



St Dunstan's Catholic School

Drayton Road, King's Heath, Birmingham, B14 7LP



As we Grow With God, We Learn From Each Other

Welcome to Year 3/4.

Dear Year 3/4 Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome to a new school year at St Dunstan's Catholic Primary School. We hope you have all enjoyed a restful and happy summer break. We are delighted to welcome the children back and are looking forward to a wonderful year of learning, growth and faith together.

This year, your child's teachers are Mrs Davies, Mrs Campbell and Miss Adams who are supported by Mr Garfield. We have lots of exciting learning planned and look forward to helping each child grow in faith, knowledge and confidence as we live out our school mission: *'As we grow with God, we learn from each other.'*

Please find below some important information to help your child have a successful start to the year.

Start and End of the School Day

- The school gates open at **8:30am**
- The Car Drop off opens at 8.35am. If you are planning on using this, please do not drive down the road until this time. Staff will be on the road from 8.35am to safely escort your child from the car
- The gates close promptly at **8:50am**.
- The school day ends at **3:30pm**.
- Please ensure your child is collected on time each afternoon.

Reading

Reading is one of the most important ways you can support your child's learning at home.

- Children are expected to read with an adult every evening.
- Children will have regular opportunities to read for pleasure in school..
- Children may take their reading for pleasure books home (some may still have a colour banded book) to enjoy and should bring it back to school each day.

Spellings

- Children will be taught a spelling rule each week and will practice this throughout the week. Every Friday, they will complete a dictation exercise to apply and demonstrate their spelling knowledge. Children will bring home their spellings to practice each Monday. Please support your child by practicing these regularly at home.



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Times Tables Rock Stars ~

- Your child will be given a login and are expected to complete at least 21 minutes of practice each week. If your child is unable to use a device, please speak to the class teacher.

Home Learning Project

Throughout the year, children will also be set a **half-termly Home Learning Project** linked to the liturgical year or our Catholic Social Teaching theme. These projects will support our whole-school focus on the **Religious Education curriculum, the Liturgical Year and Catholic Social Teaching**. They will provide opportunities for children and their families to explore their faith, reflect on Gospel values and respond creatively to issues that matter in our world.

Completed projects will be celebrated within the classroom and shared across the school, allowing children to take pride in their work and learn from one another. We look forward to seeing the many different ways children engage with and bring these important aspects of Catholic life to life through their projects.

Our first Home Learning Project is based on the Season of Creation, celebrating the Year of St Francis of Assisi, and is due in school by **Friday 2nd October**. Children are asked to choose three ways that they and their family can care for God's creation for one week. They should record their three promises on a small pledge, which will be brought into school and displayed in our classroom.

Uniform

At St Dunstan's, we take great pride in our school uniform as it helps to create a sense of belonging and reflects our high expectations for all pupils. We ask that children come to school each day wearing the correct school uniform and with all items clearly named.

To ensure children are always prepared for active learning opportunities, please make sure that your child has their **full PE kit in school every day**, even on days when PE is not timetabled, as activities and events may sometimes require it.

There is no need to send a water bottle from home. Each child is provided with a school water bottle, which is cleaned and washed daily to ensure it remains hygienic and ready for use. Please also ensure your child has a suitable coat or sunhat, depending on the weather.

The Government provides free fruit and vegetables to Early Year and Key Stage 1 pupils through the School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme to encourage healthy eating habits, improve children's diets and support their health and wellbeing from an early age. Children in Key Stage 2 are welcome to bring a piece of fruit into school to have at break time. **No other snack** is permitted.



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Children are invited to wear their own clothes on their **birthday**, or the day closest to it, so that everyone in school can wish them a 'Happy Birthday!' No jewellery is permitted with their own clothes.

Communication Pathway

- To ensure that queries are resolved as quickly and effectively as possible, parents should always contact their child's **class teacher in the first instance**. In the vast majority of cases, class teachers are able to address questions or concerns promptly. Should further support be required following discussion with the class teacher, the matter can then be referred to a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

Key Dates

- **13th October** – Sacramental meeting with Father John 3:45pm-4:15pm (School Hall)
- **14th October** – Class 6 Mass 9:30am
- **17th October** – Commitment Mass 4:00pm
- **22nd October** – Class 5 Mass 9:30am
- **22nd October** – Parents Evening. Booking opens 7th October from 10:00am
- **4th November** – Class 4 Mass 9:30am
- **27th February** – Reconciliation Preparation Mass 4:00pm
- **17th March** – Yr 3 Mass and Sacrament of Reconciliation 9:30am-11:00am
- **12th June** – First Holy Communion 12:30pm
- **24th April** – First Holy Communion Preparation Mass 4:00pm
- **15th May** – First Holy Communion Preparation Mass 4:00pm
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Thank you for your support. We look forward to a happy and successful year ahead.

Year 3/4 Team.