St Dunstan's RC Primary School

'We journey with Jesus beside us'

Headteacher's Message

Welcome back to a new school year!

It has been a truly wonderful first whole week back at school, and I would like to take this opportunity to extend a very warm welcome to all our families. I hope that you had a restful and enjoyable summer and that you were able to spend some precious time together as families. What a fantastic start we have had!

As I walked around school, I was so proud to see our children confidently talking about their learning, sharing their ideas and articulating what they had been learning in their classrooms. Their enthusiasm, confidence and willingness to talk about their learning was wonderful to see and was a real reflection of the positive start they have made. Our children are a credit to both you as parents and to us as a school, and Mrs Garvey from the Diocese recognised this yesterday during our walk around the school. It has been a joy to see them coming through our doors each morning with smiles on their faces, reconnecting with friends, welcoming new children and embracing the routines and expectations of school.

Our Reception children have also made a wonderful start. They have settled remarkably well and are already becoming an important part of our school family. I have been particularly pleased to see children looking out for one another, helping each other and making sure that everyone feels welcomed and included. This is what being part of our school family is all about. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful staff. The care, encouragement, patience and commitment they have shown during this first week have helped to ensure that the children have felt safe, happy and ready to learn.

As a Catholic school, our faith is at the heart of everything we do. The Gospel for this Sunday reminds us:

"For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

These words feel particularly meaningful as we begin this new school year. We are not simply individual children, families and members of staff.

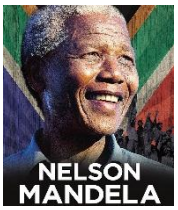
As your Headteacher, one of the things that matters most to me is that our children grow into confident, compassionate and resilient young people who not only achieve well, but understand the importance of how they treat others. We want our children to leave us knowing that they can make a difference in the world around them. That journey starts with all of us – school, children, families and our wider parish community – working together and keeping Christ at the centre of all that we do.

Headteacher's Award

Kyril in Year 5 for articulating his maths learning very effectively in class, showing his enthusiasm.

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

Nelson Mandela



THE Wednesday WORD

Good News for Families

The link below is to this week's edition of the Wednesday Word. Please continue to read and discuss the Wednesday Word every week as a family by visiting:

The Wednesday Word | The Sunday Gospel | Catholic Church

Headteacher: Mrs S Bailey
Telephone: 0161 681 5665
Bacup Street, Moston, Manchester, M40 9HF
Email: admin@st-dunstans.manchester.sch.uk
https://www.stdunstansmoston.com

Healthy Snack

Children in Years 3 – 6 are welcome to bring a healthy snack to eat at break time. Where possible, please ensure to limit plastic packaging. We are a nut-free school. Children in EYFS and KS1 will be provided with fruit.



Mass – Wednesday 23rd September:

Mass will be celebrated by Year 3 and Years 4 at 9:30.am in the school led by Father Job. Family members are welcome to join us.



School News & Updates

Uniform Expectations and Attendance

A polite reminder to refer to our uniform expectations, including jewellery and haircuts, if you are unsure. It is important that all aspects of our uniform policy are adhered to, including that for PE kit. In particular, plain black shorts (no cycling or tight fit) without 'branded logos', please. Attendance is also so important.

Our expectation is that all pupils achieve an attendance of at least 97% and no term-time holidays will be authorised, leading to a fine from the local authority. Studies show that for each day missed in school, it takes 3 days to catch up. Pupils also feel disconnected from their class and potentially anxious about their return.

After School Clubs:

We will be running a wide range of extra-curricular after school clubs which pupils can join for free. Information will go out about these clubs each half term and parents can sign up. Some of the clubs that we are offering this half term are Dance, Running, Creative club and Choir. Clubs will run from 3:20 – 4:15. Please note that late collection may result in your child being removed from after-school clubs.



Star of the Week

Nursery:
Arith for settling into our Nursery wonderfully.

Star writer: Alvin

Reception:
Neriah – being a fantastic role model.

Star writer: Emmanuel

Year 1/2:
Jackson always making the right choices.

Star writer: Ava

Year 2:
Ryden – making great choices and working hard.

Star writer: Yohannan

Year 3:
Hayden – being a fabulous role model

Star writer: Jethro

Year 4A:
Aurora - for being a fantastic role model

Star writer: Phillip

Year 4P:
Matthew has displayed our value unity.

Star writer: Dora

Year 5F:
Purva– being polite and respectful

Star writer: Kamsy

Year 5LG:
Zimi – for showing a wonderful attitude.

Star writer: Maisa

Year 6H:
Hara– for living out our school values.

Star writer: Leia

Year 6W:
Matilda has displayed our values of unity

Star writer: Temi

What have we been learning this week?

Nursery	Nursery have spent time exploring the classroom environment and practicing classroom routines.
Reception	Reception class have been busy this week, we have completed our baseline assessments, learnt our classroom routines and began learning how to read and write our first sounds in phonics.
Year 1/2	Year ½ have done some fabulous writing centred on their new book 'Lost and Found'.
Year 2	Year 2 have made a wonderful start to the year. They have been working hard during Phonics and have taken part in fun and active P.E sessions with our new sports coaches!
Year 3	This week in Year 3, the focus has been on Reading and pupils have had the wonderful opportunity to read lots of different books, including The Twits by Roald Dahl
Year 4A	In History in Year 4, pupils began to learn about how people's lives have changed. They have also shared their fantastic learning in Maths.
Year 4P	This week, Year 4 have worked hard completing assessments. In Maths, we have looked at numbers up to 1000 on a place value chart and number lines. In writing, they wrote a letter to me, to help me get to know them better. In PE, the children enjoyed their session with our new sports coaches.
Year 5F	In Year 5, our pupils have been working very hard. In Science, we explored different states of matter.
Year 5LG	Year 5 have completed some super learning in Maths this week, exploring concepts around Place Value.
Year 6H	Year 6 took part in a special Mass to celebrate the start of the school year and have worked hard to become the school role models – even supporting our EYFS pupils!
Year 6W	This week, Year 6 have worked very hard completing baseline assessments. We have also been learning about the Windrush generation. In Science, we worked in teams to learn about the work of Carl Linnaeus.

Attendance Matters!

Showing up every day helps you learn and grow!

Attendance this week

Nursery 98.5%
Reception 99.5%
Year 1/2J 97%
Year 2 – 95.7%
Year 3 96.4%
Year 4A – 98.6%
Year 4P – 93.2%
Year 5 LG – 98.8%
Year 5F – 95.2%
Year 6H – 97.9%
Year 6W – 94.6%

Whole School: 96.7%



