



Headteacher: Miss K. Coll
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs J Etheridge

JANUARY 2024

www.visitation.ealing.sch.uk

Tel: 020 8575 5344

A New Year's Prayer

Dear Lord, please give me...

A few friends who understand
me and yet remain my friends
A work to do which has real
value, without which the world
would feel poorer...
A mind unafraid to travel, even
though the trail be not blazed
An understanding heart... a sense
of humour.
Time for quiet, silent meditation.
A feeling of the presence of God
And the patience to wait for the
coming of these things
With the wisdom to know when
they come.

(WR Hurst)

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS



SPRING TERM

Friday 2nd February – Candlemas
and St Blaise

Monday 18th March – St Patrick's
Day

Wednesday 27th March – Holy
Week Liturgies (Infants 9.30am in
the school hall and Juniors 10am
in the Church)

All Masses will be at 9.30am in
the Church

School Sunday Mass
Sunday 11th February at 12pm
Sunday 10th March at 12pm
Sunday 12th May at 12pm
Sunday 9th June at 12pm
Sunday 14th July at 12pm

START OF THE NEW YEAR: It feels like we
have just come back from the Christmas
break and half term will soon be upon us.

We have not yet had the opportunity to
say thank you to you all for your generous
gifts and kind wishes at Christmas. We
appreciate these gifts as a mark of your
thanks for everything the staff do to make
school a positive experience for all
children. We are still working our way
through the many boxes of chocolates,
amongst many other lovely gifts.

We look forward to continuing the positive
parent school relationships.

This is such a short term but we have many
fun and interesting experiences arranged
for the children. These include a range of
workshops and class trips; The Vikings, The
Tower of London, visits to the Library,
Greenford Quay and Boston Manor Park.

The children in the Junior Department will
be taking part in sports and PE
opportunities including, Middlesex Cricket
Coaching, Badminton festival, Gym/Dance
festival and a Netball festival.

We also offer a range of Music
opportunities. The children in year 3
continue to learn new skills in their weekly
drumming classes, weekly recorder
practice for year 4 and 5 with year 6
consolidating their skills through
composition and performance. The weekly
hymn practice with the specialist singing
teacher has led to enhanced singing during
Mass and other performances.

Diary Dates

Monday 29th January – Maths
Workshop for Nursery & Reception
parents 2.50pm

Tuesday 30th January – Butterflies
visiting Greenford Library

Wednesday 31st January –
Safeguarding Parent Workshop 2.00pm

Friday 2nd February – Choir performing
at Young Voices

Tuesday 6th February – Bumblebees
visiting Greenford Library

Wednesday 7th February –
Safeguarding Parent Workshop 2.00pm

Monday 12th – Friday 16th February –
Half Term

Thursday 29th February – Parental
Consultations – school closes at
2.00pm

Thursday 7th March – World Book Day

Monday 11th March – Year 3 Boston
Manor Park Trip

Friday 15th March – Year 5 Tower of
London trip

Thursday 21st March – Year 1
Greenford Quay trip

Thursday 28th March – Easter Bonnet
Parade for Reception-Year 2

Thursday 28th March – Last day of term
– school closes at 1.30pm

SAFEGUARDING WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS: We have now had two of the four safeguarding workshops for parents. These have been very well attended but there is still plenty of space for other parents to join in. The parents have really enjoyed these. The response from parents has been extremely positive.

"I really found yesterday's workshop to be informative and eye opening at times. Hoda was wonderfully engaging throughout (a lot of us parents were feeling quite shy to start), but by the end I think a lot of us were feeling more confident to speak up."

"Today I did attend the safeguarding training for parents. It was very helpful and I was surprised at the same time shocked to know that Ealing has highest cases of sexual abuse of children. "

"The presenter Hoda Ali was amazing, every moment was very energetic and interesting the way she presented and distributed her speech and explanation about the children safeguarding. Thank you for organising it."

You do not need to register. Just turn up. I am sure you will find the workshops interesting.

The next sessions are as follows;

1. FGM/C workshop (same as staff training)

Wednesday 31st January 2024 at 2pm

2. Lessons that will be taught to your children

Wednesday 7th February 2024 at 2pm

CELEBRATION MASS FOR ST VINCENT PALLOTTI: Well done to year 5 and year 6 pupils who gave up part of their lunch time to celebrate the Feast of St Vincent Pallotti on Monday 22nd January. It is a truly special occasion to celebrate with the parish and the 'Pallotine Priests' from parishes across London and the south East.

Well done to the choirs of Our Lady of the Visitation and Cardinal Wiseman for their uplifting singing and to all the pupils who read.

Thank you also to Cardinal Wiseman pupils and staff for the fabulous reception afterwards. The food was delicious.

CLASS ASSEMBLIES: In the spring/summer term each class will deliver an assembly. These will be at 2.55pm for a 3pm start. Parents/Carers are welcome.

Tuesday 20th February – 6W

Wednesday 21st February – 3G

Tuesday 27th February – 3R

Wednesday 28th February – 6S

Tuesday 5th March – 5D

Wednesday 6th March – 2P

Tuesday 12th March – 2W

Wednesday 13th March – 5Y

Tuesday 19th March – 4Y

Wednesday 20th March – 1B

Tuesday 23rd April – Bumblebees

Wednesday 24th April – 4C

Tuesday 1st May - Butterflies

Tuesday 8th May – 1K

A reminder that no photos/videos are allowed. Parents/carers are asked not to bring drinks into the school building.

MARDI GRAS: This year we will be marking the end of ordinary time, coming into the season of Lent, with a **Mardi Gras on Friday 9th February.**

The children will be learning about the significance of the Mardi Gras colours, (gold, green and purple) and will take part in a whole school procession. **The children are invited to come dressed in these or any other bright colours or sparkly clothes.** No football kits please.



SUNDAY MASS: A reminder that we celebrate Mass as a community every second Sunday of the month. This is an opportunity for the children to participate in the Mass through reading, taking up the offertory and singing. We are practicing the hymns for the next Sunday Mass in school during hymn practice. The next Mass will be on Sunday the 11th February at 12pm. Please try to attend this Mass and encourage your children to sing in the choir on that day. They are welcome to join the choir at 12pm Mass every Sunday.



E-Safety Tip:

Please make sure that you know who your child is playing online games with. Ask them about their friends; who they are and how they know them. Young children may perceive someone they have met online as a friend.



There has been a significant rise in children with rotting teeth. Please make sure your child is brushing their teeth at least twice a day and after sugary snacks.



Felix THE FELIX PROJECT

We are working with the Parish to support families in our community through the FELIX Project. The food arrives at the Parish on a Saturday morning and is distributed from 12.30pm – 2pm. A member of staff volunteers each week to help out and collect food for the school community. However the sell by dates are often for that weekend and cannot be taken for families in school. Therefore, if you can, come down to the Parish rooms opposite the Church, on a Saturday to see what is available. **It is there for EVERYONE!**



LINKS WITH CARDINAL WISEMAN: Last week 6W went to visit the Design and Technology Department at Cardinal Wiseman School. This was part of their design challenge to make a pencil case. They were shown how to build these from wood using small drills, hammers and tacks. They completed their cases by adding a geometric sliding lid. Their completed cases will be decorated with their own individual designs. The children all had a fantastic lesson and met the teachers of Design Technology whilst gaining a valuable experience of 3 dimensional design. 6S will be given the same opportunity later in the term.



SPORTS NEWS

A group of Year 4 pupils took part in a Badminton Festival last week. The event was aimed at beginners and players new to the game. The players followed a circuit of activity stations of skills related to Badminton. Our pupils loved it - they were keen to learn and to work on improving their skills. It was also lovely to see former pupils, now at Cardinal Wiseman, representing their school as Young Leaders. The staff were looking out for pupils who showed determination and chose Harry in 4C and Mollie in 4Y to receive the Sports Value Award for Determination. Well done to all involved.



We are all Team Visitation!

Many thanks also to Volleyball Coach Mrs Justkowska who has led Volleyball skills practice with Y6 and in Team Up club this half term.

RECEPTION POLICE VISIT: Bumble in Reception went missing! Team Reception were quick to call the Police and make missing posters. It took the police a few days to call us back and send us CCTV footage of Bumble's whereabouts. Thank you to all the children who helped find Bumble. He is happy and back where he belongs.



PC Pidding visited us last week and he praised the children for acting fast. The children had lots of fun trying on different police hats. Team reception knows to call 999 for any emergency and that the police are here to keep them safe. Well done Team reception!



CHRISTMAS POP UP SHOP: A huge well done to the Mini Vinnies and Prayer Leaders who raised £384 to support the homeless people in our Parish. Thank you to all the families who supported this event. We hope you enjoyed receiving your gifts!



BINGO NIGHT

**Friday 9th February
2024**

7.15pm

in the

Visitation School Hall



**Cash Bar with Gin,
Prosecco and more**

**Lots of cash prizes
to be won, including**

**£100 JACKPOT
PRIZE FOR FINAL
HOUSE WINNER!**



**£10 entry buys you a 5 game bingo book and
highlighter to mark off your winning numbers**

Extra games can be bought on the night - £1 a game

All profits go towards school building refurbishment

Come along and try your luck!

PARISH QUIZ NIGHT

18+ Adult only event



Saturday 17th February 2024

Our Lady of the Visitation Parish Centre

Quiz team will be a maximum of 6

Doors open at 7.30pm and quiz to start promptly at 8.15pm

Cash bar

Tea/Coffee available

Ticket price £3.00 without food

Ticket price £5.00 with plate of hot food

Tickets will be available after Weekend Masses

Top Tips for SETTING UP PARENTAL CONTROLS ON NEW DEVICES

In children's eagerness to start enjoying new digital gadgets immediately, it can be easy to overlook setting up the type of parental controls that can help to protect them online. If you don't sort those out from the very start, it can be an uphill battle – technologically and psychologically – to impose such controls later. Here's our rundown of what to look for when setting up the various internet-enabled devices that might be lurking under the tree at this time of year.

IPHONE

If your child's lucky enough to be getting their own iPhone, parental controls can help avoid issues like screen addiction and unsuitable content. Go into the settings and scroll down to 'Screen Time'. From here you can customise important settings including time limits on using the device, communication restrictions and content blockers. You can also lock your changes behind a passcode.

ANDROID

With Android devices, Google's Family Link app is your friend. You'll need a Google account – and a separate one for your child, which you should use when first setting up the device. Then, in Family Link on your own device, select 'Add Child' and enter their account details. This lets you specify limits on daily usage, restrict certain apps, block particular content and more.

PLAYSTATION

You can prep for a PlayStation before it's even unwrapped. At my.account.sony.com, create an account, then go to Account Management > Family Management > Add Family Member to set up your child's account, which you'll use to sign in on the console. You can restrict the age ratings of the games they can play and who they can talk to. On the PS5, you can make exceptions for any games you think are acceptable despite their high age rating.

IPAD

iPad parental controls are identical to those on iPhones. However, if you've got a shared family iPad and want to ensure your children aren't seeing anything age-inappropriate after you hand them the device, there's a feature called Guided Access (under Settings > Accessibility > Guided Access). With this switched on, young ones can only use the app that's currently open.

XBOX

The Xbox Family Settings app helps you manage which games your child can play (and when). You'll need to set up the console with your own account and then add a child profile. Make sure your account's password protected, so your child can't alter your choices later. You'll be walked through the functions at setup, but you can also reach them manually via Settings > Account > Family Settings.

NINTENDO SWITCH

Download the Nintendo Switch Parental Controls app on your phone, and you'll be shown how to link it to the console. Once that's done, you can limit how long your child can play each day, decide what age ratings are permitted and more. You'll also get weekly updates on how often they've used the device. These controls are accessible through the console itself, but the app is usually easier.

WINDOWS 11 PCs

On Windows 11, account management is key. Set up the device with your own account as the admin. Then go to Settings > Accounts > Family and Other Users and create your child's account (if you've already done this on a previous PC, just log in with those details). Microsoft Family Safety (either the app or the site) then lets you control screen time, what content children can view and more.

CHROMEBOOKS

Chromebooks' parental controls are managed via the Family Link app. Unlike an Android device, however, you need set up the Chromebook with your own account first, then add your child's. Go to Settings > People > Add Person and input your child's Google account details (or create a new account). Your child can then log in, and you can monitor what they're up to via Family Link.

MACS

Like iPhones, parental controls for Macs are managed via the Screen Time settings. Again, the crux here is to set yourself up as the administrator before adding any child accounts. In the settings, look for Users & Groups to create your child's account, then – while on their profile – use the screen time options to place any boundaries around apps, usage and who your child can communicate with (and vice versa).

SMART TVS

Smart TVs typically have their own individual parental controls. One of the most popular brands is Samsung – and on their TVs, you can control the content available to your child. In the Settings menu, under 'Broadcasting', you can lock channels and restrict content by its age rating. Even this isn't foolproof, however: some apps (like YouTube) might still let children access unsuitable material.

Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins is a technology journalist and editor with more than 20 years' experience of working for titles such as the Sunday Times, Which?, PC Pro and Computeractive. He's appeared regularly as a tech pundit on television and radio, including on BBC Newsnight, Radio 5 Live and the ITV News at Ten. He has two children and writes regularly on the subject of internet safety.



The
National
College®



National
Online
Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday