

# Blessed Robert Widmerpool Catholic Voluntary Academy

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## School Mission Statement

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

Dear Parents,

As we approach the end of this academic year, it is so important that we look back and reflect on what an exciting, inspiring time it has been. The children have embraced our aim to Imagine, Invent and Inspire wholeheartedly and worked very hard to achieve so much. I am very proud of them all and continue to be inspired by their abilities and achievements every day.

### Parish Fair

Once again, the Parish Summer Fair was a fantastic event. It was lovely to see so many children and families there helping to raise funds for our parish. BRW managed to raise an amazing £118 through running our now famous Chocolate Tombola. The stall was a winner with children and adults and we had lots of happy customers. Thank you for all the chocolate donations and thank you to the children who came along on the day to man the stalls, you did a great job. It is so important that we continue to work together as a school and parish community.

### A Whole New World.....

Once again, yet another show stopper to end our year! Aladdin was a huge success! Years 5 and 6 showcased their gifts and talents with their professional and powerful performances. We were treated to two magical performances which definitely took us to a whole new world. We witnessed: magic carpets, singing genies, monkeys, special effects and superb props. The children never cease to amaze me with their confidence and professional attitudes. They performed with such passion, enthusiasm and spirit. Thank you to all the parents and families who came along on the evenings for being such wonderful audiences.

### Year Group Organisation

Year group teachers will be as follows for next academic year:

- **FS1:** Ms Chapman
- **FS2:** Miss Lancashire
- **Y1:** Mrs Cook
- **Y2:** Miss Catterall
- **Y3:** Mrs Byrne (Miss Ferrara/Mrs McGurk)
- **Y4:** Miss Courtney
- **Y5:** Miss Cotter
- **Y6:** Miss Lee

All children will have the opportunity to spend some time with their new class teachers on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July for a transition visit. This is a great experience and will have some follow up activities to do at home in preparation for the start of the new school year.

### Microsoft School

As you are aware, BRW endeavors to embrace technology and learning through technology wholeheartedly. This term, the Computer Lab has been upgraded with new PCs and we are now part of the Microsoft School program. This

means that we engage with Microsoft, use their programs, resources and professional learning opportunities. BRW is now part of a community of approximately 1000 global education leaders including Microsoft Schools and Microsoft Showcase Schools. This will enhance our digital provision further and ensure we remain at the forefront of digital education.

### **Safeguarding**

I would like to bring to your attention an app that is currently raising safeguarding concerns. Last week SnapChat, used regularly by many children and young people, launched a new feature called SnapMaps which allows users to see the location of their contacts. This feature allows others to accurately pinpoint where you are. There are three possible privacy settings:

- Ghost mode, where only you can see your position;
- My Friends mode, where any contact can see your location; and
- Select Friends mode, just those who you choose can see you

Advice would be to ensure children of Primary School age do not use these Apps. ChildNet have posted a thorough explanation of SnapMaps and how to ensure users stay safe. Further information can be found at:

<http://www.childnet.com/blog/introducing-snap-maps-the-new-location-sharing-feature-in-snapchat>

### **Summer Holiday Make, Move and Munch Clubs**

Nottingham CityCare will be running Make, Move & Munch Clubs throughout August at Clifton Young Peoples Centre. The clubs are designed to help parents and children make steps to better health, have fun and meet other local families, all funded by the National Charity Partnership – a partnership between Diabetes UK, the British Heart Foundation and Tesco. Make, Move & Munch Holiday Lunch Clubs inspire families to make small steps to better health through trying tasty new recipes through food demos and cooking sessions or having a go at simple and fun ways to get active and give yourself more energy. If you are interested, please contact Clifton Children's Centre.

### **Diary Dates**

Date for your diaries. All are welcome to join us for our last school Mass of the year on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July at 9:00am. The last day of the school term is Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2017.

### **September INSET DAY**

Please note that there will be INSET days on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September. The children will start school on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September.

### **School Blog**

To keep up to date with all that is going on in school, please visit our school website at: [www.brwacademy.com](http://www.brwacademy.com). We have now received an amazing 242,252 page views and collected 175 flags from around the globe. The children love to share their learning with a global audience and continue to be very active in their blogging and commenting. Please visit the site to find out how to support your child in school, share and celebrate all the wonderful work they have done and of course, listen to the school radio broadcasts.

### **Farewells**

We wish Miss Taylor, the school gardener farewell at the end of the term. She will be taking some time out to travel to Canada. Miss Taylor has been working with us for 5 years now and has had such a positive impact on our school garden and allotment. The children have gained so much from this additional provision. We wish her lots of luck as

she embarks on a new adventure. Her replacement, Miss Mathers, will be visiting school this week and is excited to take on the responsibility of ensuring that we continue to grow and develop Eco awareness at BRW.

We also say good bye to Miss Andrew this term who has been training as part of the School Direct program with us in Year 1. She will be missed by all the staff and children as she has been a valued member of the BRW team this year. We wish her the very best of luck as she starts a teaching position at St Joseph's in Matlock.

### **Wedding Bells**

We are so excited for Miss Catterall who will be getting married this weekend. We wish her and her husband to be lots of love and best wishes for their future together. We look forward to hearing all about it on Monday when she returns as Mrs Henderson. Good luck Miss Catterall.

### **Assessment Results**

Congratulations to the Year 6 children who received their assessment results recently. We are very proud of all their hard work and determination this year. We wish them the best of luck as they embark on their new adventures to secondary school. They will be missed but it is now time for them to take the next step.

I wish you all a lovely, restful and safe summer and I look forward to seeing you all at the start of September.

Mrs Maylard-Mason

Head Teacher