

# Blessed Robert Widmerpool Catholic Voluntary Academy

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Head Teacher Mrs L Maylard-Mason BA (hons)



Dear Parents,

## School Mission Statement

*'We walk kindly in the footsteps of Jesus Christ as we live and learn'*

The second half of the term has been incredibly busy and eventful so far. We are just about getting used to the colder weather and darker nights as our Christmas season celebrations are fast approaching. Wrap up warm everyone!

### Diamond Jubilee

Our 60<sup>th</sup> Diamond Jubilee Celebration was a very special and memorable occasion. It was a pleasure to have Bishop Patrick join us to celebrate Mass in church and the whole school definitely raised the roof with their joyful singing voices! Bishop Patrick commented on the way that the children really sung from their hearts. It was lovely to see so many past pupils, staff members, parents and friends of BRW. We enjoyed reminiscing and sharing special memories over old photographs with coffee and cake. The surprise video with special drone-filmed aerial shots topped off the celebrations. Thank you to all those who came; it truly was a wonderful celebration.

### BRW Netball Team

Training for The BRW Netball Team is well and truly underway. They have been working on their skills and are now looking forward to playing their first match. Miss Lee runs a netball training session at 3:30pm on Tuesdays. If your child is in Yr 5 and 6 and is interested in playing netball, please contact Mrs Shakh in the school office.

### Harvest Celebration

It was a pleasure to welcome our families and friends to our Harvest Celebration this year. Marsha led us in a thoughtful service which really helped us all to understand the different parts of a Liturgy. We were inundated with an abundance of dry food donations which shows how generous a community you are. Thank you. All donations have been given to Clifton Foodbank and Emmanuel House.

### School Improvement Focus

The school uses its performance data and other information to set improvement priorities for each academic year. At BRW, we always expect high standards and ensure that every child reaches their full potential. In order to develop our improvement plan, we listen to the views of all involved in school life when developing and improving the school. This year the school's improvement priorities are:

- RE – Maintain and develop high standards
- Maths – Raise achievement and further develop fluency and problem solving skills
- Wider Curriculum areas of: History, Design Technology and French
- Assessment – To continue to develop school assessment systems

## DATES

**16<sup>th</sup> November**

Y5/6 Class Liturgy

**23<sup>rd</sup> November**

Years 1 and 2 Class Liturgy

**16<sup>th</sup> November**

Yr5/6 Class Mass

**23<sup>rd</sup> November**

Yr1/2 Class Mass

**1<sup>st</sup> December**

Advent Celebration 6:00pm

**4<sup>th</sup> December**

Yr 1 Christmas Celebration at 2:45pm

**5<sup>th</sup> December**

Year 6 Visit to the Briars

Year 2 Christmas Celebration at 2:45pm

**6<sup>th</sup> December**

Year 3 Christmas Celebration at 2:45pm

**7<sup>th</sup> December**

FS2 Christmas Celebration at 2:45pm

**12<sup>th</sup> December**

MAT Concert

Years 5/6 at The Albert Hall

**15<sup>th</sup> December**

Christmas Jumper Day

Carols around the tree at 6:00pm

**21<sup>st</sup> December**

Whole School Mass – Advent

**22<sup>nd</sup> December**

Last day of term

**8<sup>th</sup> January**

Back to school

The school aims to maintain high standards in these areas and drive further improvement through our overarching theme: 'Dig, Discover, Make and Master'.

**BRW's 5 R's which help to build our learning power....**

Relationships

Reflectiveness

Resourcefulness

Responsibility

Resilience

**French at BRW**

BRW is a French speaking school and the children enjoy using their linguistic skills across the school. Miss Lancashire, our resident French speaking member of staff, supports the teaching and learning of French in KS2 and she has been 'tres impressionne' (very impressed) with the linguistic abilities of the children who are learning French in a fun and interactive way. They have been singing, speaking, reading and writing in French and they will be invited to join the Junior Language Challenge in the Spring Term once again this year. More information to follow. Bon chance!

**Year 5 Assembly**

Year 5 left us astounded with their dramatic and comic performance of their Tudor assembly. Boasting professional costumes, amazing acting, superb singing and perfect performance skills, the children led us on a fabulous journey back to Tudor times. Year 5 have been so inspired by their learning this term and the book 'Treason' which they have been reading. Their portrayal of a traditional Tudor dance topped off the celebration. My lasting memory will be of their hilarious Henry V11th inspired 'My Prerogative' number. Well done Year 5!

**Feast of All Saints**

We celebrated this Feast Day dedicated to the saints in church as a school and parish community. Fr John McCay joined us to celebrate Mass. Once again the children of BRW raised the roof of Corpus Christi church with their powerful singing voices. The children were inspired by a variety of saints including St Augustine who said: 'He who sings, prays twice.'

**National Bullying Prevention Month**

November is National Bullying Prevention Month where schools across the country encourage communities to work together to stop bullying and cyberbullying by increasing awareness of the prevalence and impact of bullying on children of all ages. This week, House Captains gave Anti-Bullying presentations to their House Teams in order to open up questions and discussions about this important issue. In school, we talk about bullying regularly, how to recognise it and the impact it has on others. BRW does not tolerate bullying. We remind children of the helpful acronym **STOP** – Has it happened **Several Times On Purpose**? If so, **Start Telling Other People**. This message is also re-enforced in our Anti-Bullying Display.

**Year 4 Assembly**

Year 4 demonstrated their wonderful talents last week with their courtroom based assembly. This showcased the Robert Peary vs Frederick Cook case which asked the important question: Who got to the North Pole first? Year 4 displayed their debating, poetry, scientific and maths skills as they presented the facts of the case in an animated and confident way. The audience were reduced to fits of laughter at their comic timing and enjoyed a sing-a-long to their very own version of 'Frozen'. Thank you to all of the families and friends for coming to watch Year 4 shine.

**HEALTH AND WELLBEING**



Continuing our focus on the health and wellbeing of children, staff and families at BRW this year, we have another Wellbeing Tip for you to try out...

**TIP 2: BE CREATIVE**

Being creative can improve mood, and self-esteem, as well as improving mental agility.

We have so many creative children at BRW, we can all learn something from them. Discuss ways in which you could do this with your family this month.

**Remembrance Liturgy**

The Liturgy Team led us in a powerful and moving reflection to remember and honour all those people who have sacrificed their lives for our freedom. The readings, prayers, poetry and music allowed everyone to reflect and remember those who have lost their lives in conflict.

**Contact Details**

The safety and well-being of pupils is priority at BRW. I would like to remind you that we need to have three emergency contact numbers for each child. If your child will be absent for any reason, please contact the school office before 9:30am. If we do not hear from you this could lead to a home visit to ensure we are aware of the whereabouts of your children.

**School Blog**

Please remember to look on our school blog for more information about what is happening in school and listen to announcements and top tips of the day presented by our Digital Leaders on the school radio at:

[www.brwacademy.com](http://www.brwacademy.com)

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs Maylard-Mason

Head Teacher