

## **Our Lady Catholic Primary School**

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Headteacher: Mr. R. Curry

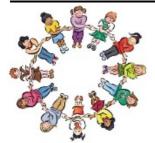
9th January, 2024

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 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> 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), <u>or</u> 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> **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<sup>th</sup> February Year 1 Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February Year 2 Wednesday 28th February Year 3 Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March Year 5 Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> 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:**



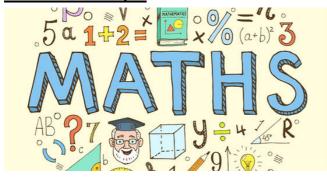
We were delighted to have a Global Football Development Coach from Tottenham Hotspur Football Club come to our school today to deliver football taster sessions to our children. These sessions are an authentic, innovative, and an inclusive football provision for our children, to INSPIRE and IGNITE their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

The sessions will be running on the following two days:

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January
 Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January
 Years 1, 3 and 4
 Years 2, 5 and 6

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

#### Maths Workshop –



We are delighted to announce that once again Mrs Avery will be running her 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 in each year group 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 14<sup>th</sup> March** from 9.00am until 10.15am 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.

#### **Uniform:**

We are really grateful to all parents for supporting our uniform code. Our school uniform can be purchased from Smartys Schoolwear in Hatfield.

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:

- 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.



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

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

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

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