



Newsletter

No. 5. 20th November 2020

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.

We would like to welcome two new governors to our Local Governing Board. Ana Barbosa Richards is now a Parent Governor and Mary Szymankiewicz is a Foundation Governor. We are sure you will join us in welcoming them and supporting them in their new roles.

Due to the current COVID-19 situation, there will unfortunately be no nativity this year. We will, all being well, come back bigger and better next Christmas!

Could we ask parents of children that wait in the carpark area of the school at school drop off time to be mindful of staff cars and in particular their bags etc potentially causing damage. Thank you.

Term dates for next academic year 2021/22 have now been issued via parentmail and are available on the school website.

Mr Meech, Principal

New School Bags

Exciting new Our Lady's backpacks are now available to purchase via Scopay for £11. The bags include a navy pencil case and have a side pocket for water bottles.



Autumn Term Dates

Thur 3rd Dec	Non Pupil Day—School Closed
Mon 7th Dec	Christmas dinner to be booked by this date
Weds 16th Dec	Food Bank Donations to be in by this date
Weds 16th Dec	Christmas Dinner
Fri 18th Dec	Last day of term
Mon 4th Jan	Pupils Return to School
Fri 15th Jan	Last day for applications for primary school place for Sept 2021

Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day



Christmas lunch will be on Wednesday 16th 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 7th December.

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.

HM Government

We must keep on protecting each other.

NHS



HANDS



FACE



SPACE

STAY ALERT · CONTROL THE VIRUS · SAVE LIVES

The next newsletter will go home on: Friday 4th December 2020

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

Primary Admissions 2021/22

Was your child born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017?

Applications can be made from 15th November for a primary school place for September 2021. You must apply for your child's school place by 15th January 2021 for primary school admissions in September 2021.

You can apply for a school place online at: 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.

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 2021.

Please ensure that the 2021 Supplementary Form for this school is returned to the school office by 15th January 2021. This form is available from the school office, Barn a B's Pre-School or via the school's website:- www.ourlady.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.



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

The admission process for primary school places is now open. We hope you had your email from Devon Admissions, if not, let us know. This is for children starting school in September 2021.

We are making more use of the wooded area, particularly on a Wednesday morning. Could you please send your child to Barn A Bs in wellies, and put a change of shoes in a bag for them to change into after the forest school session.

The World Health Organisation has been researching screen time for children. They found that screen time may affect children's sleep, attention span and can increase a sedentary lifestyle. More research needs to be done, but we would encourage you to limit screen time for under 5's to 2 hours or less per day, particularly if your child struggles to sleep or concentrate.

There is a non pupil day for the school on Thursday 3rd December therefore the pre-school will be closed for this day. Apologies for any inconvenience this causes.

Reminder—School Closed 3rd December 2020

Please be aware that the **School and Barn A Bs Pre-School will be closed on Thursday 3rd December** for the day due to staff training.

Apologies for any inconvenience this causes.

Food Bank Donations

This year, more than ever, we would like to support the good work of our local foodbank who help so many families in the town. We would like to encourage you to send in donations to your class teacher between now and Wednesday 16th December. Any cereals, tinned food and dried foods such as pasta and instant mash potato as well as Christmas treats such as selection boxes and tins of biscuits would be most welcome. Thank you for your support.

God of compassion and mercy, we turn to you,
we seek your help in our distress.

May we always seek to be a light for others,
bringing hope in place of despair.

Bring comfort to those who mourn,
shelter and sustenance to all those in need.

Amen



If you are facing financial difficulties, and are unable to afford basic food necessities for your family, there is a network of foodbanks across the northern Devon region run by the Trussell Trust who may be able to help.

Find out more at:- <https://northerndevon.foodbank.org.uk/>



LET FRESH AIR IN



To help blow the virus away

The latest Government advice is that most coronavirus cases are transmitted indoors. Open windows and doors twice a day for fifteen minutes to let in fresh air.

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.

0800 046 8687

Mon to Fri 8am to 6pm

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/>

Symptoms checker

Only people with COVID-19 symptoms need to get tested –

A high temperature (37.8°C or above)
OR new, continuous cough
OR loss or change to sense of smell or taste

Visit 111.nhs.uk/covid-19 if you're not sure.



Symptoms	COVID-19 Mild to severe	Cold Gradual onset	Flu Rapid onset
Fever/high temperature (37.8°C or above)	Common	Rare	Common
New cough	Common (usually dry and continuous)	Sometimes	Common (usually dry)
Recent loss or change to sense of taste or smell	Common	Rare	No
Fatigue	Sometimes (common in children)	Sometimes	Common
Sneezing	No	Common	No
Aches and pains	Sometimes	Common	Common
Runny or stuffy nose	Rare	Common	Sometimes
Sore throat	Sometimes	Common	Sometimes
Diarrhoea	Rare (sometimes for children)	No	Sometimes (for children)
Headaches	Sometimes	Rare	Common
Shortness of breath	Sometimes	No	No

Do it for your ► FamilySchoolDevon

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ROBLOX
Powering Imagination

According to the Roblox website, 'Roblox is the world's largest interactive social platform for play.' For those of you who are unfamiliar with the game, it is a multi-player online gaming platform which allows children to play and create a variety of games in a 3D world. Roblox is free to play and available on all modern smartphones, tablets, desktops, Xbox One, Oculus Rift, and HTC Vive.



AGE RESTRICTION
13+

What parents need to know about **ROBLOX**



ROBLOX STUDIO

The Roblox Studio allows users to create their own games and 'worlds' for others to play on the platform. As the games are user generated, it gives users the freedom to potentially include things you do not want your child to be exposed to, for example, weapons, violence and even pornographic content. There are no age restrictions on the games created in the Roblox Studio and to remove games from the platform Roblox relies on people reporting negative/violent content.



CHATTING & FRIEND REQUESTS

Whilst the games in Roblox are aimed at 8 to 18-year-olds, there are currently no age restrictions for signing up. This means that both adults and young people can play and communicate with each other and send friend requests through the platform. Once a friend request is accepted, this means that they can communicate with each other outside of gameplay.



ROBUX ONLINE PAYMENTS

When a user creates a game, they earn something called 'Robux,' which works as a currency within the platform and enables the purchase of upgrades and memberships. If the created game is of good quality and attracts multiple players and in-game adverts, children have the ability to earn a lot of 'Robux.' Once a user has earned a certain amount of Robux, they can convert this to real cash and withdraw it to a PayPal account. To withdraw money, users need to be over 13, have a PayPal account and have paid for the Roblox premium subscription.



**National
Online
Safety**

Top Tips for Parents

ALERT!

Tell your children to be careful and to think twice before they click any random advert or popup. There are a lot of phishing scams that advertise free Robux etc. with the intent of stealing your child's personal information.

UNLIST SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS

Make sure your child's social media accounts are not listed in the settings/account information. If they are, advise them to set them to private or remove them from their account. This will ensure that nobody will be able to find and contact them on their social media platforms outside of Roblox.



CHECK SHARED INFORMATION

In the account settings, check that your child is not giving away any personal information in their bio/profile. For example, their full name, phone number or snapchat name. If you see that they have, explain why this is potentially dangerous and remove immediately.

2-STEP VERIFICATION

Roblox has a great two-step verification security feature which we recommend you enable to add an extra layer of security to your child's account.

HAVE A CHAT ABOUT 'GRIEFING'

Griefing is when someone purposely upsets another player in a game. This can be done by setting traps, damaging or stealing something from another player, intentionally killing them and generally doing something in the game to spoil their gameplay. Essentially, 'Griefing' is a form of cyberbullying and can be extremely frustrating and upsetting for players.

RESTRICT PAYMENT METHODS

Roblox is a free to play game, but there are still options to make additional in-game purchases. If you do not want your child to make payments, ensure your card is not associated with their account. If you are happy for your child to make payments in the game, but want to restrict spending, we suggest using a games console gift card. These can be purchased in specific amounts, which will enable you to restrict how much your child spends and removes the need for a credit/debit card to be used with their account.

DISABLE IN-GAME CHAT

Roblox is great for children to play together and chat to each other. However, if you want to completely turn off in-game chat for your child (meaning they cannot contact anyone, including their friends) you can do so by following these steps: When logged in, go to the Account Settings page by clicking on the gear icon at the top right corner of the page, then click Settings. Next, click on the Privacy tab and under 'Who can chat with me in game?' select 'No one' and this will disable in-game chat.

IS YOUR CHILD UNDER 13?

Unfortunately, there are hundreds of YouTube videos showing children how to change their age settings on Roblox, so firstly, you should talk to your child to set up some rules/agreement. There are additional safety features for children under 13, for example having their posts and chats filtered for inappropriate content and behaviour, so it is worth checking that your child has set up their account with the correct age. You can find this in their account settings.

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