



FROM OUR HEAD TEACHER

Dear parents and carers,

Throughout November we have been focusing on remembrance which is reflected in our national events and the liturgical year. Our children have also been reflecting on remembering the past as we started a series of actions to celebrate the 50th academic year of St Bernadette's.

The first event was the creation and burial of a time capsule. All the children created class artefacts. As a school, we discussed what was going in to the capsule and the School Council helped to bury this near the prayer garden. We hope that 10 years or maybe even 25 years from now this gets unburied and a future generation of children can study the history of St Bernadette's. In the coming weeks, our stewardship committee will be planting two blossom trees as the next way to mark this important milestone.

I wanted to thank all the children who were part of the Talent Show. This was a joyous occasion that celebrated the wide-ranging skills and talents of our children. It is also enabled us to raise a fantastic £354.00. Thank you also to Mrs Dale, Mrs Dias, Mrs Emanuel and Miss Ryan who helped organise this and all the other members of staff who stayed to help. Without such committed staff, these events wouldn't be able to happen.

The children thoroughly enjoyed the STEM sessions we held this month. These sessions enable the children to apply the knowledge they have learnt in the computing curriculum. I was amazed at how well our younger children programmed their little robots!

As we enter Advent, our school calendar gets extremely packed full of exciting events. Please do make a note of these in your diaries and consider how you can support the Friends of St Bernadette's (FOSB). All FOSB money is spent on the children at school. Events can only run if there are adequate volunteers. More hands make light work!

Yours sincerely,

Mr Lynch

Breakfast and After School Club

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

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club will be open from 8.00 a.m. and is held in the new room (Old Year 5 Class)

The cost per session is £2.50, 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 – 6.00pm in the new room (Old Year 5 Class) The cost per booking is £10.00, however you can collect your child anytime between 3:20pm and 6:00pm, snacks are served at 4:30pm.

Please book on 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



Safeguarding Corner

School WhatsApp groups

Are you part of a parent WhatsApp group at your child's school? These groups can be useful for sharing information and reminders, but it is important to use them thoughtfully. Here are some tips on how we can ensure they remain positive and respectful:

1. Be considerate –we know messages can sometimes be misinterpreted so carefully think about what you share. These groups should not be used to share criticisms of the school, staff or other parents and children. Any concerns should always be discussed with the school directly.
2. Don't spread rumours – avoid sharing any gossip within the group.
3. Protect privacy - do not share photos or videos of other children.
4. Think before you send – be mindful of the time and if the message is necessary for everyone.

Our children watch how we communicate, so let's model healthy, online communication to them.

WhatsApp Channels

Users should be at least 13 years old to use WhatsApp. If your child is using WhatsApp, then you should be aware of WhatsApp Channels. Channels are a one-way broadcast tool used by companies and individuals to send updates to followers. WhatsApp Channels can be found on the Updates tab. From here you can view a whole host of channels, including channels that will not be age appropriate and may include adult content.

You cannot switch off access to channels and there is no age rating associated with the channels so you would have to access them to know what the content truly is. Klicksafe highlight what you should be aware of:

<https://www.klicksafe.eu/en/news/was-sind-whatsapp-kanale-und-wasmuessen-eltern-beachten>

Find out more about WhatsApp channels in general here:

<https://faq.whatsapp.com/549900560675125>

Help to keep children safe online with Techosaurus

The NSPCC have created Techosaurus, a friendly dinosaur to assist you in having chats with your child about online safety. It is aimed at younger children and includes a book and activity pack (both chargeable). You can find out more here:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/advice-for-families/techosaurus/>

ART & DT

Year 1 have been making puppets as part of their DT Textiles unit. They are learning to join pieces of material together and add decoration - as they move through school, they will progress to joining material by sewing and knotting.

THOUGHTS ON FAITH

In our Gospel assembly this week we ended the liturgical year with the Solemnity of Christ the King. We celebrated Jesus as our King and Saviour, learning that if we accept Jesus as the King of Kings, we get to share in the Kingdom of God, just like the faithful criminal in the Gospel ([Luke 23:35-43](#)).

The season of Advent begins on Sunday 30 November; a time for preparing to welcome Jesus at Christmas and also get ready for when He comes again.

As this year draws to a close, we are also in the last few weeks of the Church's Jubilee Year, celebrating Jesus' message of hope and encouraging us to live as Pilgrims of Hope. Advent continues this theme - as we prepare, live and celebrate the hope that Jesus brings.

PREPARE IN HOPE

The Gospel assembly in the first week of December introduces us to the Advent season with a story of excitement and expectation. The beginnings of our preparations in the countdown towards Christmas are compared with a child's excitement as the family gets ready for the birth of a new baby.

In the Gospel (Matthew 24:37-44), Jesus tells His disciples to 'stay awake' and be ready for the day of the Lord's coming. Like with the coming of a new baby, we often don't know exactly when this event will take place so the time to get ready is right now!

With your child/ren, you may also like to ...

- *Put up an Advent wreath in your home or make one together, talking about the symbolism of the purple and pink candles and the circle of evergreen.*
- *Talk about ways as a family you can plan to get ready during Advent. You might choose to prepare in a different way for each of the four weeks.*

LIVE IN HOPE

Our Gospel assembly for the second week of December, we have the opportunity to reflect on how God's messengers, like John the Baptist, encourage us to live our journey of faith by helping us to listen, change our ways and live in the hope that God offers us.

With your child/ren, you may also like to ...

- *Talk about different messengers in the Bible e.g. angels and prophets, as well as saints who have helped us to grow closer to God.*
- *Share an example from your own life when you have placed your hope in God.*

Shakespeare Class

Shakespeare class are now confident in following the daily school rules and routines. They are beginning to attend whole school assemblies and are looking forward to the first off-site visit after Christmas! This half term our focus has been the theme of 'Sparkles and Stars', thinking about Space, the night and different celebrations. We were very excited when a rocket ship arrived in our classroom and we dressed up as astronauts to explore Space.

Last week the sight of snow stopped any indoor learning - we went out to explore how different our Paddock area looked and felt, covered in a blanket of white snow!



Thank you for working with us in ensuring your children are in school. We will regularly be reviewing the children's attendance and contacting parents where we are concerned.

Please note that no holiday during term time will be authorised. Holiday dates have been published on our website so please do book family breaks during this time.

We know that for some children, worries can make attending school tricky. Please do contact us if your child is worried about anything, especially school related, so we can offer support and resolve any issues.

Attendance Matters October 2025

Well done to Anning Class


Class	Attendance %	Lateness %
Shakespeare	95.7	1.44
Seacole	94.6	2.22
Anning	98.2	0.74
Parks	96.7	0.81
Einstein	92.5	0.75
Armstrong	95.7	1.44
Mandela	95.6	0.45

**UPCOMING EVENTS
AUTUMN TERM 2025 &
SPRING TERM 2026**


Monday 1st December	Community Carol Service at Church of the Good Shepherd 6:00pm
Wednesday 3rd December	Wear what you love
Thursday 4th December	Year 4, 5 and 6 Reconciliation Year 3 Butser Farm Trip
Friday 5th December	FoSB Advent Fayre
Thursday 11th December	Reception and KS1 Advent Performances 9:45am and 2:00pm
Wednesday 17th December	KS2 Carol Service at OLSD 2:00pm
Thursday 18th December	Christmas Jumper day/Accessories Christmas Lunch
Friday 19th December	End of Term 3:20pm
Monday 22nd December to Friday 2nd January	Christmas Holidays
Monday 5th January	School Starts 8:50am
Wednesday 7th January	Start of term Mass/ Epiphany Mass 10:30am


A massive congratulations to Sebastian, Grace and Elizabeth who were the winners of the Book in a Box competition




Friday	24th October 2025	 Charism Character Awards
Year 1 Seacole Mrs Grier & Mrs Lowdon	Erika	For demonstrating courage during our dance session, performing to her peers.
Year 2 Anning Miss Hyatt	Iris	For demonstrating courage this week by going out of her comfort zone and trying hot school dinners for lunch.
Year 3 Parks Miss McCue	Freya	For demonstrating perseverance and trying really hard to focus on your learning. You did some fantastic writing in English. Well done!
Year 4 Einstein Mrs Coatzee	Jan	For demonstrating perseverance and trying extra hard to stay calm and focused even when feeling frustrated.
Year 5 Armstrong Miss Huggins	Chiedza	For demonstrating compassion. Chiedza is always helping her classmates when they need her.
Year 6 Mandela Miss Parkinson	Bella	For demonstrating compassion and kindness when supporting others in the class with their sewing – from cutting thread to untangling knots!


Friday	24th October 2025	 Mission Maker Award
Year 1 Seacole Mrs Grier & Mrs Lowdon	Toby	For demonstrating the courage to fail, always trying his best in anything he does
Year 2 Anning Miss Hyatt	Delphi	For demonstrating the passion to learn this week and always wanting to do her absolute best in everything she does.
Year 3 Parks Miss McCue	Damian	For demonstrating the passion to learn. You have had a great week; you have really pushed yourself and have been ready to learn in every lesson. Well done!
Year 4 Einstein Mrs Coatzee	Kolbi	For demonstrating courage, trying really hard this week to make good choices. Well done, Kolbi!
Year 5 Armstrong Miss Huggins	Daniel	For demonstrating the passion to learn. Daniel did an amazing job creating the phases of the moon with Oreos.
Year 6 Mandela Miss Parkinson	James	For demonstrating the passion to learn in all subjects through engaging in class and group discussions to develop your learning and showing great perseverance when sewing your tote bag.

Friday	7th November 2025	 Charism Character Awards
Year 1 Seacole Mrs Grier &	Aminah	For demonstrating perseverance with her maths this week!
Year 2 Anning Mrs Ripley	Alex	For demonstrating perseverance in his writing this week.
Year 3 Parks Miss McCue	Michael	For demonstrating perseverance in everything your do. You always work hard, keep going and try your best.
Year 4 Einstein Mrs Coatzee	Louie	For demonstrating courage when answering questions in class and trying really hard to improve his handwriting this week.
Year 5 Armstrong Miss Huggins	Freddie	For demonstrating perseverance. Freddie has gotten better at accepting help when he needs it. Well done Freddie.
Year 6 Mandela Miss Parkinson	Maddie	For demonstrating perseverance in all subjects to improve your understanding, especially in maths recently, and having a fantastic growth mindset!

Friday	7th November 2025	 Mission Maker Award
Year 1 Seacole Mrs Grier & Mrs Lowdon	Alsi	For demonstrating the courage to fail, working hard during morning tasks.
Year 2 Anning Mrs Ripley	Anashe	For demonstrating the passion to learn and always setting an excellent year 2 example to her peers.
Year 3 Parks Miss McCue	Yasin	For demonstrating the passion to learn especially in maths. You have worked exceptionally hard this week and been extra keen to challenge yourself. Well done!
Year 4 Einstein Mrs Coatzee	Hazel	For demonstrating the strength to love by always being calm, kind and respectful. She is a good role model. Well done!
Year 5 Armstrong Miss Huggins	Abi S	For demonstrating the passion to learn. Abi always shares her amazing ideas, especially in RE.
Year 6 Mandela Miss Parkinson	Nora	For demonstrating the passion to learn in our indoor PE session and having the courage to perform your dance to the class with your group!

Friday	14th November 2025	 Charism Character Awards
Year 1 Seacole Mrs Grier &	Wynter Mae	For demonstrating perseverance in her maths this week exploring number bonds to 10.
Year 2 Anning Mrs Ripley	Caoimhe	For demonstrating perseverance this week when she struggled to find motivation. She kept going and produced some beautiful work.
Year 3 Parks Miss McCue	Kosmo	For demonstrating perseverance with your handwriting. You have made a significant improvement. Well done!
Year 4 Einstein Mrs Coatzee	Raphael	For demonstrating perseverance and really trying hard to focus on his learning and showing that he can produce great results
Year 5 Armstrong Miss Huggins	Alannah	For demonstrating perseverance in all lessons. Alannah always pushes on when she finds something hard.
Year 6 Mandela Miss Parkinson	Isabelle	For demonstrating compassion and kindness to everyone, always. Anytime someone needs help, you are there with a smile on your face – thank you!

Friday	14th November 2025	 Mission Maker Award
Year 1 Seacole Mrs Grier & Mrs Lowdon	Keegan	For demonstrating the passion to learn with his reading this week, answering the questions well.
Year 2 Anning Mrs Ripley	Saif	For demonstrating the passion to learn this week and trying very hard to set a good example to others.
Year 3 Parks Miss McCue	Obanijesu	For demonstrating the passion to learn and making a huge effort with your times tables. You have worked hard and it has paid off. Well done!
Year 4 Einstein Mrs Coatzee	Tre	For demonstrating the passion to learn and getting far more engaged in class discussions.
Year 5 Armstrong Miss Huggins	Venus	For demonstrating the passion to learn and always sharing with the class.
Year 6 Mandela Miss Parkinson	Akshara	For demonstrating the whole mission statement in every aspect of school life – your passion to learn shines through in everything you do.

Friday	21st November 2025	 Charism Character Awards
Year 1 Seacole Mrs Grier & Mrs Lowdon	Reeyan	For demonstrating perseverance working hard on taking on feedback. Especially with his oracy skills
Year 2 Anning Mrs Ripley	Elizabeth	For demonstrating compassion and always being a lovely friend to others and perseverance in her independent tasks, she always gives 100%.
Year 3 Parks Miss McCue	Stanley	For demonstrating perseverance during our indoor PE lesson. You worked extra hard and kept your group on track. Well done!
Year 4 Einstein Mrs Coatzee	Emily	For demonstrating perseverance even when things are challenging
Year 5 Armstrong Miss Huggins	Ife	For demonstrating courage. Ife has really come out of her shell in class!
Year 6 Mandela Miss Parkinson	Sofia	For demonstrating perseverance in all aspects of your learning this week – seeing your growth mindset blossom has been amazing!

Friday	21st November 2025	 Mission Maker Award
Year 1 Seacole Mrs Grier & Mrs Lowdon	Shreenkia	For demonstrating the strength to love, always a fantastic role model to others.
Year 2 Anning Mrs Ripley	Yeshua	For demonstrating the strength to love by making kinder and more respectful choices.
Year 3 Parks Miss McCue	Emmanuel	For demonstrating the passion to learn by being a good role model and always trying to do his best, especially in maths.
Year 4 Einstein Mrs Coatzee	Robin	For demonstrating the passion to learn by staying focused and on task especially in maths. Well done!
Year 5 Armstrong Miss Huggins	Archie	For demonstrating the passion to learn. Archie worked with his team to create the biggest square number in the class.
Year 6 Mandela Miss Parkinson	Lucas	For demonstrating the passion to learn in all subjects this week, especially in English when wanting to share your writing and in science when learning about light!



Odd Socks Day 2025



Thank you for your support

To **St Bernadette's Primary School**

Thank you for supporting the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

Your collection total **£164.59**



Thank you

Your support has made a real difference to those in the Armed Forces community.

Without your efforts, we couldn't do the work we do.

To find out more about how your donation helps, please visit rbl.org.uk/poppyappeal

Royal British Legion
199 Borough High Street, London SE1 1AA

Registered charity number: 219279



Author of the Month November

Alex T. Smith

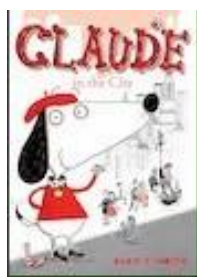


Alex T. Smith was born in 1985 and has drawn and written stories since he could hold a pencil.

Alex has gone on to write and illustrate his own books - many of which have won prizes and have been read on TV during the Bedtime Hour on CBeebies,

Alex is also the creator of the CLAUDE series for early readers. CLAUDE in the City was selected for the Richard and Judy Children's Book Club 2011 and was shortlisted for the Waterstones Children's Book Prize in 2012.

Books by this author:



To learn more about Alex T. Smith and his books, click on the link below.

<https://www.arenainillustration.com/artists/alex-t-smith/>