



“There is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”

Newsletter No. 349 – 13.1.17

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new year full of hope and promises. Pope Francis suggests ten New Year resolutions and we share them with you further on.

It is going to be an exciting new year for us as a school, parish and diocese as we prepare to celebrate our Diocesan Centenary Year.



‘Our Diocese, Our School, Our Parishes: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow’

The Diocese of Brentwood was established in 1917. Some of our older schools pre-date 1917 and were thus originally part of our mother-diocese, Westminster. Bishop Alan and our Vicar General, Monsignor Hale, invite all schools and parishes to celebrate the Diocesan Centenary.

The theme is ‘OUR DIOCESE, OUR SCHOOL, OUR PARISHES: YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW’. The whole diocese, both centrally and at parish level, will be marking the Centenary Year which will begin on the 11th February 2017 (the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, Principal Patroness of the Diocese of Brentwood and Patroness of our school too) and conclude on 16th November 2017 (the Feast of St. Edmund of Canterbury).

As a school, we have lots of exciting initiatives to work on which we will share with you over time. Did you know we have had seven bishops, including Bishop Alan? How old is our new Brentwood Cathedral- 10 years, 15 years, 25 years or more? What does the Diocese of Brentwood Coat of Arms (above) symbolise? How many Catholic Churches are in the Brentwood Diocese and how far does the diocese stretch - from Shoeburyness to?

Some food for thought over the dinner table – or maybe a few dinners!!

Our next Community Evening get-together will take place on Friday 3rd March in our school hall. We will be dancing and relaxing to the sound of the HUSSYBAND. (check them out at hussyband.com) Tickets are £8 each and please bring own wine and nibbles. Tickets will be available from the school office from Monday onwards. Many thanks to Mrs Watts for organising this.

Fundraising

On 21st December, **William Russell (1W)** held a hot chocolate and mince pie afternoon for his neighbours to raise money for **Christian Aid**. He made all the hot chocolate himself **AND** hosted, writing down orders. Although his target was £100, he raised an amazing **£120.23!!** William's parents are very proud of him and the compassion he shows for others. We couldn't agree more. WHAT A STAR!



100 CLUB November Draw - Congratulations to our December winners!

Rachel Williams (Harry 6B, Eva 2M & Ben 2A) Catherine Caswell (Ben 6B & Evie 2A)
and Anne-Marie Moonie (Teacher)

Uniform Shop

This half term, the uniform shop will be open on the following Fridays: 13th Jan, 27th Jan and 10th Feb.

Contact Details: loluniform@outlook.com / 07764222825

Danielle Bertella

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is looking for a new Director. This charity achieves so much for children and young people and their families across the Brentwood Diocese and the right person will find the role of leading BCCS to be most rewarding. This Catholic Charity is based on strong foundations of Catholic Social Teaching that enable us to help children of all faiths and none.

If you would like to be considered as the next Director of BCCS please ask the current Director for an Application Pack by emailing Steven at swebb@bccs.org.uk

If you know someone else who might be interested, please pass on this message to them.

The closing date for applications is Friday 3rd February (noon).

Dates to Remember

Jan 13 th	CAFOD Assembly and Year 6 Workshop	
Jan 15 th	Closing date for Single Applications for Primary Schools	
Jan 22 nd	Closing date for OLOL Applications	
Jan 25 th	Year 4T Around the World at WHSB (afternoon)	
Feb 3 rd (Wk Comm)	Interim Reports Issued	
Feb 8 th	Year 2 Tower of London Trip	
	Year 4H Around the World at WHSB (afternoon)	
Feb 10 th	Celebrating Our Lady of Lourdes Feast Day which falls on Saturday 11 th February	
	February 13 th - 17 th Half Term	
Feb 22 nd	Year 5 Wow! Workshop at WHSB (afternoon)	
Feb 27 th (Wk Comm)	Book Week	
Mar 1 st	Ash Wednesday	
Mar 27 th	Stations of the Cross – Year 5 Parents	10.00am
Mar 28 th	Pupil/Parent/Teacher Consultations	3pm – 6pm
Mar 29 th	Pupil/Parent/Teacher Consultations	4pm – 7pm
Mar 31 st	End of Term – School closes at 1.30pm for pupils	
	April 3 rd - 17 th Easter Holiday	

Have a lovely weekend with your families.

Mrs. M. Sullivan
Headteacher

Pope Francis' 10 New Year's Resolutions

Have you made any New Year's resolutions? If not, there's still time, and Pope Francis has some ideas for you.

These are the ten things that he called upon Vatican employees to do:

1. **“Take care of your spiritual life**, your relationship with God, because this is the backbone of everything we do and everything we are.”
2. **“Take care of your family life**, giving your children and loved ones not just money, but most of all your time, attention and love.”
3. **“Take care of your relationships with others**, transforming your faith into life and your words into good works, especially on behalf of the needy.”
4. **“Be careful how you speak**, purify your tongue of offensive words, vulgarity and worldly decadence.”
5. **“Heal wounds of the heart** with the oil of forgiveness, forgiving those who have hurt us and medicating the wounds we have caused others.”
6. **“Look after your work**, doing it with enthusiasm, humility, competence, passion and with a spirit that knows how to thank the Lord.”
7. **“Be careful of envy**, lust, hatred and negative feelings that devour our interior peace and transform us into destroyed and destructive people.”
8. **“Watch out for anger** that can lead to vengeance; for laziness that leads to existential euthanasia; for pointing the finger at others, which leads to pride; and for complaining continually, which leads to desperation.”
9. **“Take care of brothers and sisters who are weaker** ... the elderly, the sick, the hungry, the homeless and strangers, because we will be judged on this.”
10. “Making sure your Christmas is about Jesus and not about shopping.”

