

# Blessed Robert Widmerpool Catholic Voluntary Academy

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Head Teacher Mrs L Maylard-Mason BA (hons)



## School Mission Statement

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

Dear Parents,

The children and staff of BRW have started the New Year with so much excitement and determination. It has been a busy month and the children have risen to all challenges set!

### Mass of Welcome

We started the year with a beautiful Mass to welcome everyone back. It was a lovely Mass to commence our new school year, full of energy and positive spirit. Years 3 and 4 have also celebrated class services recently in smaller, intimate settings. Both were beautiful celebrations which were planned and led by the children showing how confident they are in leading acts of worship.

### Fair Trade Fortnight

The BRW Eco Team will launch Fair Trade Fortnight on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February with an assembly to explain how as a school community we can take time to focus on what fair trade is and how we all have the power to change the world every day. The team will focus on the simple ways in which we can make a difference to the lives of the people who grow the things we love. We can do this by changing the way trade works through better prices, decent working conditions and a fair deal for farmers and workers in developing countries. Miss Cotter has organized a special visitor from Nottingham University who will carry out some fair trade workshops for children in Key Stage 2 which focus on how chocolate is made and whether or not it is fairly traded. Throughout the fortnight, children across the school will learn about fair trade and why it is important in our world.

### Talent Show

We are very much looking forward to the BRW Talent Shows next week. Key Stage 2 Talent Show (Years 4, 5 and 6) will take place on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February at 1:30pm. The FS, Y1, Y2, Y3 Talent Show will take place Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February at 9:00am. The auditions were better than ever and we had some difficult decisions to make as there was so much talent. Well done to all those children who auditioned, you should be incredibly proud.

### Year 2 Assembly

Year 2 showcased their growing talents in their assembly last week. I was impressed by their timing and dance moves in the rock and roll number: Johnny Be Good and the special smoke effects really enhanced the performance. We witnessed poetry, dance, acting and singing. It was a real joy to see every member of Year 2 shining brightly. Well done!

### Year 3 Mass

I had the pleasure of being part of Year 3's beautiful class Mass this term which was a truly special and spiritual celebration. Held in the school hall, children introduced the theme of Journeys and how God is there to accompany us on our different journeys. The children had prepared a meaningful celebration which included joyful singing and confident readings

### DATES

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> February

NSPCC Number Day  
*Dress Up as Rock Stars*

#### 8<sup>th</sup> February

KS2 Talent Show at 1:30pm

#### 9<sup>th</sup> February

FS/KS1 Talent show at 9:00am

#### 14<sup>th</sup> February

Ash Wednesday  
Mass in Church 9:30am

#### 16<sup>th</sup> February

INSET Day

#### 19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> February

Half Term Break

#### 26<sup>th</sup> February

Back to School

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

Spring Raffle

#### 9<sup>th</sup> March

Year 1 Assembly

#### 13<sup>th</sup> March

Parent Consultations

4:00pm – 7:00pm

#### 14<sup>th</sup> March

Parent Consultations

1:30pm – 3:30pm

and prayers. Everyone was asked to participate by writing down what we felt we need from God on our own personal journeys. We then placed our prayers in a backpack ready for our own journey. Thank you to all the children in Year 3 who made this celebration so special.

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

Relationships  
Reflectiveness  
Resourcefulness  
Responsibility  
Resilience

### **Basketball**

The BRW All Stars held their first home rally of the season on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2018. Coach Jimmy 'Jumpshot' Smith was there to umpire several fast and furious games between Blessed Robert, Candleby Lane and Gotham School. The All Stars displayed improved team work and defensive skills, this resulted in their first success of the season against Gotham School. The next rally will take place at home on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February at 4pm. All are welcome.

### **Netball**

Miss Lee reports that Netball training for the Spring is now underway, and the BRW Netball Team has grown! Already, our Year 4s, 5s and 6s are showing incredible promise in defence, attack and shooting skills. We can see future Sports Ambassadors and athletes in the making!

### **Altar Appeal**

I am afraid that our altar is reaching the end of its life. It has been repaired many times over the years and has recently broken beyond repair. This is an appeal to

kindly ask if we have any handy parents or friends of BRW who would be able to spare their time to make us a simple wooden altar. If you know of anyone who may be able to help us, please contact Mrs Shakh in the school office.

### **Key Stage 2 Assessment**

The children in Year 6 will be taking their national assessment examinations in May 2018. A guide to the assessments with information about the content of the tests, how they are assessed and how parents can help their children to prepare for them can be found on the Assessment part of the school website where we have uploaded the 2018 assessment video for parents.

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=532MUvA81tM>

Please also be aware that revision sessions are now taking place before and after school. These are fun and informal sessions for your children to revise. Please encourage your child to take part in these sessions which will provide good support for their assessment.

### **Uniform Policy – Hair Styles**

It is apparent that some children are coming to school with shaved hair styles which are shorter than a grade 2. In order to maintain the highest standards of appearance at BRW, we ask parents to sign a home school agreement to say they agree to follow the school policy on appearance and uniform. I would like to remind parents that hair should be cut no shorter than a grade number 2 with no patterns or tramlines. Hair that is shoulder length should be tied back and accessories should be small, discrete and in school colours, including: green, grey or black. Thank you for your support on this matter.

### **Spring Raffle**

We will be holding the BRW Spring Raffle on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. There has been a letter sent out from Mrs Boulton which has details of how you can order tickets. Please support this event

## **HEALTH AND WELLBEING**



Continuing our focus on the health and wellbeing, here is another Wellbeing Tip for you to try out as a family...

### **TIP 4: Give to others**

Even the smallest act can count, whether it's a smile, a thank you or a kind word.

Larger acts, such as volunteering your time for others, can improve mental wellbeing and help build new social networks.

Sometimes, we think of wellbeing in terms of what we have: our income, our home or car, or our job. But evidence shows that what we do and the way we think have the biggest impact on mental wellbeing.

Try it along with your family this month:

*Say thank you to someone, for something they've done for you.*

*Phone a relative or friend who needs support or company.*

*Ask a school friend or colleague how they are and really listen to the answer.*

and sell as many tickets as possible. This is a great way to raise much needed funds for our school. We are asking for donations of: toiletries, gardening and household goods, chocolates and sweets, savouries and snacks, breakfast cereals and creative goods. These will help to stock up the hampers. The first prize is a Nespresso Pixie Magimix Coffee Machine!

### **Dinner Money**

It is important that you ensure you pay dinner money in advance of your child receiving school dinners. This means keeping your online Schoolcomms account up to date. This will assist in reducing the administration time for the school office. Thank you for your support on this.

### **PE Kits**

It is important that your children have the correct PE kit in school which includes: white t-shirt, black shorts and trainers or black plimsolls. Please ensure that PE kits are brought to school on Monday and left here until Friday. If PE takes place outdoors, pupils can wear tracksuits, leggings and tops over their kits which must be dark in colour. PE is a curriculum entitlement and is an important part of your child's education. There are so many benefits to physical activity such as: increased positivity, boosts confidence, self-esteem, increased wellbeing and fitness. The children enjoy PE lessons and it is a shame when they have to miss them because they do not have their kit in school.

### **Music for Everyone - Singing on the Wild Side**

Music for everyone will be running a vocal course for children aged 6 -14 years on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2018, 2.00pm – 5.30pm at Candleby Lane School, Cotgrave NG12 3JG. The event will be joining with the Scouts to provide a fun packed afternoon of singing and activities for children of all ages. There will be all kinds of music – camp fire songs and lots more! Signing up is easy – simply visit their website to enrol online: <http://www.music-for-everyone.org/event/singing-on-the-wild-side/> or call the office on 0115 958 9312 to book your place. You can also print off the attached flyer with all of the details and post it along with your payment to the office (address at the bottom of the form) – do get in touch if you need anything further.

### **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)

Thank you for your ongoing support and I look forward to an exciting term ahead.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs Maylard-Mason

Head Teacher