



Our Lady Catholic Primary School

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9th January, 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

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

My first letter of 2024 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's, 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 Cyrus (in Year 1), Malek, Daniel-Sean and Hanniel (in Year 2) and Ria (in Year 3) 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.

Nursery and Reception Class Admissions for September 2024 (for children who reach the age of 3 or 4 between 1st September 2023 to 31st August 2024):



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 15th 2024.**

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.

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 7 th February	–	Year 1
Wednesday 14 th February	–	Year 2
Wednesday 28 th February	–	Year 3
Wednesday 6 th March	–	Year 5
Wednesday 13 th March	–	Year 6

Year 4 will be presenting a very special Lenten Assembly based on the 'Journey to the Cross' at **2.00pm** on **Wednesday 27th March, 2024**.

Tottenham Hotspur Global Football Development Programme:



We were delighted to have a Global Football Development Coach from Tottenham Hotspur Football Club come to our school today to deliver football taster sessions to our children. These sessions are an authentic, innovative, and an inclusive football provision for our children, to INSPIRE and IGNITE their imagination and interest in football. The sessions will focus on increasing the knowledge, competency, and confidence of all children through a well-structured philosophy and coaching methodology of Tottenham Hotspur Football Club.

The sessions will be running on the following two days:

- Tuesday 9th January – Years 1, 3 and 4
- Tuesday 16th January – Years 2, 5 and 6

We are very much looking forward to welcoming the coaches to our school.

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 14th March** from 9.00am until 10.15am in the school hall and is free of charge.

Uniform:

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

- 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:

- Our new blue polo shirt, which can be purchased from Smartys Schoolwear in Hatfield. This top is being phased in over the course of the year so there is no rush to go and purchase one immediately.
- If you do not yet have the blue polo shirt, please continue to send your child into school with their 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.



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 2024	
4th	INSET DAY – School closed for children
5th	First day of term
9th	Spurs Football Camp (Years 1, 3 & 4)
9th	Young Herts Healthy Relationships (Year 6)
10th	Swimming begins for Year 4
10th	Full Governing Board Meeting (5pm)
15th	Dr Martin Luther King Jr Day
16th	Spurs Football Camp (Years 2, 5 & 6)
17th	Young Herts Healthy Relationships (Year 6)
18th	Football Match v Watchlytes at 3.30pm (Parents invited to attend)
21st	World Religion Day
23rd	'Mini Police' programme starts in Year 5 (2.00pm)
24th	'Portals to the Past' Workshop in Year 5
25th	Burns Night
26th	Year 3 Trip to Harry Potter World
27th	Holocaust Memorial Day
30th	'Mini Police' programme in Year 5 (2.00pm)

FEBRUARY 2024	
2nd	Governor Day at Our Lady's
2nd	Candlemas Mass at school (<i>Parents invited to attend</i>)
5th	Children's Mental Health Week
6th	Safer Internet Day
6th	'Mini Police' programme in Year 5 (2.00pm)
7th	Year 1 Class Assembly at 2.45pm (<i>Parents invited to attend</i>)
9th	Our Lady of Lourdes Assembly with Fr. Norbert (9.15am)
9th	Football Match v Peartree at 3.45pm (<i>Parents invited to attend</i>)
13th	Shrove Tuesday
13th	'Mini Police' programme in Year 5 (2.00pm)
14th	Ash Wednesday – Fr Norbert to distribute ashes in class
14th	Lenten Reflections begin
14th	Year 2 Class Assembly at 2.45pm (<i>Parents invited to attend</i>)
16th	PTA Valentines Disco at 3.30pm
w/c 19th	HALF TERM HOLIDAY
26th	INSET DAY – School closed for children
w/c 26th	Other Faiths Week in RE - Islam
27th	'Mini Police' programme in Year 5 (2.00pm)
28th	Year 3 Class Assembly at 2.45pm (<i>Parents invited to attend</i>)

MARCH 2024	
1st	National Offer Day for Secondary Schools
1st	St. David's Day
4th	Perform Workshop for EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2
5th	Y6 Trip to RAF Hendon
5th	'Mini Police' programme in Year 5 (2.00pm)
6th	Year 5 Class Assembly at 2.45pm (<i>Parents invited to attend</i>)
7th	World Book Day
8th	International Women's Day
10th	Mothering Sunday

10th	Ramadan begins
12th	'Mini Police' programme in Year 5 (2.00pm)
13th	Year 6 Class Assembly at 2.45pm (<i>Parents invited to attend</i>)
17th	St. Patrick's Day
19th	'Mini Police' programme in Year 5 (2.00pm)
20th	Full Governing Board Meeting (5pm)
21st	World Poetry Day
24th	Palm Sunday
27th	Year 4 Stations of the Cross at 2pm (<i>Parents invited to attend</i>)
28th	Maundy Thursday
28th	Reports sent out to parents
28th	END OF TERM (School closes at 1.00pm)
29th	GOOD FRIDAY
31st	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 **Tuesday 16th April, 2024.**

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 2024 - this promises to be a very fruitful and successful year.

Kind regards,

Richard Curry