



Our Lady Catholic Primary School

Woodhall Lane, Welwyn Garden City

Hertfordshire AL7 3TF

Tel: (01707 324408)

Email: admin@ourladys527.herts.sch.uk

Website: www.ourladys527.herts.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr. R. Curry

Deputy Headteacher: Mr. D. Abrahams

Monday 28th June, 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we enter the final straight of this summer term, I thought I would share with you some important news about the school.

Goodbye Miss Bunnage:



We are very sad to be saying goodbye to Miss Bunnage at the end of this academic year. Miss Bunnage, who joined the school back in 2018, has been a highly valued member of our team and has worked tirelessly in her dual role as both a trainee teacher and a teaching assistant throughout this past year. She has really thrived in this combined role and has proved herself to be an incredibly driven and organised practitioner, with the interests of the children being at the forefront of everything that she does. The pastoral care that she has provided the children with in her time at the school is also second to none. We wish Miss Bunnage the very best of luck as she takes up her new role in a school in Hatfield. On behalf of the staff, governors and pupils of the school, I would like to thank Miss Bunnage for her dedicated service to Our Lady Catholic Primary School and we wish her the very best of luck in the future.

Staffing for 2020/21:



Please see below for a list of the teaching responsibilities for the next academic year. We are planning to provide the children with an opportunity of meeting their new class teachers in an outdoors 'transition' event in the final week of term.

Class	Teaching Team
Nursery	Mrs Sweet (4 mornings) and Miss McDonald (1 morning)
Reception	Mrs Ferrin and Mrs Staniforth
Year 1	Mrs Avery and Mrs Green
Year 2	Mrs Weaver and Mrs O'Donnell
Year 3	Miss Pearce and Mrs Digby
Year 4	Mrs Wilson and Ms. Moore-Shields
Year 5	Mrs Valentine and Mrs Hill
Year 6	Mrs Lee (3 days), Mr Abrahams (2 days) and Mrs Hobbs

As many of you may not have actually met your child's new class teacher in person over the course of this year, we will be setting up a special online 'Meet the Teacher' meeting at the start of the new year, in which your child's class teacher can share with

you what the children will be learning throughout the term. We will let you know the dates and times of these meetings early on in September, when the new term begins.

End of Year Reports:



Due to the school closures in the spring term, we made the strategic decision of holding back on sending our children's reports out until the end of what has been an extraordinary and unprecedented year. We are very aware that many parents and carers are keen to understand what impact the events of the past year have had on their child's education. In order to minimise the impact on children's learning, we have been working hard throughout the summer term 'bridging work' and building new pathways to learning by making links between previous learning, lockdown learning and new learning.

We are very keen to share your child's progress with you and share in the successes of the 'recovery' strategies that we have put in place. Reports will be handed out to families on **Wednesday 14th July, 2021.**

Summer Term Parent Questionnaires:



As part of our on-going self-evaluation and review, we are continually looking at everything to do with the quality of provision at our school, including teaching and learning, our Catholic values and ethos and the safeguarding and well-being of our children (especially post-lockdown). As you know, we recently asked parents and carers to respond to an online questionnaire about their views of our school. We have analysed the responses and are now using the information received to celebrate what we do well and to identify those areas that we need to develop or improve in order to make the school an even better place for our children. We are really pleased to share the following headline results with you:

- 100% of parents agreed or strongly agreed that their child is happy at our school.
- 100% of parents agreed or strongly agreed that their child feels safe.
- 100% of parents agreed or strongly agreed that their child is well looked after at school.
- 100% of parents agreed or strongly agreed that our school is well led and managed.
- 98% of parents agreed or strongly agreed that their child is taught well at our school.
- 98% of parents agreed or strongly agreed that their child is making good progress at school.
- 98% of parents agreed or strongly agreed that pupils are well behaved at our school.
- 100% of parents agreed or strongly agreed that their child is offered a distinctively Catholic education.
- 100% of parents agreed or strongly agreed that there are strong links between the school and the Parish.
- 100% of parents agreed or strongly agreed that they would recommend our school to other parents/carers.

Here are some of the ‘headline’ comments that our parents/carers made about our school:

- The school has a really welcoming environment.
- The school is led very effectively by the leadership team.
- All families feel like they are part of a special community.
- Teaching staff are amazing at what they do and have really gone the extra mile this year.
- Everybody is well mannered and very respectful.
- The school creates a nurturing and innovative environment that encourages each child to be the best they can be – both academically and as a person.
- My children are extremely happy here.
- The support that my child has received, who has additional needs, goes above and beyond what other schools do.
- Children’s behaviour is fantastic.
- The school offers a wonderful Catholic education and is very spiritual.

Here are some of the ways that parents/carers feel our school could be improved:

- Please just carry on doing what you are doing!
- Communication about key dates could be sent earlier.
- School lunches are not always of the highest quality.
- ‘Wraparound’ care – providing an after school club that runs to 6pm (to run alongside our breakfast club).
- Providing a wider range of after school clubs, as opposed to just sporting clubs (e.g. art, music, etc).
- Providing increasing levels of challenge for some children.

An immediate action to report to you is that, based on feedback in the questionnaires, we are sending out an initial consultation to gauge parental interest in the provision of ‘wraparound’ care (e.g. childcare outside of normal school hours, such as breakfast club and an after school club that runs until 6pm). If we feel that there is enough interest in this provision, we will seek to set up a later after school club that can run alongside our current clubs. We are also looking at expanding the range of after school clubs that we are currently providing and are exploring the possibility of starting a drama club, a music club and an art club next year.

We really appreciate each and every one of the parents and carers who took the time to fill out the questionnaire. It is very much appreciated by everyone at the school and I hope that you can see that we take all of your comments and suggestions very seriously as we seek to further improve our provision.

Dates for the Diary:

Please see an updated list of key dates for the final two weeks below:

JULY 2021	
5 th	Sports Day: Year 1 - 12.45pm Year 2 - 2.00pm
7 th	Sports Day: Year 6 - 12.45pm Year 5 - 2.00pm Year 6 School Disco/Pizza Party - 5.30pm

JULY 2021	
8 th	Sports Day: EYFS - 9.30am Year 3 - 12.45pm Year 4 - 2.00pm Year 6 Secondary Transition Day (online)
9 th	PTA Summer Fun Day
15 th	Leavers' Mass – 2.15pm
16 th	Leavers' Assembly – 12.45pm END OF TERM (School closes at 1.30pm)

As always, we thank you for your continued support and co-operation throughout this year. The resilience, aptitude and determination to succeed that our whole school community has demonstrated throughout the lockdowns (and beyond!) has been phenomenal. We truly appreciate all that you have done to support the school throughout this year and we also want to reiterate how proud we are of each and every one of the children at our school. We have a very special family here at Our Lady's and your commitment to the school has been an essential part of our success. Thank you!

Should you have any further questions regarding the information in this letter please do not hesitate to get in touch. We are all really looking forward to spending an enjoyable final three weeks with your wonderful children.

Kind regards,

Richard Curry

