

Blessed Robert Widmerpool Catholic Voluntary Academy

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July 2024

School Mission Statement

'We walk kindly in the footsteps of Jesus Christ as we live and learn'

Dear Parents,

The academic year of 2023-24 has flown by – it seems only a few months since I wrote the final newsletter of 2022-23! We are proud of all the achievements our pupils have made this year. They have learned resiliently and with great BRW spirit. Before next year comes, there is much to celebrate from the last half-term.

OPAL

You may be aware of an exciting new project that BRW is embarking upon in 2024-25! Our OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) Project will be a big focus for us next year. We hope to change our playtimes to foster even more resilience, imagination and joy in our pupils. This will involve some creative use of resources that you are likely to have in your own homes! If you happen to be clearing out your garage, loft or sheds over the summer, we will gladly give the items in this hyperlink a second home: [OPAL DONATIONS](#). More to come on OPAL in September and beyond!

Y5/6 Musical – Aladdin

We enjoyed the wonderful production of 'Aladdin' this term, with our Year 5 and 6 pupils showing incredible acting, singing and dancing talent. Their own commitment as well as that of the staff shone through in the joy the spread on stage. We laughed and sang along to some much-loved songs and were in awe of the amount of lines and lyrics our children learnt. Thank you to all our parents, who supported our children in learning these lines, sourcing costumes and being there on the night.

Family Picnic

We adjusted our annual picnic this term to a Family Fundraiser! Though the rain changed our plans, we still enjoyed the traditional face-painting, cake sale, ice cream sale and book store and are incredibly grateful to those who donated to support these stalls. Welcoming the school community and celebrating alongside our parents and pupils at the end of the year is a much-valued and much-loved event here at BRW. I would like to extend a special thank you to Mrs Bolger and her artistic skills in providing creative face-paint for many of our children.

DATES

Wednesday 4th September
School Starts

Wednesday 18th September
Whole School Mass of
Welcome, 14.00

Tuesday 8th October
Parent Consultations

Wednesday 9th October
Parent Consultations

Thursday 10th October
World Mental Health Day

Wednesday 16th October
Harvest Mass, 14.00

WC 21st Oct to 1st Nov
Half-term break



Year 6 Leavers

We will of course be waving a fond goodbye to our Year 6s as they move to secondary school in September. We know that they will continue to move mountains and take the BRW spirit with them as they begin their next journey.

It was lovely to celebrate with them in a Leavers' Liturgy followed by a Leavers' disco. The Year 6s were awarded their Records of Achievement, which reminded us of their time here at school and the many ways in which they have lit up our school in the last eight years. We would also like to say farewell to some of our families who have been a great support to the school community. We wish you and your children the best of luck and we thank you for your continued love of BRW.

Faith in Action

Congratulations to the Faith in Action cohort of 2023-24, who earned their 'Faith In Action' award this term! We had a large Faith in Action team this year drawn from those in Year 6 who wished to earn the award. They attended several after-school sessions in which they explored ways to live out their faith in their everyday actions. In addition, they volunteered many hours of their time to support with our fundraising this year. Each and every one of the team produced an individual scrapbook, beautifully presented, with their thoughts, feelings and ideas on how they can share Jesus' mission.

End-of-term Mass

Our end-of-term mass was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the year. Fr. Wilfred led us in a beautiful homily, whilst so many of our children read, sang and supported in the offertory. Thank you to the parents, families and parishioners who were able to attend.

RCIA

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults course, (RCIA), will begin again in September. It is held weekly on Thursdays and follows the Sycamore programme where the Catholic faith is explored through study, exploration and faith sharing.

Everyone is welcome including adults currently not baptised in the Catholic faith and wish to know more; baptised Catholics who wish to receive the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Eucharist, and Catholic parishioners who would like to continue their learning of the faith. Please contact Catherine, the parish secretary, by email secretaryccolsp@gmail.com to register your interest and receive further information.

Farewell

At this time of year, we sometimes have to say a farewell to much-loved members of staff. You may already be aware that Miss Swaby and Mrs Head will be leaving us in order to take up new roles in new schools. In addition, we will be saying farewell to Miss Moffatt, who has kept our school clean and safe for a number of years. Finally, we also bid farewell to Fr. Wilfred as parish priest. As cherished members of our BRW community, they have always served our pupils and school with such love and care. We thank them from the bottom of our hearts and wish them the very best.

Welcome to the BRW Team

We warmly welcome Mrs Hudson, who will sharing her time between Year 2 and EYFS after the summer. Mrs Hudson brings much experience across a wide-range of year groups and we look forwards to working with her.

Finally, from all the staff and I at BRW, thank you for your support this year. We wish you a safe and happy summer holiday with your loved ones and look forward to seeing you in the new academic year.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs C Hautenne
Acting Head-of-School

