# St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School Farnborough

**With Jesus in our Hearts, we have: The passion to learn, The courage to fail, The strength to love**

Newsletter Autumn Term 2 October 2026

## From Our Head Teacher

*Dear parents and carers,*

*It really feels as though autumn has finally arrived with the change in temperature and weather. At this half way point in the autumn term, it is a good opportunity to take stock and reflect. This month we have encouraged the children to listen to Jesus' message of love and think about how this can be shown in their everyday actions. This is something that many of the children do naturally each day by embracing their time at school and at home.*

*The children have eased their way in to the expectations of their new classes and enjoyed the opportunities this half term has afforded them. Whether that be school trips, residentials, after school clubs or a new topic being studied, I always marvel at the determination and passion they display.*

*I have been equally impressed with those children who we have celebrated achievements or have been recognised for living out the charism gift and mission statement of our school. Every week I'm struck by their individual excellence, the commitment to and respect for one another and the support and encouragement they give. The expectation is not one of perfection but knowing that they are unique and that they make a positive difference each and every day to our school community.*

*All of these are examples of how your children live out the gospel message of love for one another. I wish to thank you too for your love, care and support. You are your children's first role models. They look up to you. They observe how you behave, interact and treat people around you. They shape themselves on you. Please continue to be the great role models that you are.*

*At the end of this half term we say goodbye to Mrs Dias. Over a twelve year period she has given her all for the betterment of our school community. I wish to thank her again and wish her well for her future.*

*Finally, please enjoy half term. I hope you find the moments that you can spend relaxing as a family. I look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 2nd November.*

*With very best wishes,*

*Mr Lynch.*

## SEN Updates – Hampshire SENDIASS Workshops

For families at St Bernadette's with children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), I would like to highlight the support available through **Hampshire SENDIASS**.

Hampshire SENDIASS is running a series of virtual workshops this autumn, covering a range of topics to support families.

One workshop that may be particularly helpful for families whose children are on the SEND register but do not have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) is **Ordinarily Available Provision and SEND Support**. The next session is scheduled for **19th November**.

To find out more and book your place, please visit the Hampshire SENDIASS workshops website.

We hope you find this opportunity helpful.

**SENDCo Team**

## Breakfast and After School Club

The Breakfast Club and After School Club are open from Monday to Friday term time only. Mrs Bennet, Mrs Gould and Miss Rai run the clubs and there are may activities, games and themed days to enjoy.

***Breakfast Club***

**Breakfast Club opens from 8:00 am**.
The cost per session is £3.50, all payments need to be done via Arbor. You do not need to book for Breakfast Club.

***After School Club***

After School Club will operate from 3:20pm to 6:00pm. The cost per booking is £10.50, however you can collect your child anytime between 3:20pm and 6:00pm, snacks are served at 4:30pm

Please book Arbor in advance, the cut off for booking is 48 hours. If you cancel within 24 hours you will incur the cost. We are still able to take Ad Hoc bookings.

Please note late collection fees are £5.00 plus £5.00 per 5 minutes after 6:00pm.

## DIOCESAN BUILDING FUND

### Support St Bernadette's – Help Build Their Future for a Better Future of our School

The Building Fund plays a crucial role in maintaining and enhancing the school facilities at St Bernadette's. Your support is key to keeping our school a safe and inspiring place for all students.

As a voluntary-aided Catholic school, we rely on contributions from parents to meet 10% of building costs. Contributions from parents help fund important projects like classroom upgrades and keeping our school facilities in the best condition for current and future students.

In the past St Bernadette's have benefited from a number of projects which have been funded through the Diocesan Building fund scheme. These have included: Essential roof repairs and installation of new windows, toilet refurbishment and new lighting.

We ask parents for a donation of just £45 per child for the school year or £15 per term, an affordable way to support vital improvements to your child's school environment. Please make your payment via Arbor or at the school office. Every contribution counts and we simply can't do it without you.

Gift Aid: If you are a tax payer, please do also sign the gift aid form, this is available from our school website or the school office. This allows us to claim an extra 25p for every £1.00 donated.

## Our Amazing Week at Little Canada!

As a staff team, we couldn't possibly have been prouder of the children who attended our recent residential trip to **Little Canada**. We had the most fantastic week together, filled with breakthrough moments, laughter, and personal growth.

Over the course of the week, so many children truly pushed themselves out of their comfort zones to achieve things they never thought possible. What really shone through was their incredible ability to solve problems and work collaboratively in groups. This wonderful attitude even extended to their cabins, which stayed remarkably clean and tidy all week!

The instructors and site staff spoke incredibly highly of our pupils, describing them as "an absolute joy to have on site"—a sentiment that all of our school staff echo wholeheartedly. We also have to give a special shout-out to the exceptional dancing display at the disco!

These experiences provided the children with invaluable opportunities to develop their independence, build stronger relationships, and face new challenges with resilience. As a result, they have returned to school as an even stronger, more united team.

We are immensely proud of every single one of them and want to say a huge thank you to the children for making it such an unforgettable week!

Mrs Emanuel, Mrs Dias and Mr Matheson.

A heartfelt thank you to Mrs Dias who made St Bernadette's a wonderful handmade collage with the verse Matthew 5:16 "Let your Light Shine" May every child who walks through these doors know they are loved, valued and wonderfully made.

## Farnborough Food Bank

A huge thank to everyone that has donated to our Harvest Food Bank Drive. Your generosity equated to 158kg which the staff at the Food Bank said was AMAZING! They also said the House Captains were brilliant with helping load up the donations! So again a BIG THANK YOU!

## Cool Milk

**FREE for children under the age of five,**

**FREE to children receiving or entitled to statutory free school meals**

**Subsidised for all other children in primary education**

Go online and quickly register your child for school milk at www.coolmilk.com

Milk orders need to done before Tuesdays at 5pm milk will then be provided from the following week.

MILESTONES

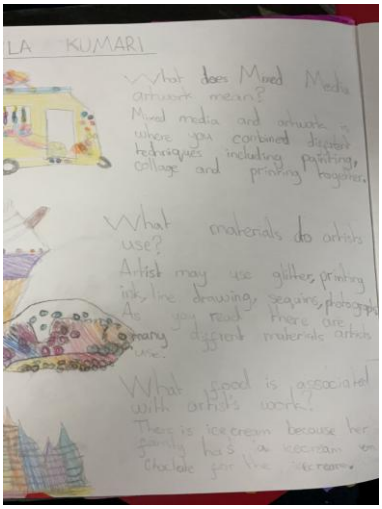
LIVING HISTORY MUSEUM

Year 1 had a wonderful trip to Milestones Living History Museum where they stepped back in time to experience history up close. They were able to have a hands-on workshop playing old-fashioned games like hopscotch. They also visited the seaside pier and a toy store.

# Shakespeare Class

Shakespeare Class have had a fabulous start to their school journey at St. Bernadette's. They are already showing confidence and ability in following new school rules and routines and have made lots of positive relationships with peers and adults. Their journey into phonics and reading has already begun and they are very proud of their new zippy wallets with all their new learning resources in! Shakespeare Class are currently finding out more about 'All About Me' with links to their feelings, emotions, senses and positive collaborations with others. This week they have started to move into the KS1 playground at lunchtimes and they will be taking home their first library book. Well done for such a great start to school, Shakespeare Class!

# Art Design




Year 5 are exploring self-portraits as part of their Painting and Mixed Media unit in Art and Design. They are currently exploring how different artists have created their own self-portraits and Olivia researched more about the artist Chila Kumari Singh Burman and what effects she uses in her self-portraits.

| | 18th September 2026 | Charism Character Awards |
|---|---|---|
| Year 1 Seacole<br>Mrs Grier &<br>Mrs Lowdon | Isaac | For demonstrating courage, trying his best with his learning. |
| Year 2 Anning<br>Miss Ryan | JJ | For demonstrating perseverance when any challenge arises within his day! |
| Year 3<br>Ms McCue | Liliana | For demonstrating perseverance. You have tried so hard to stay focused this week and as a result your abilities have shone brightly. Well done! |
| Year 4<br>Mrs Coetzee | Michael | For demonstrating perseverance throughout all aspects of his learning. |
| Year 5<br>Miss Huggins | Tre | For demonstrating compassion. You are always helping around the classroom and you make sure to help others when they are stuck. |
| Year 6<br>Mrs Pearce | Honey | For demonstrating perseverance in maths this week. You faced challenges and overcame them successfully. |

| | 18th September 2026 | Mission Maker Award |
|---|---|---|
| Year 1 Seacole<br>Mrs Grier &<br>Mrs Lowdon | Curtis | For demonstrating the passion to learn, completing his learning tasks. |
| Year 2 Anning<br>Miss Ryan | Shreenika | For demonstrating the passion to learn, particularly by always giving 100% focus to the person speaking in lessons! |
| Year 3<br>Ms McCue | Maria | For demonstrating the passion to learn. You are always so enthusiastic and you put a huge amount of effort into your work. Well done! |
| Year 4<br>Mrs Coetzee | Aoife | For demonstrating remarkable effort, focus and dedication when it comes to every aspect of her learning. |
| Year 5<br>Miss Huggins | Amelia | For demonstrating the passion to learn in English. You have worked really hard to use show, don't tell in your diary entry. Well done! |
| Year 6<br>Mrs Pearce | Rosie | For demonstrating the passion to learn. You always listen attentively and settle down to the work promptly and efficiently. |

| | 25th September 2026 | Charism Character Awards |
|---|---|---|
| Year 1 Seacole<br>Mrs Grier &<br>Mrs Lowdon | Ehiremen | For demonstrating perseverance, working hard in all subjects well done! |
| Year 2 Anning<br>Miss Ryan | Rosie | For demonstrating compassion toward adults and her peers – in all her actions! |
| Year 3<br>Ms McCue | Victoria | For always demonstrating compassion. You are kind, calm and supportive to both your friends and your peers. |
| Year 4<br>Mrs Coetzee | Nara | For demonstrating compassion by always being willing to help her classmates with kindness and patience. |
| Year 5<br>Miss Huggins | Emily | For demonstrating compassion towards your peers. You have been super helpful and kind this week. |
| Year 6<br>Mrs Pearce | Freddie | For demonstrating perseverance to keep going when things get tough & after an up & down week of emotions too. |

| | 25th September 2026 | Mission Maker Award |
|---|---|---|
| Year 1 Seacole<br>Mrs Grier &<br>Mrs Lowdon | Junior | For demonstrating the passion to learn in RE drawing her Creation picture. |
| Year 2 Anning<br>Miss Ryan | Freya V | For demonstrating the passion to learn – particularly demonstrated in English when writing her character description! |
| Year 3<br>Ms McCue | Lavijah | For demonstrating the passion to learn. You have worked really hard this week. You have engaged in all subjects, been super focused, and have been keen to answer questions. Well done! |
| Year 4<br>Mrs Coetzee | Subish | For demonstrating a passion to learn. Subish has been so focused this week. He has really listened well, been ready to learn and has set an excellent example to others. |
| Year 5<br>Miss Huggins | Nathan | For demonstrating the passion to learn in maths this week. You did a great job teaching the class how to round! |
| Year 6<br>Mrs Pearce | Abi S | For demonstrating the courage to fail when completing an art activity. You overcame your fear & ended up producing a beautiful piece of work. |

| | 2nd October 2026 | Charism Character Awards |
|---|---|---|
| Year 1 Seacole<br>Mrs Grier &<br>Mrs Lowdon | Roy | For demonstrating perseverance with his reading this week – well done! |
| Year 2 Anning<br>Miss Ryan | Erica C | For demonstrating perseverance across all areas of her learning! |
| Year 3<br>Ms McCue | Elizabeth | For demonstrating compassion. You are always calm, kind, helpful and supportive. These qualities make you an excellent role model. Thank you. |
| Year 4<br>Mrs Coetzee | Grace | For demonstrating compassion and perseverance in all that she does at all times. |
| Year 5<br>Miss Huggins | Olivia | For demonstrating perseverance in maths this week. She worked hard to master rounding after finding it tricky. |
| Year 6<br>Mrs Pearce | Onesimus | For demonstrating perseverance in all that he does and for always giving everything a go, even when he might find it tricky. |

| | 2nd October 2026 | Mission Maker Award |
|---|---|---|
| Year 1 Seacole<br>Mrs Grier &<br>Mrs Lowdon | Genevieve | For demonstrating the passion to learn in all subjects this week. |
| Year 2 Anning<br>Miss Ryan | Luca | For demonstrating the passion to learn – particularly when responding to feedback in phonics! |
| Year 3<br>Ms McCue | Alex | For demonstration the passion to learn. You have work so hard this week, especially with your writing, and have made so much progress. Well done! |
| Year 4<br>Mrs Coetzee | Abigail | For demonstrating the passion to learn all week by focusing well in lessons. |
| Year 5<br>Miss Huggins | Isabella | For demonstrating the passion to learn in English. When upgrading her sentences, her vocabulary choices have been fabulous! |
| Year 6<br>Mrs Pearce | Mariel | For demonstrating the passion to learn. You always set a fantastic example in class & always show that you are ready & eager to learn. Keep it up! |

| | 9th October 2026 | Charism Character Awards |
|---|---|---|
| Year 1 Seacole<br>Mrs Grier &<br>Mrs Lowdon | Emer | For demonstrating perseverance with her writing in English |
| Year 2 Anning<br>Miss Ryan | Isaac | For demonstrating perseverance in the challenging moments and staying focused and engaged all day! |
| Year 3<br>Ms McCue | Ayush | For demonstrating courage. You have fitted in to Parks class so well. You always make excellent choices and are already a wonderful role model. Well done! |
| Year 4<br>Mrs Coetzee | Jessica | For demonstrating compassion and kindness. She helps those around her if they are finding a task tricky. |
| Year 5<br>Miss Huggins | Lucas | For demonstrating perseverance with his doodle learning. He has worked super hard to get to the green zone in maths! |
| Year 6<br>Mrs Pearce | Alannah | For demonstrating courage this week as she has helped support adults & children alike & come out of her shell. |

| | 9th October 2026 | Mission Maker Award |
|---|---|---|
| Year 1 Seacole<br>Mrs Grier &<br>Mrs Lowdon | Cosmo | For demonstrating the passion to learn on our school trip. |
| Year 2 Anning<br>Miss Ryan | Amara | For demonstrating the strength to love in all that she does, Amara is such a kind and compassionate friend – a model to all! |
| Year 3<br>Ms McCue | Aleyssa | For demonstration the strength to love by always being kind, calm and supportive. You always make excellent choices and are an amazing role model.Thank you |
| Year 4<br>Mrs Coetzee | Lydia | For demonstrating the passion and perseverance to learn and always trying her best. |
| Year 5<br>Miss Huggins | Aldo | For demonstrating the strength to love. He has been unbelievably helpful in the classroom this week. Keep it up! |
| Year 6<br>Mrs Pearce | Honey | For demonstrating the passion to learn. She has been bringing in fantastic work from home & asked for extra work this week. |

| | 16th October 2026 | Charism Character Awards |
|---|---|---|
| Year 1 Seacole<br>Mrs Grier &<br>Mrs Lowdon | Umar | For demonstrating perseverance in maths this week exploring part, part whole. |
| Year 2 Anning<br>Miss Ryan | Freya R | For demonstrating perseverance when facing every challenge, with a smile, all week! |
| Year 3<br>Ms McCue | Jennah | For demonstrating perseverance. You work hard, never give up and put huge effort into everything you do. |
| Year 4<br>Mrs Coetzee | Nell | For demonstrating perseverance when you find situations tough. You keep going and try to be positive and practical. |
| Year 5<br>Miss Huggins | Maria | For demonstrating compassion since joining us at the start of the year. She is always so kind to all of her classmates. |
| Year 6<br>Mrs Pearce | Ruby | For demonstrating compassion with everyone in the classroom, including adults. She is a ray of sunshine every day. |

| | 16th October 2026 | Mission Maker Award |
|---|---|---|
| Year 1 Seacole<br>Mrs Grier &<br>Mrs Lowdon | Noah | For demonstrating the passion to learn with his reading this week. |
| Year 2 Anning<br>Miss Ryan | Gabby | For living out our school mission with kindness and pride every day! |
| Year 3<br>Ms McCue | Noah | For demonstrating the passion to learn. You have such a love for learning, and this week you have shown that you can be present in class and fully engaged in lessons. Well done! |
| Year 4<br>Mrs Coetzee | Ailbhe | For demonstrating the passion to learn. She always has a big smile on her face and is willing to take on a challenge. |
| Year 5<br>Miss Huggins | Helena | For demonstrating the passion to learn in guided reading. She had amazing expression in her reading of ‘The spider and the fly.’ |
| Year 6<br>Mrs Pearce | Abigail K | For demonstrating the courage to fail. We’ve been learning how to solve long division and she has kept trying her best even when finding it hard. Super proud! |

| | 23rd October 2026 | Charism Character Awards |
|---|---|---|
| Year 1 Seacole<br>Mrs Grier &<br>Mrs Lowdon | Freya | For demonstrating compassion, always a kind and caring friend. |
| Year 2 Anning<br>Miss Ryan | Arthur | For demonstrating the courage to be the very best version of himself! |
| Year 3<br>Ms McCue | Delphi | For demonstrating compassion. You are a kind, gentle and supportive friend and an excellent science ambassador. Thank you! |
| Year 4<br>Mrs Coetzee | Sarah | For demonstrating perseverance in everything you do. You calmly get on with your work and keep going even if you find something tricky. |
| Year 5<br>Miss Huggins | Robin | For demonstrating courage and perseverance. He has worked super hard to stay focused this week and has done a brilliant job mastering factor bugs in maths. |
| Year 6<br>Mrs Pearce | Martha | For demonstrating courage and perseverance. She has worked hard when completing the practice SATs papers, continuing to focus and tackle each paper with a ‘can do’ attitude. |

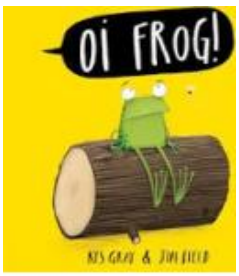
| | 23rd October 2026 | Mission Maker Award |
|---|---|---|
| Year 1 Seacole<br>Mrs Grier &<br>Mrs Lowdon | Oliver | For demonstrating the passion to learn with his handwriting this week. |
| Year 2 Anning<br>Miss Ryan | Aminah | For demonstrating the passion to learn across all subjects but particularly in English, History and Geography! |
| Year 3<br>Ms McCue | Bobby | For demonstrating the passion to learn. You always engage fully in all our lessons and you are an excellent science ambassador. Thank you! |
| Year 4<br>Mrs Coetzee | Jared | For demonstrating a fantastic passion to learn and enthusiasm across the whole curriculum. |
| Year 5<br>Miss Huggins | Keren | For demonstrating the passion to learn in English this week. She has worked unbelievably to write a speech that she will present to the class. |
| Year 6<br>Mrs Pearce | Archie | For demonstrating the passion to learn as he approached the practice SATs papers confidently and gave everything a go. |

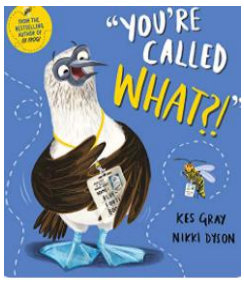
# Author of the Month October

# Kes Gray

Kes Gray is a bestselling, award-winning author of more than 50 books for children of all ages, including critically acclaimed picture book, Oi Frog! (Hodder) and the Daisy series (Random House). As well as winning the Red House Children's Book Award for Eat Your Peas, Billy's Bucket and Daisy and the Trouble With Zoos(Random House), Kes was noted by The Independent as one of the top ten children's authors in the UK only a year after publishing his first book.

## Books by this author:



To learn more about Kes Gray and his books, click on the link below.

https://www.penguin.co.uk/authors/1012292/kes-gray.html