

# Blessed Robert Widmerpool Catholic Voluntary Academy

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Dear Parents,

BRW has definitely been a fast-paced, busy and inspiring place to be this term. I have so much to share with you about the exciting things that have been taking place. The children have started 2017 with a BANG!

## Mass of Welcome

The first Mass of the New Year is always a special celebration. It was lovely to see so many parents and friends there. The children sang beautifully and a real highlight was watching the children in FS/KS1 singing 'Taste and See' with actions. This is thanks to the talented Mr Wheat, our resident musician who is an inspiration to the children. The Mass theme was 'God's love is boundless.' We used this to motivate us to commence the New Year.

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

Relationships  
Reflectiveness  
Resourcefulness  
Responsibility  
Resilience

### Year 3

Year 3 celebrated their class mass which was based on the theme of Journeys. They sang beautifully, read confidently and also prepared special footprints for parents and guests to take away with them. It was a pleasure to be part of such a beautiful mass, thank you Year 3.

### Year 4 Class Mass - Candlemas

Year 4 celebrated their class mass on the feast of The Presentation of Our Lord last week. The feast celebrates the presentation of Christ in the temple at Jerusalem on the 40th day after His birth. Year 4 led a candle-lit procession from the school hall into the classroom. It was very spiritual and moving. The children worked together to plan and prepare a beautiful class mass in which everyone had an important part to play. They reminded us of the special light that Jesus brings to us all and then passed on their own bright lights to everyone present.

## BRW has Talent 2017

The BRW talent has been overflowing this term. Both KS1 and KS2 talent shows were magnificent. The children demonstrated their singing, dancing, gymnastic and comedy talents in abundance. Thank you to our wonderful audience of families and friends. You helped make the events really special and I did notice a few teary eyes in the audience. Well done to all the talented children who took part, you were a-ma-zing! A special well done to all the fantastic winners this year. We look forward to next year's auditions now!

**KS2 Winner** - Jaeden Akiatan , Joint 2nd Place - Jessica Pollard and Cristal Rodrigues , 3<sup>rd</sup> Place - Benedict Hagues

**KS1 Winner** - Minnie Anderson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Cassie Byrne, Joint 3<sup>rd</sup> Place - Charlie McGowan and Tevin Laiju

## School Mission Statement

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

## DATES

### 10<sup>th</sup> February

Inset Day

### 23<sup>rd</sup> February

Class Mass Yrs 1 and 2

### 1<sup>st</sup> March

Ash Wednesday

Mass in Church 9:30am

### 2<sup>nd</sup> March

World Book Day

KS2 Film Night 3:30pm

### 24<sup>th</sup> March

Comic Relief Fundraiser

### 28<sup>th</sup> March

Entry into Jerusalem Y4 10am

### 30<sup>th</sup> March

Mass - Last Supper Y5 10am

### 31<sup>st</sup> March

Crucifixion Y6 10am

### 3<sup>rd</sup> April

Easter Holidays

## **BBC Radio Stars**

Miss Taylor and a group of green fingered gardening children were asked to be part of a radio broadcast for BBC Radio Nottingham recently. They wanted to hear all about our wonderful school garden and vegetable growing. The children impressed the presenter with their enthusiasm and knowledge. All the children in school enjoy spending time working with Miss Taylor.

## **Year 2 Assembly**

Year 2 made their own kind of music in their marvellous assembly this term. Dressed as Victorians they gave us an insight into life during the reign of Queen Victoria and showed us their energetic Chimney Sweep dancing skills. It was a delight to see the children showcase their learning. They left us with an important mission to work hard, be ourselves, challenge, test and inspire others. Well done Year 2, you should be very proud.

## **International Evening 2017**

What an incredible evening celebrating the diverse, rich cultures that make up our school community! From Irish stew, noodles and rice and sausage rolls to antipasti platters and good old English finger sandwiches...there was something for everyone to enjoy. We were also treated to some energetic Irish dancing and individual and group Indian dancing. It was truly lovely to share all of our backgrounds and beginnings with the school community. A HUGE thank you to all of our wonderful parents, children and staff for their efforts and generosity. Roll on 2019 when we'll be celebrating it again!

## **Basketball**

Coach Catterall and Jimmy Jump Shot have been getting very excited about this year's basketball talent. And so they should, I witnessed this myself recently in a rally held at school. The team worked well together and showed a flair for the game. This is BRW's 25<sup>th</sup> year of playing the sport and we look forward to hosting our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary summer rally in June. Well done to all those in the team and all of our parents for supporting us throughout our Basketball journey.

## **Safety Bell**

We have practiced a new safety bell drill in school this week. This is like the reverse of a fire drill where pupils and staff have to stay inside the building in order to remain safe. This could be because there is an outside danger, such as a gas leak in the area. The drill ran very smoothly thanks to the impeccable behaviour of all of the children. This is another way in which BRW are committed to keeping children safe.

## **School Blog**

The school's blog continues to thrive and grow. It has been viewed 202,057 times and is an up to date, current document of all that goes on in and around school. The children very much lead the way and are fully involved in blogging and commenting. The school's twitter account now has 512 followers and has tweeted 909 times. Year 6 now have their own Twitter page to keep you all updated. Please visit [www.brwacademy.com](http://www.brwacademy.com) to see what we have been up to and discover ways to support your children.

## **Festival of Science and Curiosity**

The Festival of Science and Curiosity is taking place in Nottingham Weds 8th - Weds 15th February. The festival aims to encourage the people of Nottingham to express their curiosity and engage with Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. There will be lots of events on the weekend Saturday 11th - Sunday 12th which will be aimed at children,

including free workshops, demonstrations and hands-on activities across the city. Flyers for this event are available from the school office. More information can be found on the STEMcity website (the festival is organised as part of the STEMcity initiative): <http://www.stemcity.co.uk/>

### **Animal Magic**

Nottingham Symphony Orchestra are putting on an exciting concert at the Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham on Sunday April 2nd 2017. They are recruiting a Children's Chorus to sing in the UK premiere of "A Propos D'Animaux" – "Much Ado About Animals"

They need as many singers as they can. If you're up for this exciting project, then do listen to the songs and come along. PLEASE REGISTER YOUR INTEREST by emailing [choir@nottinghamsymphony.org.uk](mailto:choir@nottinghamsymphony.org.uk) with your name, age and school/singing group. It will be a lot of fun and a good way to learn French through songs about animals.

### **Building Hope Appeal**

Thank you for all your support with this project. BRW has managed to raise £2672.80 so far through the Dance-a-thon, Christmas Market and Advent events. The children were incredibly excited to receive a video update from the school site in Bunkpurugu this week which will be uploaded onto the school blog soon. It was wonderful to see the actual place where the school will be built and hear from some of the children who would benefit from the school. Work has now been completed on the new bore hole to supply water to the site and the next stage will be the foundations. There has now been over £12,000 raised for this project thanks to the efforts of all the schools in our Academy.

### **Ten Ten Theatre**

Children throughout the school thoroughly enjoyed the performances by the wonderful Ten Ten Theatre group this term. The performances were thought-provoking and allowed time for us all to think and reflect on the theme of forgiveness. A huge thank you to the parents who came to watch the introductory assembly.

### **Spring Raffle**

This is an appeal to ask you to please sell as many raffle tickets to your friends and family for our Spring Raffle. All proceeds will go towards school funds. We are hoping to revamp our outdoor area this year including the FS trim trail. The raffle draw will take place on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 3:00pm. We have had some fantastic donations sent in for the hampers, please keep these coming in.

### **World Book Day**

This will take place on Thursday March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Children are invited to come to school dressed as a book character or in their pyjamas ready to enjoy book themed activities throughout the day. A letter will be going out with more information on this after the half term break. There will be a range of exciting activities taking place during the day and we will be inviting parents and grandparents into school to share a book with the children in the afternoon.

Please note school will be closed tomorrow Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February for an Inset Day. I hope you all have a safe, happy and restful break and look forward to seeing you back at school on the 20<sup>th</sup> February.

Mrs Maylard-Mason

Head Teacher

## **Word of the Month**

Authentic

*Adjective*

**Meaning:** Not a copy, genuine, real, true

*Authentic Italian food.*

*Most historians accept that the documents are authentic.*