



# Our Lady Catholic Primary School

Woodhall Lane, Welwyn Garden City

Hertfordshire AL7 3TF

Tel: (01707 324408)

Email: [admin@ourladys527.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@ourladys527.herts.sch.uk)

Website: [www.ourladys527.herts.sch.uk](http://www.ourladys527.herts.sch.uk)

*Headteacher: Mr. R. Curry*

6<sup>th</sup> January, 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **A HAPPY, BLESSED AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL!**

My first letter of 2023 comes with my very best wishes for a wonderful new year for all of you. I trust that you have all had a chance to relax, reflect and enjoy the company and love of your families over the Christmas holiday period. On behalf of all the team at Our Lady, I would like to thank you for your generosity over Christmas – it was truly appreciated by all of us. Thank you very much!

### **Our School Community:**



We were delighted to welcome Rega and Luther (in Reception), Sophia, Sali and Carla (in Year 1) and Rudi (in Year 2) to our school community in the autumn term. We have been so happy to see how quickly the families have settled into life at Our Lady's. Thank you to all of our parents, carers and children for helping to make our new families feel so welcome and part of our school community.

### **Epiphany Mass:**

It was such a joy to celebrate the mass this morning to mark the Feast of the Epiphany, to commemorate the visit of the wise men to worship the baby Jesus. This morning's service was celebrated by Fr. Norbert and it was such a wonderful sight seeing all of our children (and staff) attending mass wearing their glorious crowns – to represent the Magi. It was also a lovely way to start the new term for the school community and it was so nice to see so many parents, carers and friends of the school at the church. We hope you enjoyed the service.





**Nursery and Reception Class Admissions for September 2023 (for children who reach the age of 3 or 4 between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023):**



We are delighted to say that our school is extremely popular and we have had a great deal of interest in both our Nursery and Reception places - but we would not like any of our families to miss the deadline for applications for admission to our school in September. If you have a child who reached or will be reaching the age of 3 between the above dates and you would like them to join our Nursery class (which includes 30 hours provision), or you have a child who reached or will be reaching the age of 4 between the above dates and you would like them to join our Reception class, please ensure that your application forms are handed in before **January 15<sup>th</sup> 2023**.

**Class Assemblies:**



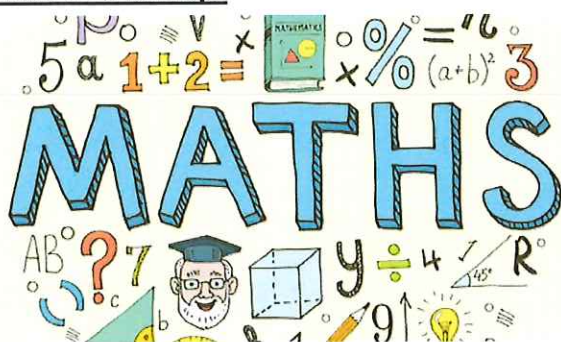
This term sees the return of our very popular class assemblies, which give the children the opportunity to share their work with an audience. The children are delighted when their parents and carers attend and you are always welcome, whether it is to see your own child's class or another year group. Assemblies will begin at 2.45pm.

The dates for the assemblies this term are as follows:-

Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> January	–	Year 1
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> February	–	Year 2
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	–	Year 3
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	–	Year 4
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	–	Year 5

Year 6 will be presenting a very special Lenten Assembly based on the 'Journey to the Cross' at **2.00pm on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2023**.

**Maths Workshop:**



We are delighted to announce that we will be running a Maths workshop for parents and carers of all classes in the spring term. In this session, Mrs Avery will be explaining how maths is taught at our school and sharing some key strategies with you. Parents and carers attending will also have the opportunity to take part in some activities with their children, making it

a family based workshop. Mrs Avery will also be showing you how the teaching of maths progresses from one key stage to the other. This workshop will take place on **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March** at 9.15am in the school hall and is free of charge.

We are planning to deliver more parent workshops in the summer term and hope to further strengthen the positive relationships that the school has with our parent community. Working in partnership with our parents and carers will ensure that our children receive the very best education that they can at our school.



## Themes and Values:



To support the delivery of our Catholic Social Teaching curriculum, this half term's whole-school theme is 'Family and Community'. The two values which we are associating with this are 'Love' and 'Helpfulness' and the importance of our families and our community will be explored in our RE lessons. Our whole-school theme will change on a half termly basis and will always be supported by two of our Gospel values.

## Uniform:

We are really grateful to all parents for supporting our uniform code. Our school uniform can be purchased on-line from 'Your Team Sportswear' on the following website: [www.yourteamsportswear.co.uk](http://www.yourteamsportswear.co.uk)

Can I remind all parents to ensure that their child adheres to the following guidelines:

The uniform is as follows:

- Navy sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo on.
- Sky blue polo shirt with school logo on.
- Grey trousers/skirt/or pinafore dress.
- Light blue and white checked dress and/or grey shorts (*summer*).
- Tights should be navy or grey.
- Black school shoes; no trainers, boots, high heels, sandals.



Ideally there should be no jewellery worn at school. If jewellery is worn, please take note of the following guidelines:

- Small plain studs, one in each ear.
- Small watches (at your own risk).
- No logos or shapes in boys' hair or eyebrows.
- All girls with hair below the shoulders **must** be tied back.
- Hair bands; **navy** or **black** scrunchies or elastic bands.
- No make-up or nail varnish.

We will be continuing to have children come to school in their PE kits on the day that their class has PE. The school PE kit should be as follows:

- White T-shirt (ideally with our school logo). School jumpers can also be worn in the colder months.
- Plain navy school shorts (*plain navy jogging trousers for the colder months*).
- Black plimsolls/trainers.

### **Birthdays:**

We would like to wish all of the following children a very happy birthday during the month of January:

Nursery	–	Emilia and Rafael
Reception	–	Stella, Quinn and Kayden
Year 1	–	Arlo
Year 2	–	Pari and Lily
Year 3	–	Karola and Liliana
Year 4	–	Regan and Preeya
Year 5	–	Chase and Gabriel
Year 6	–	n/a



### **Dates for the Diary:**

Below is a list of dates for your diaries – further information will be given later in the term with regards to upcoming class trips. I hope you find these useful.

JANUARY 2023	
6 <sup>th</sup>	First day of term
6 <sup>th</sup>	Epiphany Mass at church (9.15am)
10 <sup>th</sup>	Full Governing Body Meeting (6.00pm)
11 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 swimming lessons begin
20 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Quiz Night (7.00pm)
23 <sup>rd</sup>	'Bird Man' Assembly (9.30am)
24 <sup>th</sup>	'Mini Police' programme starts in Year 5 (2.00pm)
25 <sup>th</sup>	Burns Night
25 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 Class Assembly (2.45pm)
27 <sup>th</sup>	Holocaust Memorial Day
31 <sup>st</sup>	'Mini Police' programme in Year 5 (2.00pm)

FEBRUARY 2023	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Year 2 Class Assembly (2.45pm)
w/c 4 <sup>th</sup>	Children's Mental Health Week begins
7 <sup>th</sup>	Safer Internet Day
7 <sup>th</sup>	'Mini Police' programme in Year 5 (2.00pm)
8 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 Class Assembly (2.45pm)
10 <sup>th</sup>	Our Lady of Lourdes Assembly with Fr. Norbert (10.50am)
10 <sup>th</sup>	Valentines Disco (3.30pm)
w/c 13 <sup>th</sup>	HALF TERM HOLIDAY
20 <sup>th</sup>	INSET DAY – School closed for children
w/c 21 <sup>st</sup>	Other Faiths Week in RE - Islam
21 <sup>st</sup>	'Mini Police' programme in Year 5 (2.00pm)
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Ash Wednesday – Fr Norbert in to distribute ashes
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Lenten Reflections begin in hall (8.40am)
28 <sup>th</sup>	'Mini Police' programme in Year 5 (2.00pm)



MARCH 2023	
1 <sup>st</sup>	National Offer Day for Secondary Schools
1 <sup>st</sup>	St. David's Day
1 <sup>st</sup>	Year 4 Class Assembly (2.45pm)
2 <sup>nd</sup>	World Book Day
7 <sup>th</sup>	'Mini Police' programme in Year 5 (2.00pm)
8 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 Class Assembly (2.45pm)
14 <sup>th</sup>	'Mini Police' programme in Year 5 (2.00pm)
17 <sup>th</sup>	St. Patrick's Day
19 <sup>th</sup>	Mothering Sunday
21 <sup>st</sup>	World Poetry Day
21 <sup>st</sup>	Wonder Dome (observatory) arriving in school
21 <sup>st</sup>	'Mini Police' programme in Year 5 (2.00pm)
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Stations of the Cross with Fr Norbert (9.15am)
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Maths Parent Workshop in the school hall (9.15am)
30 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 presents 'The Journey to the Cross' (2.00pm)
31 <sup>st</sup>	Reports handed out to parents
31 <sup>st</sup>	END OF TERM (School closes at 1.00pm)
7 <sup>th</sup> April	GOOD FRIDAY
9 <sup>th</sup> April	EASTER SUNDAY

*Please note that events may also be subject to change. If this happens, you will be informed as soon as possible.*

Please remember that our summer term begins on **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2023.**

Once again, I would like to thank you for your continued support for our school over this academic year. Working in partnership with our parents and carers will ensure that our children receive the very best education that they can at Our Lady Catholic Primary School.

With very best wishes for 2023 - this promises to be a very fruitful and successful year.

Kind regards,



Richard Curry

