



Newsletter

No. 1. 18th September 2020

Website: www.ourladys.devon.sch.uk

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.

Welcome

It has been an absolute pleasure to see all the children return to school, looking smart and with smiles on their faces. Thank you for your patience and understanding in complying with the staggered start and finish times and different drop off and pick up points around the school.

I was delighted to see that attendance for the first week back in school was 97% with Kingfisher and Robin class achieving 100%.

A special welcome to Ms Massey who joined us as our Year 3 Teacher Monday to Wednesday. We also welcome back Mrs Harding, Year 3 Teacher Thursday and Friday from Maternity Leave.

We said a sad farewell (socially distanced!) to Mrs Craufurd, Teaching Assistant in Heron Class who retired after over 25 years with the school.

Congratulations go to Mrs Tucker and her husband Richard with the birth of their daughter, Amber during the lockdown.

I wish you, all our staff and children an enjoyable and successful year.

Rob Meech, Principal

Depart for Education Coronavirus (COVID19) Helpline

The Department for Education Coronavirus (COVID19) helpline is available to answer questions about coronavirus (COVID19) relating to education and children's social care. Staff, parents and young people can contact this helpline on:-

0800 046 8687

Monday to Friday 8am to 6pm

ParentMail

This newsletter will be sent to you via parentMail once a fortnight. We use parent mail on a very regular basis to advise you of events and notices of things happening in school. It is our main form of communication with you as parents. Please ensure that the school has an up to date email address for you and that you have registered to receive parent mails.

Keep an eye on our school website www.ourladys.devon.sch.uk for tweets, photos, copies of letters home, school diary of events etc.

Autumn Term Dates

Mon 7th Sept	Pupils Return to school
Wed 9th Sept	Reception Class Commences
Fri 23rd Oct	Last day of half term
Mon 26th Oct	Half Term Holiday
Mon 2nd Nov	Non Pupil Day
Tues 3rd Nov	Pupils Return to School
Fri 18th Dec	Last day of term
Mon 4th Jan	Pupils Return to School

Any future dates will be shared via parentmail.

Breakfast and After School Club

Sessions for our Breakfast and After School Clubs can now be booked on line via SCOPAY. Breakfast sessions are from 7.45am until 8.50am at £4.05 without breakfast.

Afterschool Club sessions are from 3.15-4.15 with a snack for £4, 4.15 –5.15pm for £4 or 3.15-4.15pm for £7.50. You can pay for these sessions and book in advance via Scopay. Please see a member of the Admin Team if you need log in details.

Year 6 Parents

You should have received details about how to apply online for a secondary school place for your child. You need to apply for a school place online by 31st October. If we can be of any help in the process please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Welland in the school office.

As always it is crucial that applications are received by the deadline of 31st October. Online applicants will receive immediate confirmation of their preferences, but can change their minds any time until midnight on 31st October, and can log in to see their offers on the morning of Monday 1st March March 2021. Please apply at:

www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline

Detailed information on how to apply for your child's transfer to Secondary Education in September 2021 can be found at:

<https://new.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place>

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Appledore Book Festival
Michael Morpurgo is coming to the drive-in Appledore Book Festival on Sunday 20th September at 3pm to talk about his latest book, Boy Giant, Son of Gulliver. Tickets are per car for a maximum of 5 people.

Tickets can be obtained online at www.appledorebookfestival.co.uk or by calling the Box Office on 01237 424949

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School Uniform

Thank you for supporting the correct school uniform. Please could you ensure that all long hair is tied back for school, earrings are kept to small studs, no other jewellery is to be worn. Please ensure that all items of clothing, water bottles, lunch boxes and snack pots are clearly marked with your child's name.

Jumpers, PE T-Shirts, PE Hoodies, PE Joggers, PE kit bags, book bags and water bottles are available to purchase via Scopay under 'Products' throughout the year.

School Uniform

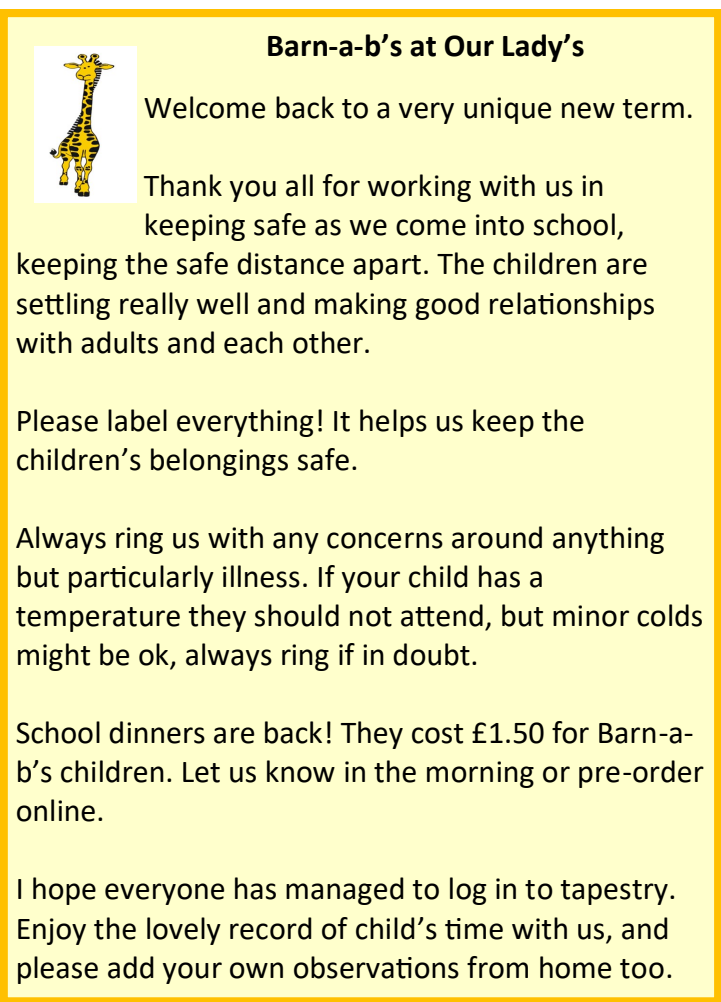
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Barn-a-b's at Our Lady's

Welcome back to a very unique new term.

Thank you all for working with us in keeping safe as we come into school, keeping the safe distance apart. The children are settling really well and making good relationships with adults and each other.

Please label everything! It helps us keep the children's belongings safe.

Always ring us with any concerns around anything but particularly illness. If your child has a temperature they should not attend, but minor colds might be ok, always ring if in doubt.

School dinners are back! They cost £1.50 for Barn-a-b's children. Let us know in the morning or pre-order online.

I hope everyone has managed to log in to tapestry. Enjoy the lovely record of child's time with us, and please add your own observations from home too.

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Medicines in School

If your child is required to take a prescribed medicine please can you alter the times around the school day. If this is not possible then please complete a medicine form at the school office.

The school can only administer prescribed medicines in line with government requirements.

Non-prescribed medicines such as headache tablets, medicated lozenges, nasal sprays etc must not be carried by the children or left in school bags or book bags.

Asthma Inhalers

If your child has a diagnosis of asthma and has a prescribed inhaler to use in school, please contact the school office and complete a 'parental agreement for school to administer medicine' form. Please see your class teacher if you wish to discuss any concerns about your child's medical conditions.

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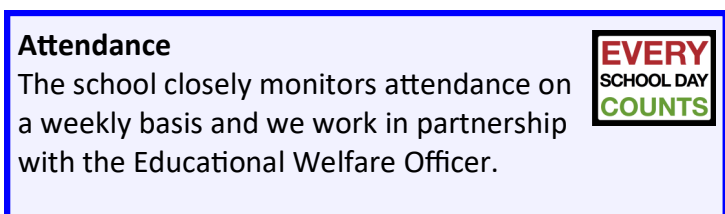
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Attendance
The school closely monitors attendance on a weekly basis and we work in partnership with the Educational Welfare Officer.

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School Clubs

Monday Multi-Skills Club (4.15pm)
Miss Sloman (Fee)

Please ensure that you collect your child promptly at club finishing time.

Children entitled to free school meals (ie children whose parents receive certain benefits such as Income Support, Job Seeker's Allowance and other relevant benefits) are also entitled to receive a 50% discount towards the cost of afterschool clubs, music tuition and holiday clubs run by the school.

Healthy Snacks

Just a reminder that all Key Stage 1 children receive a free healthy snack for morning break. You are welcome to send Key Stage 2 children into school with a healthy snack (not chocolate or crisps). Children who would like to eat a healthy snack during afternoon break are more than welcome to bring this in from home.

PE Days

When your child has PE they should be coming into school in their PE kits and remaining in them all day.

Robin	Wednesday and Thursday
Heron	Monday and Friday
Puffin	Tuesday and Thursday
Owl	Tuesday and Friday
Eagle	Monday and Wednesday
Kingfisher	Tuesday and Friday
Swallow	Monday and Thursday

PE lessons will continue to be held outside even in the rain so please ensure that your child has a waterproof coat, they may even need gloves and hats as we progress into the winter months.

As the weather gets colder, if you have not done so already, you can purchase, for £15, a PE Hoodie with the school logo for children to wear for PE. We also sell plain navy joggers for £11. School PE Kit bags are also available for £5. Please order these via Scopy.

Barnstaple Library is now open Monday to Saturday 10am-5pm.

Social distancing measures are in place and you will be required to wear a facemask but please visit the library to browse, borrow and return books. The children's area is open and public computers are available to book for a 1 hour slot.

*God of wisdom and might,
we praise you for the wonder of our being,
for mind, body and spirit.
Be with our children as they begin
a new school year.
Bless them and their teachers and staff.
Give them strength and grace as their
bodies grow;
wisdom and knowledge to their minds
as they search for understanding;
and peace and zeal to their hearts.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.*

**The next newsletter will go home on:
Friday 2nd October 2020**

Is My Child Too Ill For School

The following NHS website may help you with deciding on whether your child is well enough to attend school.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Know Your Symptoms

Covid-19

- Fever
- Dry Cough
- Fatigue
- Shortness of Breath

Flu

- Fever
- Dry Cough
- Runny Nose
- Headache
- Sore Throat
- Muscle and Joint Pain

Cold

- Cough
- Sore Throat
- Aches and Pains
- Watery Eyes
- Sneezing
- Runny or Stuffy Nose

Allergies

- Sneezing
- Coughing
- Itchy Eyes
- Runny or Stuffy Nose

Special Educational Needs

A note I would like to introduce myself to new parents and also make all parents aware of the SEND section of the school website which gives information about our school's provision for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and support for families who are experiencing difficulties at home. There are lots of helpful information sheets and links to other sites too, so please take a look in the Parents' section labelled 'SEND'.

Our Lady's is a 'Thrive' School, meaning we use a Thrive approach towards supporting and developing all children's social and emotional wellbeing, both in class or in small focussed intervention groups.

There is also a free Thrive-Online Parent Toolkit available to parents with children ages 4-11. There are lots of helpful videos and strategies tailored to children's ages and needs which will help you to understand your child and make the most of your time and interactions with them.

The toolkit is available here:

<https://www.thriveapproach.com/who-we-work-with/parents-carers/>

TRY OUT THE THRIVE-ONLINE PARENT TOOLKIT

Click on the link to register:

I hope you find the resources useful. Please get in touch, via the school office, if you need further advice or support.

Eve Daunton

SENCO (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator)

School Dinners

We have a wide variety of hot, freshly cooked, school dinners on offer on a 3 weekly cycle. As well as the healthy main choice there is always a vegetarian option and a jacket potato with cheese and/or beans available. The meals are all prepared on-site in our school kitchen. School dinners are free to all children from Robins to Puffin class and are a very competitive £2.30 per day for children in Owl class upwards.



School dinners can now be paid via the school's on line cash system SCOPAY. You should have received individual log in details for your child/children. If you need any assistance with registering to use this facility please see the School Office. The choice of meal for the day can be booked with the class teacher at registration in the morning.

Parents can select meals in advance for their children if they prefer (although the selection for the current day can only be done in school).

If your child has any food allergies please make the admin team aware as our catering team can usually adapt the menu accordingly for your child's needs. Chartwell's new policy and guidelines can be found on Chartwells "loveschoolmeals" website. Specifically under nutrition <https://loveschoolmeals.co.uk/medical-diets/>

Our school dinner menu can be found on the school website www.ourladys.devon.sch.uk under the

School Dinner Menu for w/c 21st September: Jacket Potato with Cheese &/or Beans &/or Tuna, daily

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Cheese & Tom Pizza	Sausage and Mash	Roast Turkey &	Beef Lasagne or	Fish Fingers & Chips
Wedges or Jacket Potato	or Veggie Sausage	Roast Potatoes &	Macaroni Cheese	Or Quorn Dippers
		Veg or Roast Quorn		

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