



# Newsletter

No. 5. 2nd December 2022

Website: [www.ourladys.devon.sch.uk](http://www.ourladys.devon.sch.uk)

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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

As we move into today the season of Advent, we begin to prepare for the birth of Jesus and the celebration of Christmas. Therefore it is a really busy time in school; children are working hard in their lessons and preparing for forthcoming events. A list of these events are outlined in today's newsletter.

It is with sadness that we say goodbye to three teachers at the end of this term. Mrs Fryers and Miss Sobey will leave their roles as Eagle and Kingfisher class teachers.

After many years of wonderful service, we are saying goodbye to Mrs Hynes. Mrs Hynes is a much loved member of our school community who has given great service to our children and families. She will be most fondly remembered for her musical talents and the joy this has brought to the school. We are delighted that Mrs Hynes will continue to provide music lessons for children in school.

The school is currently in the process of recruiting new teachers for January and more information will be shared in due course.

God Bless.

Kind regards

Mr Meech & Miss Wilby

## Autumn Term Dates

Mon 5th Dec	CAST Advent Assembly (children only)
Wed 7th Dec	Last Kingfisher Swimming
Thu 8th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day £1
Fri 9th Dec	South Molton Brass Band visiting (children only)
Tues 13th Dec	Nativity Performance at Church (Barn A Bs, Robin, Heron and Puffin Classes involved—Parents/Carers invited) - 10.30am
Weds 14th Dec	Christmas Dinner Day (and Christmas Jumper Day)
Thurs 15th Dec	Advent Mass, 10am at Church (Parents/Carers invited)
Thu 15th Dec	Christmas Carols at School 1.30pm (Parents/Carers invited)
Thu 15th Dec	Last day of term
Wed 4th Jan	Pupils Return to School

Any future dates will be shared via parentpay.

## Parent Helpers to walk down to church

If any parents/Carers can accompany their children's classes to and from church for the nativity and/or the Advent Mass please contact your class teacher via dojo.

## The Travelling Crib

This week sees the start of our special project for Advent – 'The Travelling Crib'. Each class has a crib that will go home with a different family for each evening up to Candlemas. We hope that the 'Travelling Crib' will help our children remember the journey Mary and Joseph made to Bethlehem and give them time to stop and think about the true meaning of Christmas. Please may I draw your attention to the Health and Safety notice included with the crib.



Thank you to everyone that helped support our 'Spotty Day' for Children in Need. We raised an amazing **£225.00**

## Parent Autism Workshop Opportunities

The 'Autism & Us' programme and themed workshops delivered this academic year will once again be offered during the Spring term for parents/carers of Devon primary and secondary school children, pre or post diagnosis.

These workshops are for Children & Young People who are currently on the autism assessment pathway or who have received an autism diagnosis. Attending the 'Autism & Us' parent programme gives you an opportunity to develop your understanding of autism and look at practical solutions to managing and supporting your child's presenting needs.

Full programme details and application process below:

- Autism Overview—Prog 1 Weds 11th Jan 4.30pm—6.30pm Prog 2—Mon 6th Mar 10am-12noon
- Communication—Prog 1 Weds 18th Jan 4.30pm-6.30pm Prog 2—Mon 13th Mar 10am-12noon
- Understanding and supporting Behaviour—Prog 1 Weds 1st Feb 4.30pm-6.30pm  
Prog 2 Mon 20th Mar 10am-12noon
- Sensory—Prog 1 Weds 8th Feb 4.30pm-6.30pm Prog 2—Mon 27th Mar 10am-12noon

### Topic based workshops:

The following topic based workshops, are also available for parents/carers of CYP (Children & Young People) who are currently on the autism assessment pathway, in addition to families of CYP who have received an autism diagnosis. You can choose from these based on the relevance to you and your family.

- Autism – Sensory processing + integration - Tues 17 Jan 10am - 12noon
- Autism and Girls - Thurs 26 Jan 9.30am - 12noon
- Autism – Demand avoidance + PDA - Tues 23 Feb 10am - 12noon
- Autism – Communication (verbal – support strategies) - Tues 2 Mar 10am-12noon
- Autism – Managing stress + anxiety - Tues 14 Mar 10am - 12noon
- Autism – Vulnerability + online safety - Thurs 23 Mar 10am - 12noon
- Autism – Communication (pre/non verbal – support strategies) - Tues 28 Mar 10am - 12noon

Apply direct by email to: [educationlearnersupport@devon.gov.uk](mailto:educationlearnersupport@devon.gov.uk)

### Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day

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 via Scopay or by phoning the school office.



Even if your child normally receives school dinners and/or free school meals, please ensure that this festive lunch is booked separately by Wednesday 7th December. Children and staff are invited to wear a Christmas Jumper for the day at no charge.



The next newsletter will go home on:  
Wednesday 14th December 2022



*May the Lord  
bless us as we  
journey through  
Advent. May He  
open our ears to His call, our  
minds to His will and our  
hearts to say 'Yes' to His love.*





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

**IMPORTANT REMINDER** apply for your place at school by 15th January 2023. This is for children starting school in

September. If you are late you will be given the nearest available school.

We are looking forward to a fun week. The nativity is on Tuesday 13th at St Mary's church. The doors will not open before 10:30 to allow the children to get in and settled. Christmas dinner is on Wednesday 14th for children attending both sessions on that day. Please make sure this is booked by Wednesday 7th December.

Our last day is Thursday 15th December and we start back on the Wednesday 4th January.

**Cathy Jeffery**  
**Pre-School Nursery Manager**

### Attendance

**EVERY**  
SCHOOL DAY  
COUNTS

Congratulations to **OWL** class who have the highest attendance for the Autumn term so far at **97.19%** closely followed by **PUFFIN** class at **96.64%** and **SWALLOW** class at **96.59%**.

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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.

### Headteacher's Awards

Very well done to the following children who have a been earned



Jenson	Dylan W
Aden	Hayley
Dylan	Willow-Ivy
Doros	Mason

**Headteacher's Awards over the last two weeks:-**

### Christmas Jumper Day

**Children and staff are invited to wear their Christmas jumpers for the day (over the top of their uniform) on Thursday 8th December. We are asking for £1 for this to go to Care for Kids.**

**There will also be an opportunity to wear your Christmas Jumper on our Christmas Dinner day on Wednesday 14th December free of charge).**

### Eagle Class Swimming

Eagle class will be commencing swimming every Wednesday afternoon from Wednesday 11th January. Children will need to bring swimming kit into school with them and ensure they have a warm coat as they will be walking to and from the 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](http://www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline)

Or

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](mailto: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](http://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.



## CHRISTMAS EVENTS

**BIG CHRISTMAS CRAFT MORNING - DROP IN**  
Saturday 3rd December  
10am - 1pm

**ONO (DIXIE-SWING BAND) IN THE FOYER**  
Saturday 3rd December  
1pm - 2pm

**CHRISTMAS DRAWING WORKSHOP - BOOKING ESSENTIAL**  
Saturday 10th December  
2.30pm - 3.30pm

**STORIES UNDER THE TREE - BOOKING ESSENTIAL**  
Tuesday 13th December  
4.30pm - 5.30pm  
Stories & Songs Around the Tree plus hot chocolate by the BFGs.

**ORCHARD VALE SCHOOL SINGING IN THE FOYER**  
Wednesday 14th December 11.30-12

**CHRISTMAS HAF EVENTS - BOOKING ESSENTIAL**  
10am - 2pm  
Monday 19th, Tuesday 20th & Wednesday 21st  
Please ask for details  
HAF activities are available for children aged 5 to 11 years who are in receipt of benefit related free school meals





## HAF CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

**10am - 2pm**  
**HOT LUNCH & SNACKS INCLUDED**

**MONDAY 19th DECEMBER**  
Christmas Disco, Crafts, Activities & Fun!

**TUESDAY 20th DECEMBER**  
Creative Family Wellbeing Workshop & Other Activities

**WEDNESDAY 21st DECEMBER**  
Music Workshop, Pebble Painting & Crafts

HAF activities are available for children aged 7 to 11 years who are in receipt of benefit related free school meals

**LIMITED SPACES  
BOOKING ESSENTIAL**





### Pro-Active Parenting

We are delighted to be able to offer parents the opportunity to attend some parenting support sessions. Dates and times to be confirmed for the Spring Term. These will be run by an experienced practitioner, Sarah Watts, who has previously run the Patchwork Parenting group.

We are able to provide two, half day, group sessions, based on a specific theme that is helpful for you.

There are a range of themes that can be covered:

- wellbeing of the parent/carer
- needs/wants and routines
- effective communication and praise
- boundary setting and responsibility
- behaviour we don't like and consequences
- anxiety and attachment
- bereavement and loss
- technology and the family

If you would like to attend any of these sessions, please contact Mrs Silverlock by emailing [csilverlock@olcs.uk](mailto:csilverlock@olcs.uk), stating which themes you are interested in.

### Operation Christmas Child

It is lovely to be able to deliver lots of beautifully wrapped shoe boxes for this Christmas appeal. Thank you to all our families that took part in this worthwhile charity.

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-s-school>

### School Council

Congratulations go to our successful School Council Representatives:

**Robin Class:** Represented by Swallow Class Member **Sana**

**Heron Class:** Represented by Swallow Class Member **Reggie**

**Puffin Class:** **Emilia** and **Obie**

**Owl Class:** **Ava** and **Ezra**

**Eagle Class:** **Tong** and **Jowin**

**Kingfisher Class:** **Elena** and **Dylan**

**Swallow Class:** **Andres** and **Lexie-Mae**



We are sure you will all represent your classes well. We look forward to seeing what projects you start to work on.



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SETTING UP NEW DEVICES FOR CHILDREN

At Christmas, millions of lucky children will be excitedly ripping the wrapping off new phones, tablets, computers or consoles. However, in the rush to let young ones enjoy their shiny gadgets, many parents neglect to set these devices up safely – increasing the chances of children going online and stumbling across adult content, making expensive downloads or installing unsuitable apps. A little time configuring the device properly can save a lot of anguish later. Here are our top tips to ensure that a dream gift on Christmas morning doesn't turn into a nightmare by New Year.

## PASSCODES FOR IPHONE/IPAD

If your child's getting their own iPhone or iPad, you can set parental controls that make it difficult for them to access inappropriate content or download expensive apps. Once the device is set up, go to the Settings app and tap Screen Time, then select Use Screen Time Passcode and enter a passcode. Keep it to yourself so your child can't switch the protection off.

## SCREEN TIME SETTINGS ON IPHONE/IPAD

Once you've set a Screen Time Passcode, you can adjust various safety settings. You could, for example, only allow communication with people from the Contacts app, place restrictions on App Store purchases and apply age limits to movies, music and web content. There are many more protective options available within the Screen Time settings section.

## FAMILY LINK FOR ANDROID

Parents can manage Android phones and tablets, as well as Google Chromebooks, through Google's Family Link app. This gives your child some independence (and their own Google account) but lets parents monitor which apps are being used, set limits on content and ensure that parental permission is required to install apps. Look for Family Link in the Google Play Store.

## ADD A CHILD TO FAMILY LINK

The easiest way to add a child's device to Family Link is to set it up with its own Google account. It's a good idea to create this before they use their new phone, tablet or Chromebook. Once they're logged in, open the Family Link app on your phone, press '+' in the top right and add a new family member using their Google account details. Then follow the on-screen instructions.

## FAMILY SHARING ON A MAC

Families using a Mac get similar screen time options to iPhone and iPad users. Again, if you're setting up a Mac for a child, make yourself the main admin and add them as a user. This is handled through Apple's Family Sharing service, which not only allows you to put controls on child accounts but share apps and other purchases with them too. Search 'family sharing' at <https://support.apple.com>.

## PLAYSTATION PARENTAL CONTROLS

With parental controls for the PS5, you'll need a PlayStation Network account (as the 'family manager') and the child will need their own account, which they should sign in with on the console. This all needs to be set up in advance, so you might want to do it before the big day. Go to [PlayStation.com](http://PlayStation.com) and search 'family account' for instructions.

## DISCUSS IT WITH YOUR CHILD

If you're planning to implement any kind of restriction or protection settings on your child's new device, we'd recommend having a discussion with your young one first about what these controls do, and what they are for. If you try to impose parental controls surreptitiously or with no advance warning, don't be surprised if your child tries to find a way around them.

## SET AN ADMIN ON PCS

On Windows PCs and laptops, it's important not to let your child share a general user account or be the main admin on the device. If you're booting up a new family PC or a child's own device, set it up using your own account details and you'll become the admin by default. Then set up children with their own separate account: Settings > Accounts > Family & Other Users > Add Other User.

## SET WINDOWS LIMITS

Once your child's account has been created, a parent admin can go back into the Family & Other Users menu and apply limits to it. These include restricting screen time, the type of games and apps that can be installed, web filters and more. Microsoft also includes reporting tools which, for example, can email you with a weekly summary of your child's activity on the device.

## TREAT AN XBOX LIKE A PC

The same control settings you use for a PC can be used to apply parental controls on an Xbox. Again, once your child is signed into the Xbox with their own account, you can then monitor and regulate their activity from a PC or web browser. Microsoft's dashboard allows you to manage voice communication through the console: so you can limit who can contact your child, for example.

## INSTALL XBOX FAMILY SETTINGS

If you don't have a PC, but your child does have an Xbox, it might be easier to use the Xbox Family Settings app for iPhone or Android. Here, you can restrict console screen time (particularly handy if the console is in a bedroom), restrict communication and monitor the types of game being played. There's also a feature where you can allocate spending money for games or in-game purchases.

## STAY VIGILANT

It's important to remember that none of these methods is 100% foolproof. Nobody will ever invent flawless filters or parental controls – not least because what's unacceptable to some parents is perfectly acceptable to others. So although devices' parental controls will help to keep your child safe online, they work best side by side with good old-fashioned parental vigilance.

## Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as the *Sunday Times*, *Which?*, *PC Pro* and *Computeractive*. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and radio, including on *Newsnight*, *Radio 5 Live* and *ITV News at Ten*. He has two children and writes regularly about internet safety issues.



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