

NEWSLETTER

3rd December 2018 – 7th December 2018

ATTENDANCE

Whole School Attendance 19th November – 23rd November was 95.3%.

SCHOOL GATEWAY

From time to time, we send information to parents via text message to your mobile phone. A new, free, smart-phone app for parents is now available for download called 'school gateway' for most devices. If you haven't already done so, **please could you download this new app to your phone.**

MATHS INFORMATION

MATHS ONLINE HOMEWORK /REVISION SESSIONS

Every Thursday for KS4 from 3-4 pm and on Fridays 3- 3.45 pm for KS3 both in Room 50.

MATHS CHALLENGE CLUB

Maths Challenge Club runs every Wednesday at 13:00 in room 35. If you love puzzles and number crunching, come and see what we do. All welcome, no matter what your ability is, Biscuits provided. Mrs Melia



CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

Will be on Friday Dec 14th £1 donation to our school Charities. Merits will be awarded for the best Christmas Jumper in the form. If you choose not to wear a Christmas jumper, ensure clothing is suitable for the school environment.

YEAR 11 COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

Year 11 students a reminder that the Holy Cross college application deadline is Friday 7th December. After this date, there will be absolutely no chance of applying to the college.

YEAR 11 PARENTS' EVENING

Reminder to parents & carers Year 11 Parents Evening will be taking place on Thursday 13th December 2018. A letter will be coming to parents & carers via pupils for replies. Pupils are expected to attend with parents. Parking will be available opposite the Hub using gate 9 at Heaton Park.



St Monica's R.C High School
Bury Old Road, Prestwich
Manchester. M25 1JH
0161 773 6436

SAFEGUARDING

If you have a concern for the safety of a child at the school you can contact Mrs. Walker, the designated Child Protection Officer on 0161 773 6436 or g.walker@stmonicas.co.uk You can also contact Bury Social Services directly on 0161 253 5678.

UNIFORM

All uniform should be of the highest standard and in line with school policy. The uniform guidelines are on the school website. Please note with the cold weather drawing in a reminder for pupils:

- Coats should be Dark Blue/Black/Dark Green
- No coats are to be worn in the building.
- No hoodies.



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SCHOOL CHRISTMAS DINNER

Christmas dinners will be served from Monday 17th December to Thursday 20th December in the main school kitchen.

SKI TRIP

There will be a meeting for all pupils and parents on Tuesday 11th December at 6pm in the school hall. This is for more information about the trip and to answer any questions parents/carers may have.

CHESS CLUB

Chess Club every Tuesday lunch in room 33. All welcome. Mr Rodger

CORNERSTONE

We deliver the clothes to Cornerstone on Wednesday 19th December to help support them homeless at the coldest time of the year. We are collecting the following:

Coats, Jumpers, tracksuit tops, scarfs, socks, gloves etc. shoes, blankets, bags

Anything to keep warm over the winter months

We are also collecting food items. Examples are: Tinned food, chocolate, biscuits, crisps, **No Alcohol please!**

Pupils will be rewarded 10 merits per donation.

THANK YOU – CAFOD

Thank you to all the families who took the time to fill your CAFOD box with change. We raised over £1000 in change! Every little helps!

DINNER MONEY YEAR 11 PARENT PAY

Please be aware school will not accept cash from the 29.10.18, all **YEAR 11** pupils must use parent pay. Pupils who receive free school meals (fsm) can top up their account via parent pay for break purchases otherwise the fsm has to be used at lunch time. Please make sure your account is up to date. Thank you Mrs Cannon

DINNER MONEY YEAR 7-10

Please can you ensure you do not add money to Parent Pay for Year 7-10 children's dinners as this will not transfer over to the kitchen. Please still add money as normal via the pay machines in school or by cheque.

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TRAVEL SAFE

Travelling on public transport is safe, however the police offer this advice to avoid putting yourself at risk from crime:

- Use timetables to plan your journey in advance to minimise the time you spend waiting at bus stops and stations, especially at night.
- Avoid poorly lit areas such as footpaths, subways and alleyways.
- Try to appear confident that you know your surroundings at all times.
- If you are travelling alone let someone know how and where you are travelling and contact them to let them know you have arrived safely.
- Choose a seat in busy areas of the train, tram or bus, if there are not many passengers sit close to the driver or train guard. Don't be too proud to change seats if you feel uncomfortable.
- Keep your valuables out of sight, especially jewellery. Keep your belongings close at hand.
- Be aware of the people around you, where they are sitting and standing and what they are doing.
- In the unlikely event that you are threatened or attacked, don't fight back. Make as much noise as possible and run away, your possessions can be replaced, your health and well-being is much more important. Report the attack to the police as quickly as possible.
- If you are threatened on a bus, tell the driver. On trains tell the guide or use the emergency handle. On Metrolink trams use the emergency intercom.
- If you use taxis, only use reputable companies. Before getting in the taxi ask the driver to tell you the name of the

SCHOOL CAR PARK

The school car park is for staff & pre-arranged visitors only. There are limited spaces available and with the introduction of the security gate the turning circle is not available to members of the public. Therefore, unnecessary vehicles on the car park can cause a Health & Safety issue.

We have a security staff member on the gates who will question your reason for requiring access to the car park.

There are plenty of parking facilities near school on Bury Old Road (just past the Ostrich pub) or on Scholes Lane.

We have limited disabled parking spaces and these should only be used should you have a valid disabled badge.

Mrs Cannon

HOUSEKEEPING

PARKING OUTSIDE SCHOOL

Could we remind all parents who drop off/ collect children in the school day not to park in the school entrance or in the bus stops, please do not park on the opposite side of the road this compromises the Health and Safety of our pupils and carries a fine. If you are collecting pupils by car, please arrange to collect pupils at a location a little further away from the school or after 3.10pm when most pupils have left. Thank You.

PARENT PAY – General

Please remember to log onto your account regularly to check you are up to date with any payments for trips and revision guides. If a refund has been actioned via Parent Pay from school you should receive a notification on your Parent Pay account and be able to withdraw the money to your bank by clicking on your parent account, statement, withdrawal.

CHANGE AT SCHOOL

Please can you make sure pupils have the correct notes/ change to top up their dinner money account if they are year 7-10. With the introduction of Parent Pay at school the finance office has limited funds so does not always have change.

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SPORT

MONDAY

Boys' Rugby Club 3.00pm – 4.15pm
Gymnastics 3.00pm – 4.00pm all year groups.

TUESDAY

Girls football 3.00pm – 4.00pm
Year 9 & 10 Netball @ home v's Elton 3.00pm – 5.30pm

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

Girls' Rugby Club 3.00pm – 4.15pm

FRIDAY

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LITURGICAL NEWSLETTER

26th November 2018 – 30th November 2018

THE LITURGICAL LIFE OF ST MONICA'S SCHOOL

This Sunday we begin to celebrate the season of Advent. Advent is the season of hope, culminating in the celebration of the birth of Jesus, which brings us the good news that we are loved unconditionally by God.

This Sunday's Gospel is filled with hope, reminding us that one day, Jesus will return.

Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for the hope and light you bring to our lives. Please help us to bring light and hope to others as we journey through Advent. Amen



SAINT OF THE WEEK - ST DAMIEN OF MOLOKAI

St Damien was born in Belgium. He lived in the nineteenth century. He became a priest and was a missionary, eventually ending up in Hawaii. He spent the last sixteen years of his life working with people with leprosy, a highly infectious disease which meant they had to live separately from everyone else. He taught them the Catholic faith and worked very hard to look after people who were sick and suffering.

He showed great kindness by thinking of other people and their needs before himself.

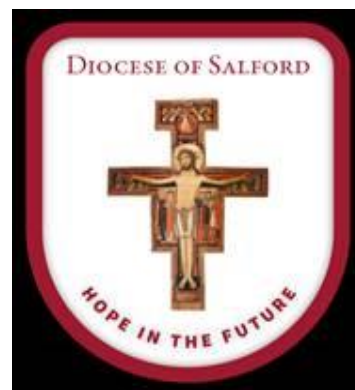
Reflect: can you think of an example of how you can show kindness and put other people before yourself?

CHRISTMAS CARD WORKSHOP

The pupil Chaplaincy Team have come up with a good idea for Advent 2018. They want to make, write and send out Christmas cards to members of our parish communities. If you have any names of parishioners who would benefit from a home-made Christmas card please email e.allmand@stmonicas.co.uk

The Pupil Chaplaincy Team are starting a **CHRISTMAS CARD WORKSHOP** in room 14 on Wednesday lunchtimes.

We are asking for pupils to come along and make Christmas cards that will be sent out to the sick and housebound in our parish communities.



ADVENT CALENDAR

Follow CAFOD's 2018 online Advent calendar to reflect, pray and take global justice actions throughout this holy season. <https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Advent-Calendar>

During form time pupils will use the Advent calendar for young people that has been produced by CAFOD. It includes daily form time prayers and actions for each day of Advent. This year's theme is refugees.

ADVENT PRAYER

All pupils and staff are invited to daily Advent prayer reflections 1.10pm in our school chapel.



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PUPIL CHAPLAINCY TEAM

The team have been busy preparing the school chapel for Advent. The team have also planned prayer reflections that will be every day during Advent. All pupils and staff welcome in the chapel.



LOCAL PARISH INFORMATION – OUR LADY OF GRACE

Please see below information about the advent activities taking place in Our Lady of Grace parish.

Sunday 2 December: Advent wreath making in the parish hall, 2pm. Bring scissors, enjoy a cuppa and a mince pie.

Monday 3 December: Mass at 12 noon in honour of the Martyrs of the Venerable English College, Rome. Archbishop Patrick Kelly is main celebrant and homilist. Priests from northern dioceses will concelebrate.

Friday 7 December: Mass with Our Lady of Grace primary school at 9.30am, celebrating the feast of the Immaculate Conception of Our Lady.

Friday 7 December: Churches Together in Prestwich & Kersal celebrate Advent Praise at 7pm at St Paul's CE, Kersal.

Tuesday 18 December: Christmas Choir Service in church at 6pm with Our Lady of Grace Primary school children.

Christmas Day Mass times: Midnight, 9am, 11am.



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