



ST MONICA'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Strive to succeed in the presence of God

15th November 2024

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the end of another week and another newsletter. I have a lot of “**thank you**” to make. A big “**thank you**” to Mrs Varani and Mrs Gregori who so kindly spruced up the front of the school planting beautiful boxes and hanging baskets of flowers! It makes the front of the school so attractive and is very much appreciated. Another **thank you** to the many parents who offered their unwanted televisions and thanks to Mr and Mrs Collins who dropped theirs off first – also much appreciated! Also, **thank you** to all of you who made a donation for the orphanage in the Democratic Republic of Congo. A massive £546.20 was raised which will be passed onto the Charity (via Bee, Laith’s mum – another big **thank you** to her for all the work she does for those in need). **Thank you** to many of you who bought books from Anne at Usborne books. We raised £592.82 in commission which will be used to buy books for the school! My final **thank you** is to all the staff at school who spent several evenings this week talking to you all about the progress of your children. It’s no easy thing to teach all day, then spend several hours talking to parent after parent and then come in the next day smiling and repeat it all over again! They all deserve a well earned rest this weekend! Mrs Borrett’s parents’ evening times will be rescheduled as soon as she is back at school (hopefully Monday). Some classes still have another day to go. If you haven’t made an appointment to see your child’s teacher, please do so as a matter of urgency.

Monday’s Assembly – On Monday, there was lots to talk about: first of all, Remembrance Sunday which many children had marked in parades if they were in the Brownies/Beavers/Cubs. Because we had no internet, we couldn’t watch the video, but you can see that [here](#). Then I talked about donation day to raise money for the orphanage and urged the children to be like the poor Widow from Sunday’s Gospel and give whatever they could afford. Finally I mentioned anti-bullying week. The theme for this year was “Choose Respect”. There are many choices that we make in life and it is important to ensure that we choose kind words and deeds when dealing with others.

Anti-bullying week – We weren’t able to watch the video on Monday’s assembly due to the lack of internet, but you can watch it [here](#). On Tuesday children wore odd socks as a sign that we are all unique and should celebrate our differences. It was a colourful day – look at the [array of socks!](#)

Winter Disco – On Friday 29th November, the staff will be leading a Winter Disco for all children straight after school until 4.30pm. If your child would like to attend, you can buy a ticket here <https://app.goodhub.com/kidswinterdisco24> (Children who are already booked into the school after school club are all automatically going, with no need to buy a ticket.)

Year 5 Music Recital – Very well done to the children in Year 5 who performed for their parents and all of KS2 on Wednesday. You can see some more photos [here](#) and listen to their performances [here](#). I am always very impressed with children’s ability to perform for an audience, a daunting prospect for many!

PE TIMETABLE – As you will be aware, the children have one PE lesson each week this half term in the lead up to Christmas. This has always been the case as the halls are being used for rehearsal time. For this half term, we are also doing the daily mile which means we are achieving more than the expected requirements for PE. In January we will revert back to one indoor and one outdoor lesson per week.

Year 6 Powerleague – Miss Anderson reports, “It was a lovely afternoon down at Powerleague where Max, Joey, Seth, Luca, River, Charlie, Lucas, Edward, Theo and Joseph had the opportunity to play against 4 other schools. They were challenging matches, however the children worked so well as a team! We lost 3 games but won 1-0 against Woodpecker. Well done boys!”

Years 1 & 2 parents Literacy meeting – Save the date – On Monday 13th January Mrs Duffy and I will be running a literacy session for parents in Years 1 and 2 at 9.10am and repeated at 7pm that evening. This will focus on phonics, reading and writing. Sign up will be sent nearer the time.



Diary Dates (huge apologies to choir and strings group – these concerts were left off diary dates ☹)

Monday 18th November – Road Safety Awareness week

Monday 18th November 7pm – St Cecilia Music Concert presented by the Choir – parents of the choir invited

Wednesday 20th November – Class 6G have a retreat day – wear own clothes and bring a packed lunch (if not taking a school one)

Wednesday 20th November 8pm – The Friends’ Annual General Meeting – link is below...

Thursday 21st November 9.15am – Strings Group performing to parents and school

Thursday 21st November 3.15pm – Final day to submit your Christmas Brochure front cover design.

Friday 22nd November – Feast of St Cecilia. To mark the day, The Friends have invited MC Grammar in to visit the children.

The children heard from him at assembly today and have been learning songs in preparation for his visit!! Children may bring accessories like sunglasses/shades/caps/paper chain necklaces to achieve a “rapper” look (but otherwise school uniform)

Monday 25th November 9.30am – Open morning for prospective Reception class parents for September 2025.

The Friends’ AGM link is [here](#). The meeting ID is 896 4131 5902 and the passcode is 202629.

Have a pleasant weekend.

Kind regards

Kate Baptiste

Headteacher



3G making letters – what does this say?!