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OCTOBER NEWSLETTER 2023

[www.visitation.ealing.sch.uk](http://www.visitation.ealing.sch.uk)

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### Prayer for the day

#### **YOU HAVE A SPECIAL PURPOSE**

God has a plan for you,  
And when He calls you to a task,  
He'll help you see it through.

**Amen**

### LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS



### AUTUMN TERM

#### **HOLY ROSARY in the Church at 9am**

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October - Year 5

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October - Year 4

#### **Harvest Liturgies in School**

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October -

(Infants at 9.15am and Juniors at 9.45am)

#### **Family of God (All Saints)**

Wednesday 1st November- 9.30am

#### **Advent Liturgy- In school**

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November (Infants only at 9.15am)

#### **Carols with Cardinal Wiseman**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December 6pm

#### **Reconciliation Service Year 4 – 6**

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December

### **Welcome to our monthly newsletter**

In our Gospel Assembly this week we learned how Jesus teaches us through the parables he shared. In the parable of the two sons he tells us that our actions are more important than our words. It is not enough to say you will be kind, respectful, forgiving or generous – you have to act in these ways. We teach the children that it is important to be respectful at all times. This means thinking about the needs of our classmates, sharing our time and our space and being kind.

### **In a world where you can be anything BE KIND**

We have had a busy start to the school term with lots going on. Year 6 have been on their residential trip. Again the sun shone down on them. They had a fabulous time and had many new experiences. For many of the children this was the first time they had been away from home. Thank you to the staff who gave up their weekend to accompany them.

Year 3 have started African Drumming and year 5 have started swimming. This year we have engaged with Westminster Choral Service to further develop singing across the school. We have a choir master who leads hymn practice for the whole school and singing with year 3. We cannot wait to see the impact of this in our next Mass.

A range of after school sports clubs have started, as well as the ever popular 'animation club.' We have lots more planned for this term.

### **Diary Dates**

*Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October –*

Butterflies visit Litten Nature Reserve

*Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October – Monsters*

Ball – Reception-Year 2 5.00pm-  
6.30pm / Year 3-6 7.00pm-  
8.30pm

*Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October - Open*

Evening for Prospective Parents  
6.00pm

*Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October –*

Parental Consultations school  
closes at 2.00pm

*Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October – Year 2*

Great Fire of London Workshop

*Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> – Friday 27<sup>th</sup>*

*October – Half Term*

*Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October – School*

Photographs – individual and  
sibling

*Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November –*

Bumblebees visit Litten Nature  
Reserve

*Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November –*

Butterflies visit Litten Nature  
Reserve

*Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November – Year 5*

Science Museum trip

**HARVEST:** We will be supporting Ealing Food Bank again this year. More and more families rely on the food bank to supplement their weekly groceries and this has further increased with the current cost of living crisis. We will be collecting food donations for the local food banks from **Monday until half term**. This forms part of our commitment to support local, national and international charities.



**WINTER UNIFORM:** As the weather is unseasonably warm children may continue to wear their summer uniform until half term. Children must return to school on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October in winter uniform. That is a shirt and tie and school jumper (not sweatshirt). Please do not put children in a polo shirt and tie. Tights must be blue not black.



**PE KIT** will be worn on PE days. This is blue shorts /tracksuit bottom with a logo, blue T-Shirt and sweatshirt with a logo. Items with a logo can be purchased from Kevin's uniform shop on the high street.

**BELONGINGS:** Please LABEL your child's belongings including water bottles. It is so much easier for us to return lost property when it has a name.

**BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY:** In the past we have had a very active parent association which is called The Friends of the Visitation. This was a fantastic opportunity for us to work together to organise fun activities for the children and parents and to also raise some money for projects within the school. Since Covid this group has been rather diminished. We would like to build up this group again. Therefore we have arranged a meeting for **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October at 6pm**. This is to allow working parents to engage as well.

**Please note, children should not be brought to this meeting.**

**SCHOOL TRIPS:** As I have said previously, we are trying to reduce the cost of school trips to parents by introducing more local visits and limiting coach trips to one a year. **A HUGE THANK YOU TO THE FOTV** for funding the coach trips, further reducing the cost to parents. However if we are unable to establish a committee we will no longer be able to subsidise the coaches.

**MEETING FOR PARENTS CONSIDERING SENDING THEIR CHILD TO THIS SCHOOL:** There will be an open evening for new parents on **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October at 6pm**. If you have friends, family or neighbours whose child will be due to start Nursery or Reception next September please tell them about this opportunity to visit the school.

**TAKING PHOTOGRAPHS IN SCHOOL:** Following the DfE's recommendations on keeping children safe and the sharing of images, we are introducing a new policy around taking photos and videos in school. Parents/carers will no longer be permitted to take videos or photographs of Christmas plays, school trips and any other school event. Staff will take photos which will be uploaded onto the website for you to view. Please be respectful of this new policy.





**KEEPING SAFE ONLINE:** There are many websites to support you to keep your child safe online. A few tips to help you help them:

- Talk to your child about how long they are spending online and agree a time limit. If you agree this with them it will make it easier to stick to the arrangements.
- Talk about the difference between online learning and playing. Both need time limits.
- Make sure that your child knows how to deal with cyber bullying. This can include unpleasant or threatening messages on group chats, texts or WhatsApp. This can also take the form of being excluded from or left out of a chat. This can be really hurtful.

Support your child with what to do if this happens to them or someone they know.

- Take action – know how to report cyberbullying if you or someone you know is experiencing it.
- Be an upstander not a bystander – don't let cyberbullying slide. It's OK to call it out.
- Speak with your friends regularly and check in to see how they are going.

If you need any help from the school please contact us. We can help you with privacy settings, how to deal with concerns and talk to your child about their screen time.



**YEAR 6 SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFER:** A reminder that if you are applying to secondary schools your application **MUST** be received by **31<sup>st</sup> October** or you risk your child not getting a place. If you are applying to a Catholic School you **MUST** complete the LA form and the school form. If you need any help with your application the office staff will be happy to assist you.

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2023:** October marks the start of Black History Month, a time to celebrate the history, achievements, and contributions of black people in the UK and worldwide. Throughout our school, we will highlight inspiring poets, musicians, athletes, authors, and activists. This observance provides a great opportunity to recognise and appreciate the outstanding contributions of black individuals to our society.

**SPORTS NEWS:** We took a group of 26 runners to the Borough Cross-Country Mile race at Berkeley Fields. They were all brave as they flew off at the starting line. It was a beautiful day and each race was packed with runners. Everyone completed the course - the results should be out soon. Kaine came an amazing 5th place in the Y5 boys competition and Sienna once again was 1st home for our girls team. Well done everyone on achieving a PB for this distance. **Go Team Visitation!**





**ST BENEDICT'S SPORTS MORNING:** We took part in an exciting morning of sport at the St Benedict's Sports Centre. Zach, Ben, Alex, Ruben, Sienna, Pola and Edessa tried out tag rugby and cricket, fencing, hockey and netball. They all engaged enthusiastically and were great sports representatives for our school. **Well done Team Visitation!**



**THE LITTEN NATURE RESERVE:** The Reception children attended their first session at The Litten and had so much fun! A big thank you to all the adults who accompanied the visit and got involved in all the activities.



## YEAR 6 PGL:

In September, year 6 went to PGL. We were challenged to some really difficult activities that may have been breaking and trying - some people backed down. My favourite activities were Giant Swing, Zip Wire and finally, Abseiling. I also enjoyed the food and the bunk beds were so comfy – we were very lucky because we got to stay in the new lodges.

Amélie



Last week, my class went to PGL. We did Jacob's ladder, rifle shooting, giant swing, zip wire and more. I enjoyed PGL very much. I learnt to be braver and to never give up even if things are challenging. We had a campfire which was fun and also got to go down to the beach. The food there was delicious!

Oliver L



When we went to PGL, it was a very fun experience. We did many various activities like Abseiling, riding a zip wire and surviving in the wild. Our accommodation was very nice and clean with bunk beds and a shelf. It was a great time to work together and do teamwork. PGL was a great bonding experience for me and the year group. The campfire was fun as we were singing songs and dancing.

Gabriel