



Oratory R.C. Primary and Nursery School



Newsletter: 10.9.21

“Shine as to be a light to others”

Head Teacher: Mrs C Dickinson

Website: www.oratory.bham.sch.uk School Office Number: 0121 454 0600 Email: communication@oratory.bham.sch.uk



Family Mass at the Oratory of St Philip Neri
Sunday 12:15 noon
Everyone welcome!



Catholic Pupil Profile Virtues: Eloquent and Truthful

We are growing our children to be **eloquent and truthful** in what they say of themselves, the relations between people, and the wider world.

Living our Catholic Virtues of **eloquent and truthful** this week are:

Year Group	Names	
Reception	Eden Neza Mparirwa	Bayden Lachard
Year 1	Sandara Bahadur	Nathan King
Year 2	Temia Smith	Ted Khamuromu
Year 3	Leyla Dwyer	Elijah Antcliff
Year 4	Tammy Bell	Richie Jensen
Year 5	Dior-Rose Lorenzo	Eli Federlein
Year 6	Priscilla Kamparah	Jordan King



Welcome back!!

Welcome to the first Newsletter of this academic year. We are all so happy to be back! We have missed our children and families so much!

The children have been amazing, are settled and happy to be back. Staff are delighted that the children have come back ready and excited to learn.

A special welcome to our new children and their families who started in Reception this week: Aisha, Saleef, Amaris, Abigail, Daniel, Malachi, Fatima, Elliana, Ezra, Brayden, Massi, Abenezzer, Eden, Muhmad, Henok, William, Maximiliano, Isabella, Anaise, Levi, Thani, Riyaansh, A'Mara, Joshua, Milka and Rigi.

Covid-19 still remains with us. We continue to receive updated guidance from Birmingham Local Authority (LA), the Government and the DFE in anticipation of a spike in cases upon children returning to school, in preparation for the winter months and the possibility of local lockdowns. We are taking a cautious approach and will continue with a number of procedures and processes that we had in place during last academic year in order to keep everyone as safe as possible. Thank you for your continued co-operation, understanding and support during these unprecedented times.

Start and End of Day Timings

- In order for our new timings to run smoothly, **it is essential that your child is dropped off and collected on time.**
- A member of staff will be located at each entrance at the beginning and end of the school day.
- After you have dropped off or collected your child, please leave the school premises, and the areas surrounding the school promptly in order to avoid congestion outside school and to ensure social distancing is maintained. **Your anticipated cooperation is greatly appreciated.**

Year Group Timings (Adjusted timings for Y3, Y4 and Y5 (morning) are highlighted in yellow)

Year	Start Time	Location: start of the day	Finish Time	Location: end of the day
Nursery	9am	Entrance via double gates on Oliver Road through KS1 Playground and into EYFS Unit.	12 noon	Exit via KS1 playground, through double gates to Oliver Road.
Reception	9am	Entrance via double gates on Oliver Road through KS1 Playground and into EYFS Unit.	3:15pm	Exit via KS1 playground, through double gates to Oliver Road.
Y1	8:40am	Entrance via main school gate on Oliver Road.	3:05pm	Exit via main school gate on Oliver Road and via main car park gate.
Y2	8:50am	Entrance via main school gate on Oliver Road.	3:15pm	Exit via main school gate on Oliver Road and via main car park gate.
Y3	8:40am	Entrance via gate on Monument Road and then through Y3 / Y4 cloakrooms.	3:15pm	Exit via gate on Monument Road.
Y4	8:40am	Entrance via gate on Monument Road and then through Y3 / Y4 cloakrooms.	3:15pm	Exit via gate on Monument Road.
Y5	8:30am	Entrance via gate on Monument Road and through Y6 classroom	3:05pm	Exit via gate on Monument Road.
Y6	8:30am	Entrance via gate on Monument Road and straight into classroom.	3:05pm	Exit via gate on Monument Road.

- All children must be accompanied by an adult and dropped off and collected at the designated entrance. **Except for children in Year 6 whose parents and carers are required to read with their child our 'Walking to School Policy' and return a complete and signed Permission Slip.**
- For anyone using public transport to get to or from school – please read the Government advice at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-travel-guidance-for-passengers>
- Parents and carers will not be able to have the same casual 'drop in' conversations with staff at the beginning and end of the school day. If you need to speak to a member of staff, it will either have to be by telephone to make an appointment or by email. **In order to make an appointment please call school on 0121 454 0600 or email us on communication@oratory.bham.sch.uk.**
- **No parents or carers will be allowed inside the main school building unless by prior appointment.**



Catholic Life of the Oratory

Our first Mass of the school year was held at the Oratory Church on Tuesday. Children from Year 2 to Year 6 attended. Year 3 and Year 4 created and presented their birthdays cards to Our Lady.

It was a truly joyous celebration and wonderful for so many classes to attend Mass in person, rather than via zoom. Mass was said in celebration of Our Lady's Birthday (Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin, 8th September)

Thank you to Faven, Bino (First Reading), Hannah (Responsorial Psalm), Kellyna (Gospel Acclamation) and Nsia, Dawn, Sophie, Kaylan, Haletta and Zak (Bidding Prayers) who read clearly and with confidence.

Afterwards, everyone had the opportunity to learn about and marvel at the incredible collection of relics linked to Our Lady (Our Lady's Altar) and visit a beautiful tableau representing Baby Mary. Thank you Fr. Anton!

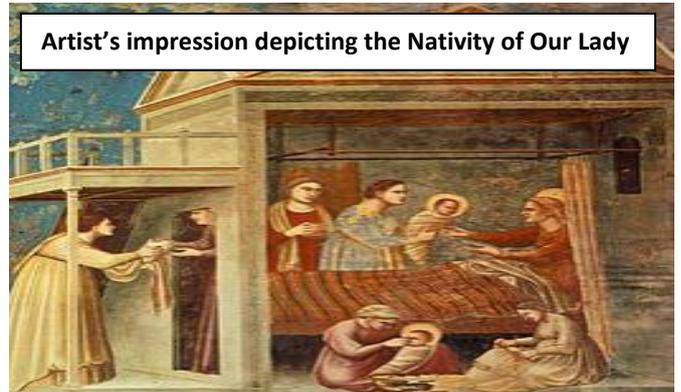


When we celebrate His mother's birth,
we honour Jesus too.

We thank God for the gift of life,
and give honour to both Mary 'Full of Grace'
and Jesus by showing respect and concern for one
another - remembering that God has created each
person with love and with a call to something
very special in life.

Holy Mary Mother of God – Pray for us.

Artist's impression depicting the Nativity of Our Lady



Healthy Snacks

Thank you to all the families sending their children with nutritious and well-balanced lunches and snacks. We would like to remind you that only one treat a day should be sent in your child's bag. This might be for break time or to have with their lunch (if they are having packed lunches).



May we remind parents and carers that we are a 'nut' free school!

Please do not send your child into school with any food items containing any kind of or traces of nut. Thank you for your support.

School Uniform

Thank you to all our families who are supporting us and ensuring that their children are wearing the correct uniform each and every day. Unfortunately, there are a small number of children who are still not wearing the correct uniform. All children should be wearing black school shoes or flat black boots with no adornments. Trainers can be brought into school to be worn at lunchtime to play football.



Children should not be wearing trainers to school as part of their uniform.

If there is a reason why your child is not wearing the right uniform please speak to a member of staff so we are aware of your circumstances. Thank you for your co-operation.

Uniform

- Burgundy sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan with our school logo.
- White or yellow polo shirt.
- Grey pinafore, skirt or trousers (no alterations on any of these items of clothing).
- Grey, burgundy or black tights (no coloured or decorated tights).
- White/grey socks (no coloured or decorated socks).
- Black shoes or sensible flat black boots (no trainers).
- Hair - if girls have long hair **it must be tied or pinned back**. Hair bands and clips are allowed if they are burgundy and small.
- Earrings - small stud earrings only.

We have a number of jumpers and cardigans which have been left behind in school. Unfortunately, these have not been labelled and we have not been able to find their owners. To avoid this happening, can you please ensure you **label all your children's uniform** as we cannot be held responsible for lost uniform.

We would be most grateful for your co-operation as we believe that looking smart enables children to feel proud of our school community in addition to preparing them for Secondary School life.



Listening to you and responding to queries or worries

We would like to remind you that we have a dedicated email address which you can use to contact the Senior Leadership Team with any suggestions, queries or worries you might have.

The email address is communication@oratory.bham.sch.uk

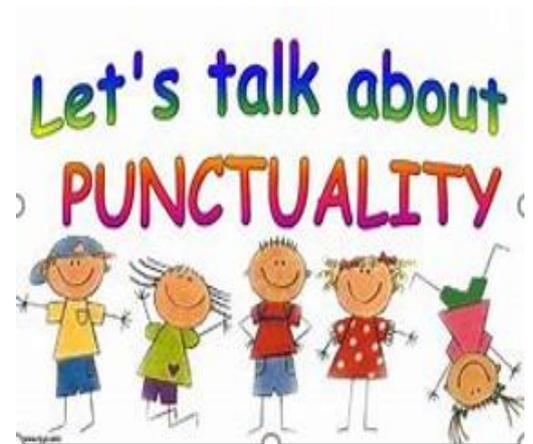
This mailbox is monitored daily and we will endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible. Please use this to let us know your thoughts on which aspects of school could be improved as well what the school is doing well. We look forward to hearing from you.

Punctuality - Beginning and end of the day

We would like to emphasise the importance of dropping your child off in the morning and picking them up on time at the end of the school day.

We understand that there may be rare occasions when you are unavoidably late due to unforeseen circumstances. On these occasions please make sure that you contact the school office to inform us when you will arrive.

If you are having a particular problem with your allocated times please email the Senior Leadership team on communication@oratory.bham.sch.uk.



Safe Parking

PLEASE ALWAYS PUT OUR CHILDREN FIRST!

We have a few parents who regularly park on the zig-zag lines outside the school gates.

We would like to bring to your attention that police patrols are in operation in the area and they are monitoring cars parked on the zig-zag lines outside our school, on Oliver Road and Monument Road.

Please ensure you refrain from parking there as you are contravening parking laws and you could be fined for doing so. You are also putting the safety of our children in jeopardy.

If you park on the zig-zag lines, a member of staff will ask you to move your car.

PLEASE THINK BEFORE YOU PARK.



Secondary School Applications – September 2022

If you live in Birmingham you should apply for your child's secondary school place online at www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions between **1 September and 31 October 2021**.

It is important that you submit your application by 31 October 2021.

Applications received after the national closing date of 31 October 2021 will be treated as late applications.

Late applicants are less likely to be offered a place at one of their preferred schools, and these applications will be processed after 1 March 2022, in accordance with Birmingham's coordinated admissions scheme.

Information about the application process will be available on the council's website, www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions, from 1 September 2021.

The website includes information on types of schools, how to apply online, how places are offered, details of the individual schools and their admissions arrangements, and what to do if you are not offered one of your preferred schools.

Secondary School Online Form Workshops

To help with the process of applying for a Secondary School place, we are holding workshops to support parents and carers in how to complete the online form. Please just drop into any session listed below.

Mrs Yaman (our office administrator), will deliver each workshop:

Location: St John Henry Newman Room

Wednesday 6th October 10:30 – 11:15am

Wednesday 13th October 10:30 – 11:15am

Wednesday 20th October 10:30 – 11:15am

Thursday 28th October 2:15 – 3pm

You are strongly advised to visit the websites of your preferred schools for further information about the school and any related interactive online events or details of any open days or evenings. You should also carefully consider how likely you are to be offered a place at one of your preferred schools, and find out more about the order in which places are offered (oversubscription criteria) by reading the information on the schools you are interested in. **Please note that before completing your online application you must confirm that you have read the admissions arrangements.**

You may also find useful information on your preferred schools on the My Ed Website <https://myed.com/>.

If you are applying for any school under the distance category, make sure you check the last distance an applicant was offered from over the past three years (where applicable). While this **is no guarantee** that your application will be successful for September 2022, it will give an indication of whether you should consider including the school as one of your preferences.

You are advised to use all six preferences to maximise your chances of getting a place at one of the schools you prefer.

You can amend your school preferences on the online admissions form as many times as you like **until the closing date of 31 October 2021**. Please remember that, if you do make amendments to your original online admissions form, you **must re-submit** your application for the latest changes to take effect by selecting **submit** again. **If you do not re-submit your application after going back in to make changes, your previously submitted application will remain, and your new one will be disregarded.**

Your application will be processed using the address currently held by the Oratory. Please note, if the address on your application differs from the address held on our database, you will be asked to send us proof of your address in the form of your most recent council tax bill for 2021/2022. **If you do not provide adequate proof of address by the closing date of 31 October 2021, your child's application will not be processed.** For further information, please visit the "Proof of Address" section in the School Admissions webpages (www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions).

You will receive an email confirming which school your child has been offered by the end of the day on Tuesday 1 March 2022.

If you have any questions about your child transferring to secondary school, in the first instance please visit: www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions where you will find all the relevant information to support you through this process.

School Admissions & Fair Access Service

Tel: 0121-303-1888

Email: admissions@birmingham.gov.uk

Web: www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions



A word from Pope Francis:

"Education is one of the most effective ways of making our world and history more human. Education is above all a matter of love and responsibility handed down from one generation to another."
#WorldLiteracyDay



Remember you can follow us on Twitter @Oratory_rc