



ST. BERNADETTE'S

CATHOLIC PRIMARY VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

A MEMBER OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST

28th March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

A reminder that the academy closes for the Easter holidays at home time today. Please find below a table outlining the remaining dates this academic year. On the next page, I have also included the dates for the next academic year.

LENT TERM DATES for Academic Year 2023–2024	
Thursday 28th March 2024	At home time, academy closes for Easter holidays
PENTECOST TERM DATES for Academic Year 2023–2024	
Monday 15th April 2024	Academy opens for all pupils
Monday 6th May 2024	May Day Bank Holiday – academy closed
Friday 24th May 2024	At home time, academy closes for half-term
Monday 3rd June 2024	Academy opens for all pupils
Friday 19th July 2024	At home time, academy closes for Summer holidays

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Term dates for the next academic year, 2024–2025

The table below details all dates for the next academic year. Insofar as is possible, a reminder that parents are expected to book holidays outside of the academy's term time, thereby maximising your children's precious learning time in class and so enabling them to achieve of their very best.

ADVENT TERM DATES for Academic Year 2024–2025	
Monday 2nd September 2024	Training Day – academy closed to all pupils
Tuesday 3rd September 2024	Academy opens for all pupils
Friday 18th October 2024	At home time, academy closes for half-term
Monday 28th October 2024	Academy opens for all pupils
Friday 20th December 2024	At home time, academy closes for Christmas holidays
LENT TERM DATES for Academic Year 2024–2025	
Monday 6th January 2025	Academy opens for all pupils
Thursday 13th February 2025	At home time, academy closes for half-term
Friday 14th February 2025	Training Day – academy closed to all pupils
Monday 24th February 2025	Academy opens for all pupils
Friday 4th April 2025	At home time, academy closes for Easter holidays
PENTECOST TERM DATES for Academic Year 2024–2025	
Wednesday 23rd April 2025	Academy opens for all pupils
Monday 5th May 2025	May Day Bank Holiday – academy closed
Friday 23rd May 2025	At home time, academy closes for half-term
Monday 2nd June 2025	Academy opens for all pupils
Friday 18th July 2025	At home time, academy closes for Summer holidays

Thank you

We would like to thank parents for attending recent events at the school, such as parents' evening and running record meetings. The partnership between home and school is a very important one and we appreciate the time taken to come to these events.

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Staffing changes

As announced previously to parents of children in Class 1:

- We warmly welcome Miss Fenwick back to the academy today following her maternity leave. Mr. Wright's full-time role at the academy as Class 1 teacher therefore comes to an end today. Mr. Wright first joined the academy several years ago to initially cover one maternity leave, but ended up covering three maternity leaves back to back, and he has very much become a highly-valued and well-respected member of our team during that time. I'm pleased to say that Mr. Wright is staying on with us next term in a part-time role with Class 1, and I would like to pass on to him my sincere gratitude for all his hard work and dedication during his time at the academy.

Summer Uniform

As announced last academic year, and to assist parents with the cost of living, from the start of the Pentecost Term directly after the Easter holidays it is no longer compulsory to wear the summer uniform. Children will be able to attend school in either:

- the summer uniform, or
- simply continue to wear the main academy uniform*.

*The latter option (to wear the main uniform) includes some further options:

- Girls are allowed to wear white **short-sleeve** blouses with the academy tie and white socks
- Boys are allowed to wear white **short-sleeve** shirts with the academy tie, black shorts, and black socks.
- In the event of very hot weather, the requirement to wear the academy tie will be relaxed at the discretion of the academy via communication with parents. Please see the uniform charts on our website for full details.

Please ensure that all items of uniform are labelled clearly with your child's full name.

Arbor Parent App

Shortly after the Easter holidays we will be launching our new Arbor Parent App, as a replacement to the previous ScholarPack App. Further details regarding this will follow in due course.

SATs

Key Stage One SATs for children in Year 2 have for many years taken place during the month of May, but as of this year schools are no longer required to administer these tests. Children in this year group will still take part in internal assessments that we undertake at the end of each term across all year groups, but the official SATs examinations will not be undertaken.

Key Stage Two SATs for all children in Year 6 will take place from Monday, 13th May – Thursday, 16th May. It is essential that all Year 6 children are in the academy that week. The weeks building up to the tests are a key period for revision. To give your child the best opportunity of achieving success, we would strongly urge parents to avoid booking any holidays during this period.

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Strawberry Tea

A reminder that the date for our Strawberry Tea is Friday 28th June 2024. More details will follow next term, closer to the day.

Sports Day

A further reminder that the date for our Sports Day is Friday 5th July 2024, with races for Classes 1–6 starting at 9.15 a.m., and races for Classes 7–12 commencing at 1.00 p.m. Again, more details will follow next term, closer to the day. In case of bad weather on the 5th July, the reserve date for Sports Day will be the following Friday 12th July 2024.

Holy Week and Easter

We are currently in Holy Week, the holiest week in the Church year when we commemorate the events of Our Lord's Passion, Death, and Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

We hope that many of our families will be able to attend the Easter services that will take place at St. Bernadette's Catholic Church and other local churches. On the morning of Good Friday, there is also a walk of witness which starts at St. Bernadette's Church as Christians gather together to give witness to the events of this solemn day, walking from church to church through Ashby. Please refer to the parish website for further details.

TIMES OF MASS AND SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER at St. Bernadette's Church unless otherwise stated		
Thursday 28th March	7.00 p.m. at St. Norbert's, Crowle	Maundy Thursday
Friday 29th March	10.00 a.m. Walk of Witness	Good Friday
	3.00 p.m. at Holy Souls	
	5.00 p.m. Stations of the Cross	
Saturday 30th March	8.00 p.m.	Holy Saturday Easter Vigil
Sunday 31st March	11.30 a.m.	Easter Sunday

On behalf of myself and all of the staff here at St. Bernadette's, I would like to wish you and your families a very happy and holy Easter. May we all recognise the sacrifice made for us by Our Lord Jesus Christ when He gave His life on the cross for our salvation, and may the joy and glory of the Risen Lord be with you all at this very special time of the year, so that our faith in Jesus may resemble that of the Roman centurion who stood at the foot of the cross.

And when the centurion, who stood facing Him, saw that He thus breathed His last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"

Mark Chapter 15, verse 39

Yours sincerely,



Mr. M. Strong, Headteacher

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