

10<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Dear Parents

All parents had the opportunity to meet with their child's class teacher this week. I hope you found this opportunity to discuss your child's progress useful. Thanks to anyone who purchased books from Anne at Usborne on Wednesday evening. £484.77 was raised in commission which we can use to purchase books for school!

**Second hand books** – A whopping £525.43 was raised at last week's Friends' second hand book sale! Thank you all for your donations. We hope the children are enjoying reading their books!

**Attendance** – We recently had a visit from our Education Welfare Officer. We are concerned about the high levels of absence which is impacting on children's progress. Before Covid struck we had about ten children in the school whose attendance was less than 90%, now we have ninety children! If your child is saying they feel unwell but have no temperature or vomiting, then please send them in. It may be anxiety induced and therefore, please speak to your child's class teacher about it. If your child has had vomiting and/or diarrhoea, they must stay away from school for 48 hours after the last episode to avoid spreading infection. This hit many families just before Christmas.

**Assemblies** – On Monday I spoke to the children about Sunday's Gospel. God said "listen to him" meaning for the disciples to listen to Jesus. We can do this today by following the Gospel values of loving our neighbour. I also spoke to them about how we can continue to create the "Kingdom of God" by being respectful in everything we say and do.

On Thursday we were treated to Class 2G's assembly. They took us back in time to 1666 to the start of the Great Fire of London, an event which changed the face of London forever. The children told us how the fire started and how Londoners' reacted to the blaze. They also told us how Samuel Pepys' diary was very important in telling future generations what had happened. The children looked amazing and spoke beautifully. It was their first assembly and also Miss Galvin's first!! Well done 2G.

**Message from last week's visiting author** – It was lovely to receive the following message from Jeanne Willis and we hope to welcome her back again.

*"Hi Kate, I had such a lovely day, thank you so much for inviting me. I've visited hundreds of schools but St Monica's has to be one of the happiest. The children were so good and their enthusiasm was infectious. I'd love to visit again one day, maybe with my new novel for the older ones?"* We will certainly look forward to that!

**Message from Bishop John** – I received a letter from Bishop John after his visit to the school. He was very complimentary about the school and said, *"The warmth and welcome of the children and staff were communicated in a tangible way."*

**Cross Country** – Congratulations to the girls who came fourth overall in the cross country competition last week and the boys who came fifth. Nineteen schools competed altogether and so they did very well! Mrs Warrington will be sending information out to the runners about an opportunity to run the last mile of the London Marathon on 22<sup>nd</sup> April – look out for an email about it.

**Belated congratulations to our Year 6 football team** – Congratulations to our Year 6 football team who played exceptionally well in two matches on 20<sup>th</sup> February. They beat Our Lady of Lourdes 1-0 and drew with Hazelwood 1-1 after a late equaliser, having led from the first ten minutes!

**Retreat day for Class 5Y** – Class 5Y spent a day with Anna at St Monica's Church for their retreat on Thursday. They reflected on the Stations of the Cross in the church and were reverent and respectful. We hope this experience supports their Lenten journey. A massive thank you to Anna who led such a thought provoking day with Miss Smith, Mrs Johnston and Mrs Pizzi-Najada.

### **Diary Dates**

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> 8am** – Yr6 children arrive for their week's trip away to Hilltop in Norfolk. Staff accompanying them are: Miss Freitas, Miss Bowling, Mrs Moruzzi, Ms Parker, Mrs Murphy and I.

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> Strike days** – see separate letter about partial closure.

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> 2pm** – Reception Mother's Day Tea party

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> 9.15am** – Class 1G assembly, parents invited

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> 9.15am** – Year 2 Mother's Day Tea Party

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>** – Last day to book music lessons with EMS for the summer term. Click here

<https://traded.enfield.gov.uk/musicstore> and sign in.

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> 9.15am** – Year 3 Mother's Day Tea Party

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> 7pm** – Maths workshop for parents in Years 4, 5 and 6 in school.

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup>** – Happy Bag collection – bring in unwanted clothes, shoes, bags, toiletries in good condition.

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> 11.30-4.30pm** – Pre-loved clothes sale. If you want to set up your own stall to sell your pre-loved clothes, see flier on the school website <https://www.st-monicas.enfield.sch.uk/parents/letters-to-parents/> It's going to be a great occasion to teach the children about re-using/mending/altering clothes to create a more sustainable environment and avoid a build up of waste!

Have a good weekend.

Kind regards  
Kate Baptiste  
Headteacher