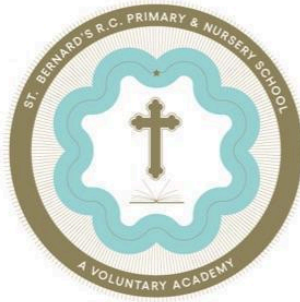


Our Vision:  
**EXCELLENCE  
IN ALL WE DO**



Our Mission:  
**TO GROW,  
LOVE AND LEARN  
FOLLOWING JESUS**

3-9-24

# WELCOME BACK!

Dear parents and families,

Welcome back to a new school year. I hope that you have all had a great summer break and enjoyed spending time with your families, friends and loved ones. It has been lovely to welcome the children back - they all look so smart. Our school assembly this afternoon was all about their feelings at this time of year. They shared their worries and concerns of being in a new classroom with new adults and new routines. The children were reminded that in time they will get used to it - it's all to be expected!

Some of you will already be aware that Miss Bowles has left St Bernard's to work with the Local Authority. She has worked in the school since 2003 in a variety of roles - such a long, committed length of service. I hope that Miss Bowles is able to attend an assembly soon so that the school community gets an opportunity to say thank you.

I am delighted to welcome two new teachers to our team. Mrs Lally will be teaching in Team 6 and Mr Owen in Team 5. They have spent time last term getting to know their class and I am sure that you will make them feel very welcome. As you know Miss Reid, our Assistant Headteacher, is continuing to lead a project 'Creativity Collaboratives' across The Holy Family Multi Academy Trust and other schools in the North-West. This brings valuable experiences and opportunities for our school. As Miss Reid spends more time on this role, Mrs Thomson will be sharing the Assistant Headteacher role.

Last year our whole school attendance was 92.2%. As you know, we aim for over 96%. We have had lots of children with childhood illnesses but please remember that once they are feeling well enough we are happy to administer medicine in school (Once relevant forms have been completed).

Whilst we understand and sympathise that with the cost of living at the moment, taking holidays during term time can be a lot cheaper, we cannot authorise requests and these will be registered as 'Unauthorised absences'. This is in line with the advice of Chester West LA Attendance managers. Thank you for your understanding.

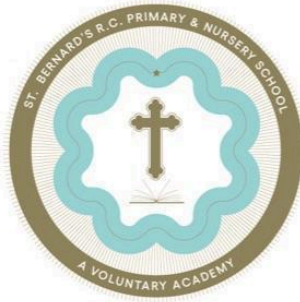
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Executive Headteacher:  
Mr S A Jevons  
BA (Hons) NPQH  
  
Head of school:  
Mrs J Le Feuvre  
BA (Hons) NPQH  
  
Assistant Head:  
Miss E Reid  
BA (Hons)



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If a child's attendance falls below a certain level, our attendance team will invite parents to school for an attendance panel meeting. These are not intended to blame or judge but rather an opportunity to offer support, if needed, or allow you to talk about your child's absence with a view to working together. If you receive a letter, please don't worry, just come in and have a chat with us.

We also have had an increase in unauthorised attendance. All schools have to report unauthorised absence to the Local Authority and you may be issued an Education Penalty Notice (EPN). Thank you for your cooperation with this.

As we start a new school year can you please ensure that your child wears the correct school uniform including appropriate shoes. Children can come into school on PE days dressed in their PE kit (This consists of navy shorts, plain white t-shirt and black pumps/trainers. In winter months jogging bottoms or leggings can be worn for PE lessons outside).

Please note that jewellery, including earrings, should not be worn and children will be asked to remove such items. Pumps/trainers should only be worn on PE days.

As you know our main sources of communication are mobile texts, Arbor and the school website. We are increasingly using Arbor as we strive to become paperless. Most school days myself, or another member of school staff, are on the playground. Please do feel that you can come and chat to us about anything that might be worrying or concerning you. We are all working together for your children.

Thank you once again for being an integral part of our school community. Your partnership is vital to our success, and we truly appreciate all that you do.

Julie Le Feuvre

Head of School

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