

27th September 2024

Dear Parents



ST MONICA'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Strive to succeed in the presence of God

I have been out of school yesterday and today on a training course, but I hear that the Macmillan coffee morning went well this morning, with £184.86 raised in cash donations and £90 online for Macmillan Cancer, making a grand total of £274.86! Thanks to everyone who donated cakes/biscuits or came along and donated money for this worthy cause.

The INSET day on Wednesday went very well, with fifty of us having expert training from a RWI consultant. The session was all about **the importance of reading**. How frequently do you hear your child read or read to them? It is recommended that you include this as part of your daily routine. If you want your child to succeed, they must be able to read! The consultant will be visiting us over the next year to ensure our teaching of phonics and reading is tip-top!

Reception parents, don't forget you have your literacy session on Thursday 10th October at 7pm and repeated on Friday 11th at 9.15am – all the mysteries of phonics and teaching reading and writing will be revealed. A form will be sent out next week to find out who can come, so we have enough chairs set out. **If any parent would like to volunteer** a morning or afternoon to hear children read in Years 1 or 2, please could you email the school office office@st-monicas.enfield.sch.uk and the necessary paperwork will be done (police check/references etc).

Also don't forget, next Wednesday school is closed again. This time, the training is regarding trauma informed practice. We have a team coming in from ETIPPS (Enfield Trauma Informed Practice for Primary Schools). We want to improve our understanding of behaviours and how best to support our most vulnerable children to thrive. The ETIPPS team will be working with us over the next two years. Apologies for these training days both being on Wednesdays, but that is the day when most staff work and for consistency, it's essential that all staff receive this important training.

Assembly

On Monday I spoke to the children about our motto, 'Strive to succeed in the presence of God'. It is important to always work hard and try our best at school. The brain is a muscle which gets stronger with exercise. If you would like to watch the videos I showed the children, click [here](#) and [here](#). It is easy to say, "I can't!" when something is difficult. We want the children to learn to say, "I can't.... yet!" The harder you work at something, the more you can achieve. I introduced the children to my nephew Danny, who has just started primary school up in Liverpool. He is a super keen learner and has memorised every flag and capital city in the world. My brother Tony said, "He can't do that!" but now he's saying, "What will you learn next Danny?!"

Best Football – It was the first 'Best Football Tournament' of the year on Monday, where some children represented the school. Congratulations to Albie, Annie, James, Max, Joey, Seth, Freddie and Reuben who took part. They all played very well and drew 2-2 against Hazelwood School and 0-0 against St Michael-at-Bowes School - a massive well done to them all! Thanks also to Terry and Miss Anderson for taking the children. Miss Anderson is our new PE leader and we wish her every success in her new role!



Congratulations to Joel and Margot who ran the Vitality Westminster Mile last weekend, (on what would have been their big brother Lucas' 9th birthday) for Children with Cancer UK.

The family have worked incredibly hard to raise money for CwCUK which supports children with cancer. Very well done to them all!

If you would like to make a donation, click here

<https://2024vitalitywestminstermile.enthuse.com/pf/clair-alleebux>

Diary Dates

Tuesday 1st October – Feast of St Theresa of Liseux. During the afternoon, the children will be learning about managing their emotions and the focus will be on good mental health and personal well-being.

Wednesday 2nd October – School closed all day for INSET

Thursday 3rd October – Harvest Festival Day – children are invited to bring in £1 (or more if you wish). All donations will be given to the St Monica's Church Foodbank which provides food for families in need every Monday.

Friday 4th October – Feast of St Francis of Assisi. During the afternoon, the children will be learning about how to look after our environment and behaviours that will care for our planet.

Thursday 10th October 7pm – Literacy meeting for Reception parents in school

Friday 11th October 9.15am – Literacy meeting for Reception parents in school (repeat of Thurs night)

Friday 11th October 7.30pm – Quiz night (for adults only) – a great opportunity to meet new parents, only four tables are left!

Email: thefriendsofstmonicas@gmail.com

I hope you all have a lovely weekend. I'm relieved it looks fairly dry, so will endeavour to make parkrun in the morning – 'striving' to get to 45 minutes – a struggle, but I'm improving gradually!

Kate Baptiste

Headteacher

A reminder about keeping your child safe online. You wouldn't let a young child cross the road by themselves, so why do parents leave their children to play online by themselves?

Talk, Educate, Co-view and House Rules

Keep Your Child Safe Online

T **E** **C** **H**

TALK	EDUCATE	CO-VIEW	HOUSE RULES
<p>Talk to your child about their internet use and safety</p> <p>Have meaningful conversations about how they use the internet</p> <p>Praise your child for safe online behaviours</p> <p>Welcome your child if they want to ask you a question or tell you about a problem, even if they've done something unwise themselves</p>	<p>Learn as much as you can about games, platforms, parental controls and the benefits and risks of online activity</p> <p>Teach your child about specific issues and concerns</p> <p>Teach your child about safe and unsafe relationships and how to repair friendships following disagreements online</p>	<p>Co-view your child's online activity at least 1x/week</p> <p>Interact with your child online</p> <p>Model appropriate online behaviour</p> <p>Co-operate with each other to promote the well-being of all</p>	<p>Set clear routines, rules and boundaries ("house rules")</p> <p>Keep to age ratings and guidance for apps, games and devices</p> <p>Restrict online activity to daytime and communal areas</p> <p>Use filters and parental controls</p> <p>Spend regular screen-free time with your child</p>

AGE 11+ for a basic phone or highly restricted smart phone without internet access or social media

AGE 14+ for a smart phone with parental controls

*Agree a contract with your child to encourage responsible phone use