 8.30 to school with your child and they have ridden their bike or scooter to school you will need to take the bike or scooter home. Thank you for your support in this matter.

## Wrap Around Club

As I have mentioned in previous correspondence, we are extremely lucky to have before and after school care for our children. We are able to care for your children from 7.30 in the morning and after school until 6.00 in the evening.

To support the picking up and dropping off of the children starting after half term the clubs will be run from the room just to the right of the main entrance as you look at the school. This will make it far easier and quicker for you to collect your children. From Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February please follow these steps:

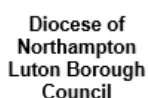
### Morning Wrap Around

- Please take your child(ren) to the door that enters directly into the classroom to the right of the main entrance to the school. Ring the bell and a member of staff will open the door and allow you to drop your child off.

### After School Wrap Around

- Please make your way to the door that enters directly into the classroom to the right of the main entrance to the school. Ring the bell and a member of Wrap Around Staff will acknowledge you. Once this has happened you will need to make your way to the main reception of the school.
- A member of Wrap Around staff will bring your child(ren) to the main reception for you to take home.

Please note After School Wrap Around will not be open on the last day of Term, **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March**.



## **KS 2 PLAYGROUND**

Please note on **Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February** the Key Stage 2 playground will be being used as a car park for an event we are holding here at school. This means when you come to pick your children up at the end of the school day cars will be parked. No cars will be driven between 2.45pm and 3.30 pm to ensure the safety of the children and wider school community. Please keep away from the cars. Thank you for your support in this matter.

## **Friday Celebration Assemblies**

A reminder that each **Friday** Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 take part in **Celebration Assemblies**. During these assemblies classes share work, we celebrate birthdays, award certificates and reflect on the week that has passed.

We would like to invite you to these assemblies and join us in celebrating our amazing children! As with class assemblies you will be let in via the main entrance to the Key stage 1 and 2 halls.

**The assemblies start at 8.30 am and will be finished by 9.00 am.**

Parents of children who will be awarded a certificate for following our school virtues will receive a text message on Thursday from school inviting them to the assembly to allow parents to see their child receive their certificate. It would be great to have you join us. **Please do not share this information with your child as we want it to be a surprise for them on the day!**

Each week a class in each key stage will share some work. **Please note if your child's class is sharing work this does not guarantee your child will be involved in the sharing of the work.** Teachers tend to choose small groups of children.

You are welcome to attend any of the assemblies, even if your child is not receiving a certificate or their class is not sharing. Please note we will have to monitor the number of parents that attend to ensure we are adhering to health and safety requirements; we will always prioritise the parents of children receiving a virtues certificate. Thank you for your support.

Below is a table with information regarding the assemblies. **(PLEASE NOTE THERE IS NO KEY STAGE 1 CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY ON FRIDAY 1<sup>st</sup> MARCH)**

Date	Key Stage 1 Assembly (Class Sharing Work)	Key Stage 2 Assembly (Class Sharing Work)
16.2.24	2 St Bernadette	3 St Clare
1.3.24		4 St Francis
8.3.24	1 St Clare	5 St Francis
15.3.24	2 St Francis	6 St Bernadette
22.3.24	2 St Bernadette	6 St Francis

## **Well Done St Francis!**

This half term our **St Francis Family** collected the most family tokens. For this, today the whole family were treated to a silent disco! The children had a great time, but probably not as much as the staff! Family tokens are awarded for good work, good behaviour, following our school virtues and lots of other great things. Well done St Francis!

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## Term Dates

This week you received a letter confirming term dates for 2024 – 2025. Please note in October there will be a 2 week half term. This will begin on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2024 and run until Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November.

## Attendance

Please find below attendance data for every class for this week.

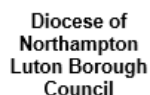
Good attendance will be rewarded so please do make sure your children are in school each day. Thank you for your support.

LASS ATTENDANCE	YEAR TO DATE	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK'S ATTENDANCE
Reception St Bernadette	89%	75%	86%↑
Reception St Clare	93%	91%	93%↑
1 St Francis	93%	94%	92%↓
1 St Clare	92%	97%	93%↓
2 St Francis	95%	97%	96%↓
2 St Bernadette	95%	95%	98%↑
3 St Clare	94%	96%	87%↓
3 St Bernadette	94%	89%	93%↑
4 St Francis	96%	95%	100%↑
4 St Bernadette	94%	98%	↔98%↔
5 St Clare	96%	99%	96%↓
5 St Francis	95%	95%	94%↓
6 St Bernadette	95%	94%	96%↑
6 St Clare	95%	96%	97%↑
6 St Francis	95%	97%	↔97%↔

Huge well done to **4 St Francis** who had the top attendance this week with **100%**! Our first 100% of this year!!!

## Half Term

Today is the last day of the first half of our Lent Term. I hope you all have a well-earned rest, I look forward to welcoming the children back on **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February at 8.30 am.**



## Diary Dates

Please find below a table with key dates for this term and beyond, please do take note of events that effect you and your child. More information will follow regarding school trips etc.

God bless,  
Mr Chiswell

### Dates for your Diary

(Please note dates are subject to change and there will be new events added)

Date	Event	Time
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Start of Lent 2 for children	8.30
Tues 27 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Y3 Leading Stations of the Cross at St Margaret's Church	
Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> Mar	1 <sup>st</sup> Friday Mass for Y2 at St Margaret's Church	8.30
Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Meditation Monday	8.30
Tues 5 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Y4 Leading Stations of the Cross at St Margaret's Church	
	Y5 Trip to the British Museum	
Weds 6 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Y5 Leading Stations of the Cross at St Margaret's Church	
Thurs 7 <sup>th</sup> Mar	3 St Clare Class Assembly	8.30
Tues 12 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Y6 Leading Stations of the Cross at St Margaret's Church	
Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup> Mar	5 St Clare Class Assembly	
Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Easter Service at St Margaret's Church	5.00
Tues 19 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Parent / Teacher Consultations	3.30 – 6.30
Weds 20 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Parent / Teacher Consultations	3.30 – 7.00
Tues 26 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Tasty Treats	2.00
Weds 27 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Y4's Last Swimming Lesson	
Thurs 28 <sup>th</sup> Mar	End of Lent Term <b>PLEASE NOTE AFTER SCHOOL WRAP AROUND CLUB WILL NOT RUN TODAY</b>	<b>All children to be collected at 3.00 pm</b>
Fri 12 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Staff Training Day SCHOOL CLOSED	
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> Apr	1 <sup>st</sup> Day of Pentecost Term for Children	8.15
<b>Mon 13<sup>th</sup> May – Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Key Stage 2 (Year 6 SATs)</b>	