

# Important Diary Dates

- *Stay and pray: Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October*
- *Reading open morning: Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October*
- *Maths open morning: Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> January*
- *English Parents Evening: Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November*
- *Maths Parents Evening: Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March*
- *Year 3 Mass (In School): Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February*
- *Enrolment Mass at Holy Family Church: Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November*
- *First Holy Communion meetings: Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November, 12<sup>th</sup> February, 21<sup>st</sup> May*
- *First Holy Communion: Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June 9:30am*

# *Year 3 Welcome Meeting*



Year 3 Teachers:

Miss Gibbs

Mrs Kidner

Miss Adu

Support Staff:

Mrs Yakooob

# *New for Year 3*

## *Celebrating Class Saints:*

*3EG Saint Oscar Romero (24<sup>th</sup> March)*

*3DA Saint Therese of Lisieux (1<sup>st</sup> October)*

*3CK St Peter and Paul (29<sup>th</sup> June)*

*The children will wear their own clothes to celebrate their class Saint feast day.*

## Attendance

Good attendance at school is essential to ensure that your child is given the opportunity to learn and develop. It is also the grounding for later life, both in secondary school and employment.

Allowing children to be absent from school for no or minor reasons teaches them behaviours that they will take into adulthood as well as stopping them from reaching their full potential.

Our aim is for all children to be in school every day. However under some circumstances they cannot attend school due to illness. However, we aim for every child to be in school for over 94% of the academic year. To achieve this aim, we need your help.



Attendance Figures for 2018-2019: 96.2%

Attendance Figures for 2020-2021: 95.3%

Attendance Figures for 2021-2022: 92.8%

# Homework

- *Reading homework. Children are heard read by their English Teachers however, it will not be their home reader (AR reading). Please can you sign their diary when they have read at home.*
- *Spellings will be sent home for the year in a Spelling Shed booklet and set online.*
- *TTRS. Times table practise for times tables from 1 up to 12.*

# *Reading for Pleasure:*

**There are many little ways to enlarge your child's world. Love of books is the best of all.**

**–Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis**



# *Why is it important?*

- *Of all the subjects taught in school, reading is first among equals – the most singular in importance because all others rely on it. Excellence in almost any academic subject requires strong reading.*
- *People who read lots attain more. They also develop: general knowledge; vocabulary; a better attitude to writing; higher overall attainment; emotional awareness; a wider understanding of the world and greater expression through speech and writing.*
- *Significant correlation between reading ability and GCSE results across all subjects. Children who are weak readers will struggle as much in maths and science at GCSE as they do in English and in arts subjects.*

# *Why is it important?*

- *The consequences of illiteracy are immense:*
  - *reduced access to higher education;*
  - *more limited job choices;*
  - *on average, lower income;*
  - *higher risk of permanent exclusion;*
  - *poor health;*
  - *poor housing;*
  - *more likely to have a mental health problem;*
  - *higher risk of imprisonment;*
  - *shorter life expectancy.*

# *How can you support?*

- *Read every day with your child for at least 15 minutes a day.*
- *Encourage your child to read a wide range of reading material - fiction, non-fiction, poetry, newspapers and magazines.*
- *Use our Top 20 or Book of the Month suggestions to help explore a wider range of authors and genres.*
- *Talk to your child about what they are reading.*
- *Create a Toppsta profile and enter giveaways to win new books for your child to review - encourage them to share their opinions about what they have read.*
- *Take them to the library.*

# Reading Homework:

- *We use the Accelerated Reader programme. Children will take an online reading test at least 3 times a year. The results of this test give children a ZPD, which is basically a range from which to choose books from.*
- *Children can then borrow books from our school library, within their ZPD.*
- *Once they have read their book, they take an online quiz. If they pass this quiz, extra points are assigned to their accounts. Their 'word count' also increases. These quizzes can be taken at home.*
- *Reading records must be signed to say you have heard them read at home.*

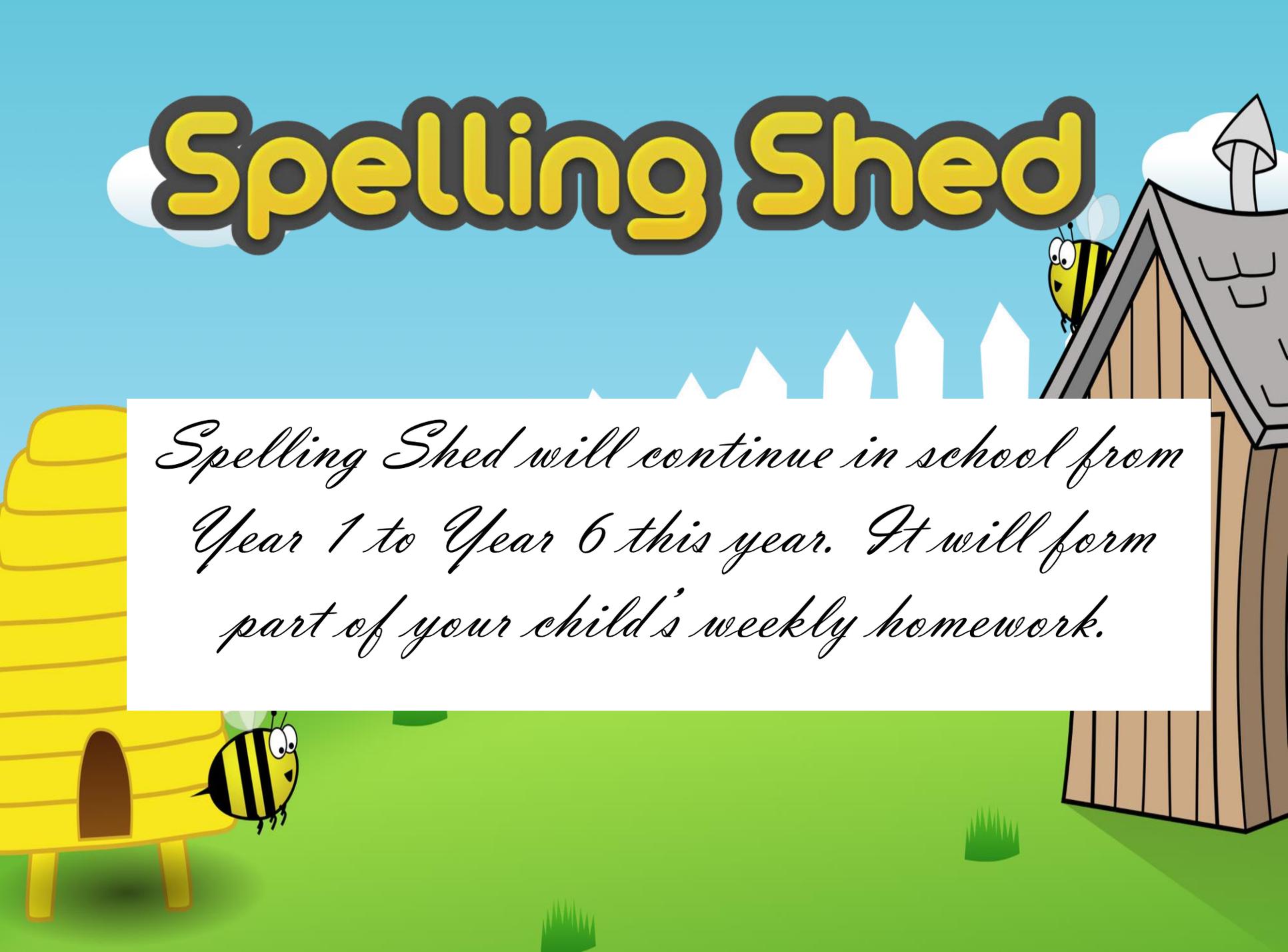
# *Hearing Children Read at Home:*

- *This should happen for at least fifteen minutes each night.*
- *Try to make this a special time for you and your child – it should not feel stressful or pressurised for the reader.*
- *Please focus your attention entirely on your child for this time. Turn off devices and remove other distractions.*
- *Use strategies such as echo-reading or choral reading to help your child's fluency and expression.*
- *Even the most confident readers need to be heard reading aloud – encourage older pupils to read a page or two aloud, before then reading independently.*

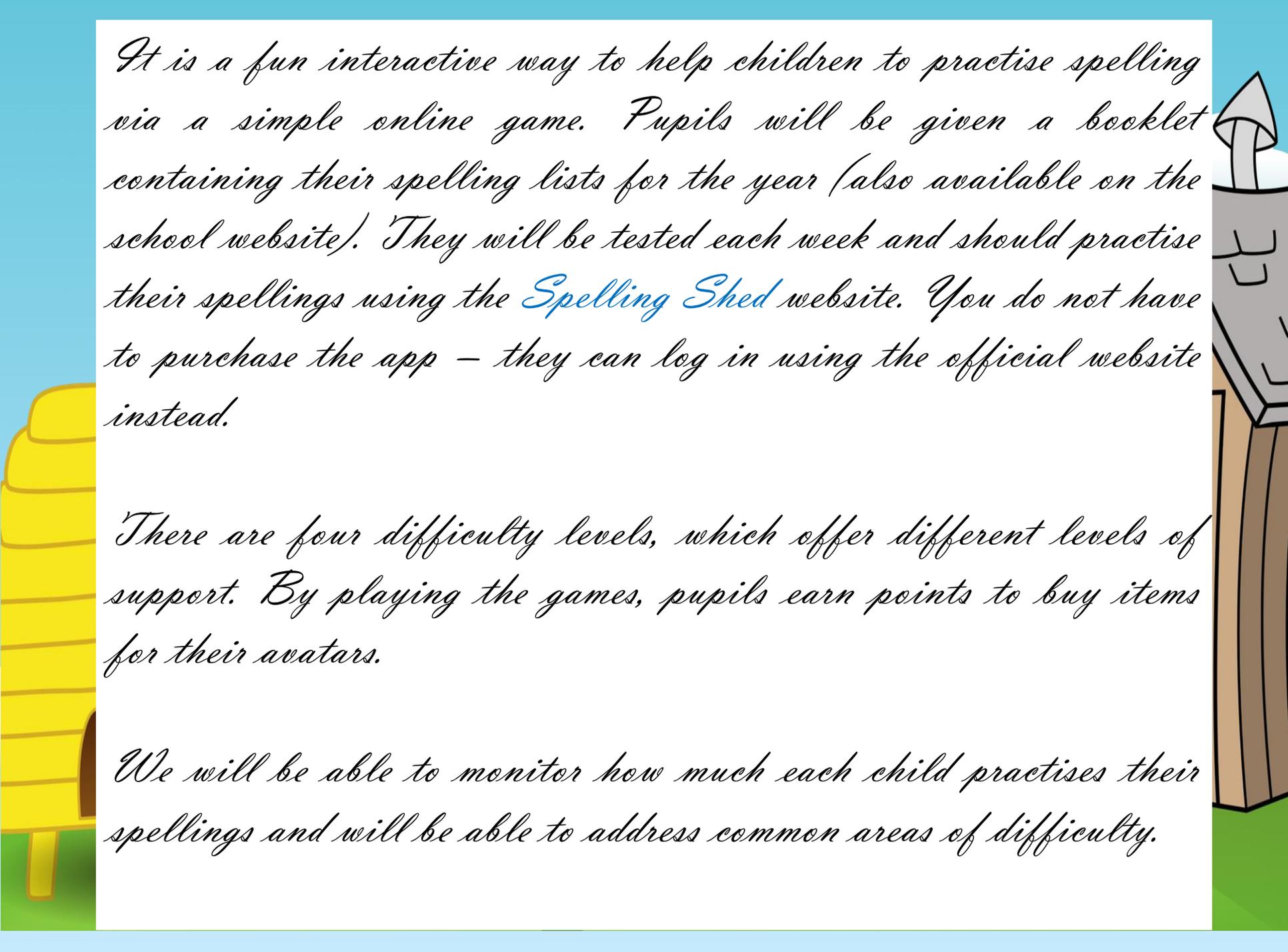
# Reading Records:

- Each child has a reading record, which must be signed at least three times a week.
- Children who have their diary signed at least three times per week will be entered into a termly prize draw.
- Teachers will check diaries weekly.
- If a child does not have their diary in school, they will not be able to receive their reading star for that week. Children must collect at least ten stars to enter the prize draw.

# Spelling Shed

The background features a bright blue sky with a white cloud on the left. On the right, there is a wooden shed with a grey roof and a chimney. A cartoon bee with large eyes is flying near the roofline. In the foreground, there is a green lawn with a yellow beehive on the left and another cartoon bee flying near it.

*Spelling Shed will continue in school from Year 1 to Year 6 this year. It will form part of your child's weekly homework.*



It is a fun interactive way to help children to practise spelling via a simple online game. Pupils will be given a booklet containing their spelling lists for the year (also available on the school website). They will be tested each week and should practise their spellings using the [Spelling Shed](#) website. You do not have to purchase the app – they can log in using the official website instead.

There are four difficulty levels, which offer different levels of support. By playing the games, pupils earn points to buy items for their avatars.

We will be able to monitor how much each child practises their spellings and will be able to address common areas of difficulty.

# Times Tables Tribe

*This year, pupils will continue to work towards achieving their Times Tables Tribe badges.*

*Each Friday, children from years 2 – 6 will be tested on one of the times tables. The tables are grouped and will be tested in the following order:*

*Bedazzling Bronze –  $\times 2$ ,  $\times 10$ ,  $\times 5$*

*Sublime Silver –  $\times 3$ ,  $\times 4$ ,  $\times 8$*

*Glorious Gold –  $\times 6$ ,  $\times 7$ ,  $\times 9$ ,  $\times 11$ ,  $\times 12$*

*Once pupils have successfully completed their focus times table, they will be tested on the next table in the category the following week. At the end of each half term, if your child has passed all of the times tables in their category, they will be awarded the relevant badge in an assembly. Each child will have the opportunity to earn all 3 badges over time at a pace appropriate for them.*

*Each pupil will continue from the table that they passed most recently in the previous academic year.*



- *Each child will have a log in.*
- *They will earn coins for the progress they make to spend on their avatar.*
- *Please encourage your child to play and practise at home. We will be celebrating their successes at school too through the Times Table Tribes*





## Get in control of parental controls



If using a  
smartphone, check  
content lock is set



Set parental  
controls on your  
home broadband



Control app  
downloads  
and purchases



Make the  
games console  
safe and secure



Use safety mode  
on YouTube  
and Google



If using social  
networks, check  
privacy settings

Go to [internetmatters.org/controls](https://internetmatters.org/controls)  
for step-by-step guides

# *First Communion Programme*

- *All children are involved in preparing for First Holy Communion.*
- *The programme includes 4 meetings throughout the year. (including an RE inspire in school) Dates may be subject to change.*
- *Belonging Meeting which will be Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November. 5:00pm*
- *Enrolment Mass at Holy Family Church Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November*
- *Making Peace Meeting – Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February. 5:00 pm*
- *Sacrament of Reconciliation (First Confessions)  
Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 4:30pm at Holy Family Church*

# *First Communion Masses*

*Sharing a Meal MSPARE*

*Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May*

*Final Meeting* – *Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 5:00pm*

*Sacrament of the Eucharist*

- *Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June 9:30am at Holy Family Church*

*Going Forth Mass* – *Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2024 9am (In school)*

# *Residential*

- *Residential Trip to Condover Hall, Shropshire.*
- *Year 3 take part in a residential trip each year. This year it will take place from 17<sup>th</sup> March – 19<sup>th</sup> March.*
- *Places have already been secured*
- *Meeting to follow with more information*



# PE

- *PE kits should be kept in school at all times.*
- *Black pumps, black shorts and a white t-shirt are essential for PE lessons.*





# *Bronze Star Awards*



- *Scheme in school to reward good behaviour.*
- *Children will have the opportunity each week to earn a star  
– linked to our new behaviour expectations and values*
- *Certificate awarded in late Autumn/early Spring*
- *Bronze Star in late Spring/early Summer*

# Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Coordinator

Miss Hulse is our school SENDCO

She works with children, teachers, parents and agencies to ensure that our pupils' needs are met.

Please visit our school website to find out what we can offer you if you think your child has Special Educational Needs.

<https://www.stberns.co.uk/send>

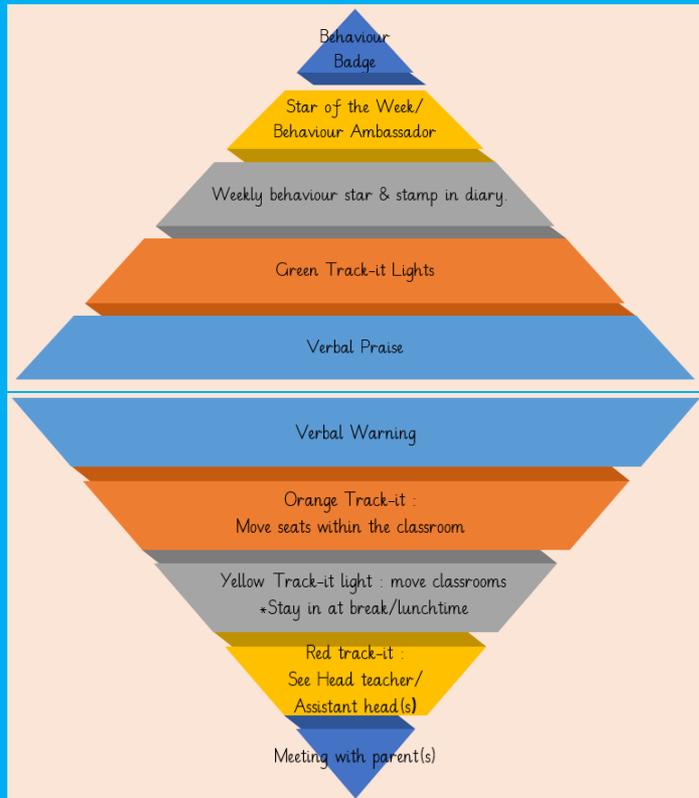


## How to speak to the SENDCO if you have a concern:

- We always encourage you to talk to your child's class teacher in the first instance
- Speak to a member of the office team to find out when the SENDCO may be available for an appointment
- You can also email her directly at [SENDCO@stberns.bham.sch.uk](mailto:SENDCO@stberns.bham.sch.uk)



# Track - It Rewards/Sanctions



*Children are given the opportunity to earn rewards for good behaviour through our Track-it Light system, based on the amount of points they earn.*

*There is also a clear behaviour pyramid that demonstrates the sanctions for demonstrating poor behaviour. Children are always given time to reflect on their poor behaviour if they are required to miss their break/lunch times.*

# *Standards and Expectations*

*Our behaviour standards and expectations are used by the children to reflect on their behaviour each week. If they have earned their gold star for the week, this will be recorded in their diary, so as parents, you will know if they have or have not earned their star each week.*

*You will also see these expectations displayed in the playground. They are based around our Mission Statement:*

We will always show respect and celebrate the efforts of others.



We will always remember that we are all part of the St Bernadette's family.



We will always respect our school environment, making sure it is clean and tidy.



We will always solve our differences with love and kindness.



We will always show good manners to everyone we meet in school.



We will always try our best in our work and never give up even when it is difficult.



We are always quiet and calm when moving around our school.



We will always speak kindly and play considerately with others.



# Medical

- *Please update medical forms including allergies and asthma if required.*
- *Please ensure all medicines are up to date (e.g. inhalers)*

# Frequently Asked Questions

- Doors open around 8:30am and close at 8:45am.
- Children are allowed to bring a healthy snack to school for break time which should be a piece of fruit.
- Our Year 3 School Governor is Mr Dela Cruz
- School meals are charged for in KS2. If you believe you are eligible for free school meals or are unsure you can check at [www.link2ict.org/FSM](http://www.link2ict.org/FSM)

*Thank you*

*All of this information is available on the school website. If you have any further questions please contact any of the Year 3 staff.*

← → ↻ www.stberns.co.uk ☆ ☰

**St. Bernadette's Catholic Primary School**

Miss Angela Cowings - Hob Moor Road, Yardley, Birmingham, B25 8QL - T: 0121 783 7232 F: 0121 789 8306 - enquiry@stberns.bham.sch.uk

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**Welcome** [more](#)

At St. Bernadette's Catholic School you will find us caring, hardworking and co-operative.

We follow the ways of Jesus using our talents and gifts to make our school special.

We show respect to all and welcome you.

Ec-School International School Award

@ Newsletters Prospectus

Learn to love - Love to learn