



# St. Monica's Primary School

## Newsletter 15th September 2021



Dear Parents,

This week we are preparing to celebrate the 50th birthday of St Monica's. The school opened on September 6th 1971 with 13 children. We've grown a bit since then! During this academic year we have several events planned including a display, an open evening for past staff and pupils, history and geography projects for the children and most important: cake and ice cream on Friday. We have a dedicated email address—[alumni@stmons.co.uk](mailto:alumni@stmons.co.uk) to which we would encourage you to get in touch with any photos, memories and anecdotes you have of St Monica's over the decades.

### Meet the Teacher Meetings

Just a gentle reminder following Monday's email that we look forward to seeing you at our Meet the Teacher meetings tonight at 6pm and 6:30pm via Google Classroom.

### School Building Fund

Paying towards the cost of upkeep of the buildings is a cost of being a Catholic school.

However I would like to explain what a very good deal St. Monica's gets out of the



arrangement. We pay approximately £2,820.00 to the Diocese each year and in return we submit projects for buildings and premises improvements, most of which are granted in full. This year we have received £20,000 for upgrades to the heating in the hall; and £20,000 for improvements to external footpaths and play surfaces, including the tyre park. In recent years the Diocese has paid for new windows and blinds throughout Key Stage 2; fences around the playground; the stunning new playground surface and markings; and numerous other projects. The contribution is voluntary for parents but required of schools. This means that if you are able to make a contribution it would save us from spending money from the budget on making up any shortfall for the Building Fund. This in turn ensures that every penny available to us goes on the children's education. Our school has benefited greatly from the Diocesan Building Fund, and I strongly urge you to make a contribution if you possibly can.

### Data Collection Sheets

Last week your child brought home their Data Collection sheets. Please check the details, amend any that are incorrect, (New Reception children's sheets are mostly blank) **preferably in coloured pen**, and return to school a.s.a.p. Correct mobile numbers are of utmost importance as if we need to send out an emergency text it will not reach you if we still have your old number on file. Please note that the number chosen as priority one will also be the number that receives school text messages. Any emergency contacts listed should also be able to receive an emergency call during the working day. Please include any e-mail addresses.

A gentle reminder to our new reception class parents to return any forms that have been issued as a matter of urgency.

### Friends of St Monica's

Our wonderful Parent Teachers Association is called FOSM and in recent years has provided many extra resources and lots of great fun activities for the children. I would like to offer my heartfelt thanks to Mrs Mel Barton, Mrs Sarah Karwa and Mrs Gaynor Twiss for their amazing service as committee members. Their time in office has finished and we are looking for volunteers to take up the rewarding roles of chair, treasurer and secretary. These positions will be filled by self nomination and vote at the FOSM Annual General Meeting to which all parents are invited and will take place on 21st October 2021, combined with a Cheese and Wine event—a lovely opportunity to meet friends old and new.

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### Asthma

Please ensure that if your child has asthma you have sent in an in date inhaler, written instructions and permission, and a separate permission form to allow us to administer a school inhaler in an emergency.

### KS2 School Meals

Gentle reminder that your school meals ParentPay account should be in credit for meals required. A school meal is £2.40 a day.

### PE Kit

In order to ensure that we don't lose our smart school presentation, please ensure that the children have correct PE kit: a white t shirt, black shorts, black pumps, trainers, a black or navy sweat shirt, and black or navy jogging pants. All items must be named and free of any logos unless you choose to buy the school badged versions from Warrington School Wear.

### Catholic Diaries

Last week your child received a Catholic School Diary. Even if your child is too young to read the diary themselves, we hope you will find it useful in talking to your children about the Gospel and our faith. A donation of £3 per diary (payable on Parent Pay) would be appreciated.

### Year 5 Swimming Lessons

Whole class swimming lessons began on Tuesday 14th September. Please ensure your child brings their kit with them on the following dates: 21st and 28th September, 5th and 12th October, 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th November and the final session on 7th December. We have been asked to emphasise the requirements for boys to wear trunks or tight fitting shorts, for all jewellery to be removed (including ear studs) and for long hair to be tied back. Thank you.

### Allergies

We currently have several children in school with potentially serious nut allergies. We would therefore request that parents check to ensure that any snacks or packed lunches sent into school, do not contain nuts, or nut products, including sesame seeds, peanut butter or 'Nuttella.' Please could you check any packaging carefully when you are sending products into school with your child. If your child has any allergies that you have not yet told us about, or an existing allergy has increased in severity, please could you inform your child's class teacher and the school office as soon as possible. Thank you for your co-operation.

### Care UK Appeal for Afghan Refugees

A large number of refugees from Afghanistan have arrived in the North West and Care UK Charity are working with various authorities to supply the required necessities. School is happy to collect your donations of new underwear for men, women and children and basic toiletries (shampoo, deodorant, shower gel, soap, toothpaste etc) and nappies. Donations can also be handed to Louise Barker at church (10am Mass Sundays) or taken to Care UK outlets but please check for donation times.

### Have a lovely week

Best wishes,

Mrs. Norman and all the staff.

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