



# Newsletter

No. 6. 4th December 2020

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

Thank you for all of your support in keeping the school a safe place for our children to learn and staff to work. As we near the end of the school year, I ask that we continue to be vigilant and maintain social distancing and tier rules both in and out of school so we can all look forward to the Christmas break with loved ones.

God Bless

Mr Meech, Principal

## Autumn Term Dates

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 and Jumper Day
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 to the foodbank will be gratefully received and can be paid via Scopay.

**Our Lady's and Barn-a-b's staff wish you all a peaceful and healthy Christmas and a Happy New Year.**



## Patchwork Parenting—Parent Survey

We would be grateful if you could take a few moments to complete this short survey to look at the feelings of parents in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and what the team at PATCHWORK can offer in terms of support. <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/QVFB3V2>.



The following link provides some useful videos and parental advice on the Tik Tok App.  
<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/networks/tiktok/>

### Christmas Mass Times & Booking System.

To ensure the safety of the parishioners over the busy Christmas period, Christmas Eve & Christmas Day masses will be by pre- booking only. Please telephone the parish office to reserve your seat. To avoid disappointment, book as early as possible and remember to contact the office if you change your mind or no longer need the place.



### Christmas Eve Mass 24th December /Christmas Day

St Mary's 7:00pm 9.30am & 11.00am

St Joseph's South Molton 5:00pm No Mass

Sacred Heart Bideford 5.30pm & 7.00pm 11.00am

Holy Family Torrington No Mass 9.15am

For Barnstaple & South Molton Bookings


Phone the Parish Office (Claire): 01271 3143312 or

For Bideford Bookings

Phone Theresa: 01237 700807

For Torrington Bookings

Phone John: 01805 623457

 HM Government





# CHRISTMAS BUBBLE

Between 23 and 27 December you can form an exclusive 'Christmas bubble' of up to three households

Find out more: [gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

God is in every tomorrow,  
therefore live for today ,  
certain of finding at sunrise...  
Guidance and strength for the way;  
Power for each moment of weakness;  
Hope for each moment of pain;  
Comfort for every sorrow;  
Sunshine and Joy after the rain.  
Have a wonderful day!

## 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](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 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](http://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

We will not be able to do all our usual Christmas activities, such as the nativity, this year. We will still be telling the children the nativity story, making crafts and having lots of fun.

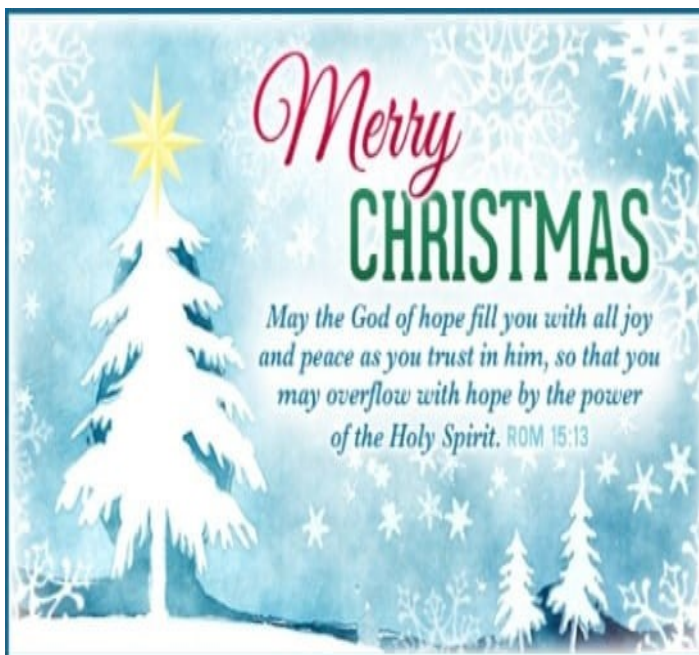
Don't forget to book your child's Christmas Dinner if you would like them to have one. Roast Turkey and all the trimmings will be served on Wednesday 16th December and will cost the normal £1.55 for Barn A Bs children. Please book and pay for this via scopay by Monday 7th December.

We hope you have all had your free toothbrush and toothpaste. We are not currently cleaning the children's teeth in school, but we know you all do a fabulous job at home.

Just a reminder that we ask that you don't put chocolate bars or sweets in children's lunchboxes. It's a good opportunity for your child to eat the healthiest food you can persuade them to eat, as in school they don't have access to any sweet cupboards! We also ask that you don't send in cakes or sweets on birthdays, again because of the sugar, but also in case of allergies. Some people have brought in fruit on birthdays, and we have had some great fruity celebrations! Thank you for your support

### 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 make a cash donation on Scopay between now and Wednesday 16th December. We will then make a cash donation to the Food Bank after this date. There are different denominations of between £1 and £10 set up under the 'Products' tab and then 'North Devon Food Bank'. Thank you for your support.



**The next newsletter will go home on:  
Friday 8th January 2021**





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/>



The good news is that the end of lockdown is in sight now, but Devon will still be under Tier 2 (High Alert) and that means we've still got some strict restrictions:

- you must not socialise with anyone you do not live with or who is not in your support bubble in any indoor setting, whether at home or in a public place
- you must not socialise in a group of more than 6 people outside, including in a garden or a public space – this is called the 'rule of 6'
- organised outdoor sport, and physical activity and exercise classes can continue
- organised indoor sport, physical activity and exercise classes will only be permitted if it is possible for people to avoid mixing with people they do not live with (or share a support bubble with). There are exceptions for indoor disability sport, sport for educational purposes and supervised sport and physical activity for under-18s, which can take place with larger groups mixing.

### 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/>

### 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.



## Symptoms checker

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

**A high temperature**  
**OR new, continuous cough**  
**OR loss or change to sense of smell or taste**

Visit [111.nhs.uk/covid-19](https://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**

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](http://www.safer.internet.org.uk)