

Newsletter

No. 4. 11th November 2022

Website: www.ourladys.devon.sch.uk

Twitter: @OurLadys_School Telephone: 01271 345164

In Our Lady's Catholic Primary School we learn about God and try to follow his footsteps by showing care and respect for one another.

Dear Parents and Carers

Firstly it was lovely to see many of you at the recent parents' evenings this week. These meetings are a really important opportunity to share your child's progress as well as discuss any concerns or worries you may have.

For those who failed to turn up, you will shortly receive an invitation to arrange another appointment. We do ask that if you can't make agreed appointments with members of staff, you show us the courtesy of letting us know beforehand.

It was lovely to attend the Barnstaple Town Remembrance Service with the Kingfisher class today. They represented the school beautifully, showing reverence and respect for the occasion.

A gentle reminder that if your child is going to be absent from school, you must ring in the office by no later than 9.30am. We also require that you ring to report the absence on every subsequent day following the initial absence. This is an essential part of ensuring the safeguarding of our children and families.

The school is in the process of updating its Behaviour Policy. The new policy will now be called Good Behaviour and Relationships Policy. A draft copy is attached to this email. If you have any feedback on the policy, please can you share these to admin@olcs.uk by Friday 25th November.

Upper Key Stage Two were fortunate enough this week to join in the BAE Systems, RAF & Royal Navy Education Programme Roadshow 2022. We will share some photos of this event through our social media platforms.

This Wednesday, 9th, was our first Toddler Group run by Cathy Jeffery. This is a free group for parents/ carers and their young children to meet, socialise and play. The sessions take place on a Wednesday between 2-3pm. If you're interested in joining the group please make contact with the school office.

Please don't forget the deadline for your child's School Council application is today, Friday 11th. Please make sure any last minute entries are with your child's class teacher by the end of the school day.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

God Bless.

Mr Meech and Miss Wilby

Autumn Term Dates

Fri 11th Nov School Council Applications Close

w/c 14th Nov School Council Elections Mon 14th Nov Shoebox Appeal Deadline

Tues 15th Nov Applications open for Primary

Admissions for Sept 2023

Wed 16th Nov Kingfisher Class Swimming

Wed 16th Nov Barn A B's Toddler Group 2-3pm
Fri 18th Nov Children in Need—spotty day
Wed 23rd Nov Kingfisher Class Swimming

Wed 30th Nov Kingfisher Class Swimming Wed 7th Dec Last Kingfisher Swimming

Fri 9th Dec South Molton Brass Band visiting
Tues 13th Dec Nativity Performance at Church

Weds 14th Dec Christmas Dinner Day

Thurs 15th Dec Advent Mass, 10am at Church

Thu 15th Dec Last day of term

Wed 4th Jan Pupils Return to School

Any future dates will be shared via parentmail.

Parent Autism Workshop Opportunities

The following topic-based workshops are available for parents/carers of children and young people who are currently on the Autism assessment pathway, in addition to families of children and young people who have received an autism diagnosis.

Topic based Workshops

Friday 18th Nov 10am-12noon Demand avoidance + PDA

Friday 25th Nov 10am-12noon Sensory processing and integration

Wednesday 7th Dec 10am-12noon Managing stress and anxiety

Friday 9th Dec—10am-12noon Vulnerability and online safety

Tuesday 13th Dec 10am-12noon Communication—pre/non verbal—support strategies

If you are interested in attending any of these free workshops, lease apply direct by email to: educationlearnersupport@devon.gov.uk

Operation Christmas Child

This is one of our children's favourite charities and we have always had an excellent response. It is wonderful seeing all the shoeboxes stacked up in school.

Shoeboxes will need to be returned to school by 14th November. Further details can be found on their website:-

www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk.

As a school we have signed up to access the National on-line Safety software.



They provide regular updates and access to short videos that will help you stay informed on the latest online safety news, quickly gain practical tips and advice, and access free online resources.

Please can you register via the link below to allow you to start accessing these useful and important resources:

https://nationalonlinesafety.com/enrol/our-lady-sschool

On this week of remembrance we pray for all the departed, especially family members and friends.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Amen



Thank you for supporting the poppy appeal. We sold out of all the British Legion Supplies given to us.



We are supporting Children in Children Need this year on Friday 18th November. This will be a wear

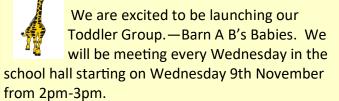
something spotty day or a non school uniform day for £1. Please do not buy anything spotty just for the day, children can simply wear their own clothes and not come into school in school uniform.

The next newsletter will go home on: Friday 2nd December 2022

Please visit the class pages on the school website for up to date termly information and parent newsletters.

Our Lady's School takes incidents of bullying, including on-line safety seriously. For further information the school's policy is available on our website or please see your child's class teacher if you have any concerns. www.safer.internet.org.uk

Barn-a-b's at Our Lady's



The aim of the group is to welcome all Parents/ Carers with babies and toddlers of 0-5 to socialise, mix and play together in order to help boost speech, language, emotional and social skills. It's also a great opportunity for all adults to get together for a chat.

The group will be run by Barn A B's and Our Lady's staff. Sessions will be **FREE** and may include some outdoor sessions too. If you are interested in joining the group, please could you email admin@olcs.uk or just come along at 2pm on a Wednesday. Please feel free to bring friends and family with young children along.

We are collecting shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child , please could these be brought into pre-school by Monday 14th November. Further details of what items can go in the boxes can be found on their website:-

www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk.

Cathy Jeffery Pre-School Nursery Manager

Headteacher's Awards

Very well done to the following children who have a been earned Headteacher's Awards over the last few weeks:-



Grace Reva

We are very proud of you.

Please see the separate attached information on the Christmas Sports Clubs. These are to be booked directly with Primary Sports and not through the school.

Attendance

Congratulations to **OWL** class who have the highest attendance for the Autumn

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

term so far at **97.19%** closely followed by **PUFFIN** class at **96.64%** and **SWALLOW** class at **96.59%**.

Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day

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Christmas lunch will be on Wednesday 14th December at a cost of £2.34 (except for Reception



and KS1 children who receive free school meals). If you would like your child to have a school Christmas lunch, turkey and all the trimmings, on this day please book the meal via Scopay in the 'Calendar' section by Monday 27th November.

Even if your child normally receives school dinners and/or free school meals, please ensure that this festive lunch is booked separately. Children and staff are invited to wear a Christmas Jumper for the day at no charge however donations of food for the foodbank will be gratefully received.

Scopay/Invoice Payments

Invoices will be sent out this week for monies due for Breakfast and After School Clubs and Pre-School fees. Please could these be settled via Scopay (ideally) or cash to the school office. Some of these are for small amounts that continue to be issued each month without being settled. To keep our administration costs down it is important that these are paid on time.

Kingfisher Class Swimming

Kingfisher class will continue to go swimming every Wednesday up to and including the 7th December. These swimming lessons are heavily subsidised by the school but we would be grateful if you could make your contribution of £12 via SCOPAY (if you have not already done so).

Please ensure that you child has their swimming kit, towel and goggles (if necessary) along with a warm coat. As they will be walking to and from Tarka Leisure Centre.

Primary Admissions 2023/24

Was your child born between 1 September 2018 and 31 August 2019?

Applications can be made from 15th November for a primary school place for September 2023. You must apply for your child's school place by 15th January 2023 for primary school admissions in September 2023.

You can apply for a school place online at: www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline

If you cannot access the school admissions website you can get more information by calling the Education Helpline on 0345 155 1019 or by emailing :-primaryschooladmissions@devon.gov.uk.

If you need help applying online or haven't got internet access at home please contact the school, we would be more than happy to help you. You can view your offer on-line from 16th April 2023.

Please ensure that the 2023 Supplementary Form for this school is returned to the school office by 15th January 2023. This form is available from the school office, Barn a B's Pre-School or via the school's website:- www.ourladys.devon.sch.uk under 'Key Documents' and in the 'Admissions' section.

Without this form your child may be lower in the priorities for admission and risk not getting a place at Our Lady's School.

Autism and Us Programme 2022

The programme is for parents and carers of Devon primary and secondary school children, pre or post-diagnosis. Access is for families of children and young people who are currently on the autism assessment pathway, in addition to families of children and young people who have received an autism diagnosis.

Is this course for me?

During and after a diagnosis, parents and carers can have many questions about autism and may feel isolated in managing their child's needs. Children's needs also change over time, and information and advice received when a child is younger may need to be updated to be relevant for the child or young person today.

Attending the Autism and Us Programme gives parents and carers an opportunity to develop their understanding of autism and look at practical solutions to managing and supporting presenting needs.

4 weekly 'live online' sessions (approximately 2 hours each) related to the following topics or themes:

Autism Overview - Tues 15 Nov: 10 am - 12 pm Communication - Tues 22 Nov: 10 am - 12 pm

Understanding and supporting behaviour - Tues 29 Nov: 10 am - 12 pm

Sensory - Tues 6 Dec: 10 am - 12 pm

To secure a place on any of the above programmes, or to express your interest in forthcoming programmes, please send an email to educationlearnersupport@devon.gov.uk.

We will confirm your booking and provide you with a direct link to the event.

Events will be delivered online 'live' using the Microsoft Teams platform.



WHAT ARE THE RISKS? and, with built-in translation software, it reduces the expected language barriers.
Focusing heavily on one-to-one chat, video calls and live streams, Amigo encourages
its users to build up online relationships and unlock exclusive features such as private video and audio calls: essentially, the more that people chat, the more functions become available to them. This is an app designed with mature users very much in mind and is therefore definitely not recommended for children.

MEMBERSHIP COSTS

LACK OF AGE VERIFICATION

Advice for Parents & Carers

MONITOR DOWNLOADS

RESPECT AGE RESTRICTIONS



BLOCK, REPORT, DISCUSS

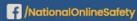
ACTIVE LISTENING













(O) @nationalonlinesafety

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about





Defined as "ongoing hurtful behaviour towards someone online", cyber-bullying makes its victims feel upset, uncomfortable and unsafe. In the digital world, it has numerous forms – such as hurtful comments on a person's posts or profile; deliberately leaving them out of group chats; sharing embarrassing images or videos of someone; or spreading gossip about them. Cyber-bullying can severely impact a young person's mental health ... so, in support of Anti-Bullying Week, we've provided a list of tips to help trusted adults know what to look for and how to respond to it.

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GET CONNECTED

2. KEEP TALKING

3. STAY VIGILANT

4. MAKE YOURSELF AVAILABLE

If an online bullying incident does occur, it may take a while before your child is ready to open up about what happened. Just gently remind them that they can always come to you with any problems – and that they won't be in trouble. You might also suggest a trusted family member they could turn to, in case they feel too embarrassed to tell you directly.

5. BE PREPARED TO LISTEN

FURTHER SUPPORT AND ADVICE

If you or your child need additional help with an online bullying issue, here are some specialist organisations that you could reach out to.

Childline: talk to a trained counsellor on 0800 1111 or online at www.childline.org.uk/get-support/

The NSPCC: the children's charity has a guide to the signs of bullying at www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying/ and can be reached on 0808 800 5000

6. EMPOWER YOUR CHILD

Depending on their age, your child might not want a parent 'fighting their battles for them'. In that case, talk through their options with them (blocking the perpetrator, deleting the app and so on). By allowing your child to choose the path they take, you're putting them in control but are also demonstrating that you're there to support them along the way.

7. REPORT BULLIES ONLINE

8. ENCOURAGE EMPATHY

9. SEEK EXPERT ADVICE

10. INVOLVE THE AUTHORITIES

If the nature of any online bullying makes you suspect that your child is genuinely in imminent physical danger or if there are any signs whatsoever of explicit images being shared as part of the bullying – then you should gather any relevant screenshots as evidence and report the incidents to your local police force.

Meet Our Expert







National Online Safety

*WakeUpWednesday



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



@natonlinesafety





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