



Newsletter

No. 1. 17th September 2021

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.

Welcome

It has been an absolute pleasure to see all the children return to school, looking extra smart in their new ties and with smiles on their faces.

We extend an extra warm welcome to our new families in Reception class and across the school. It has been great to be able to return to some sense of normality over the first few weeks back. The children have enjoyed mixing with other children at break and lunchtimes and we are looking forward to commencing whole school assemblies and acts of worship next week.

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

Rob Meech, Executive Headteacher



**National
Online
Safety**

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-school>

Outstanding Invoices

Scopay invoices for extended day or pre-school fees will be issued today. Please can you settle any outstanding amounts from July as soon as possible, including any dinner money owed.

Any queries then please see a member of the Admin Team. Thank you.

It is the expectation that all primary schools delivery a Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) Curriculum. Along with the other members of the Plymouth CAST Trust, we deliver this through the 'Life to the Full' programme. Please click on the link below to find more about the programme. If you have any questions regarding RSE please contact your class teacher. The RSE policy can be found on the school website.

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-consultation-tool-primary>

You will need the following codes to access:

Username is :- our-lady-ex32

Password is:- blessed-lady

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 Tuesday 1st March 2022. Please apply at:

www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline

Detailed information on how to apply for your child's transfer to Secondary Education in September 2022 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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Jumpers, PE T-Shirts, PE Hoodies, PE Joggers, Ties, PE kit bags, book bags and water bottles are available to purchase via Scopay under 'Products' throughout the year.

A cartoon illustration of a giraffe with yellow fur and dark brown spots. It has a long neck, small ossicones on its head, and is standing on all fours. The giraffe is facing slightly to the left.

Try making some porridge or flapjack when you get the chance, put a photo on tapestry. This helps us have relevant conversations with your child.

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.

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



Families offered a Healthy Start

Recent research has shown that just under a third of households in Devon with children are experiencing food insecurity, but at the moment, only around half of eligible families are signed up to the government's Healthy Start scheme, which means many are missing out on much needed support.

If you are pregnant or have children under four years old, you may be eligible to receive financial support towards fruit and veg, pulses, cows' milk, formula, and also receive free vitamins!

If you think you may be eligible or already receive Healthy Start support, you can sign up for a free fruit and veg box, to be delivered directly to your door along with nutritious and delicious recipes.

Along with this promotional box you will also get a guide to making the most of the Healthy Start scheme and information about important changes coming this autumn when the scheme is set to go digital.

Don't miss out! To find out if you are eligible fill out this online form now.

There are a limited number of boxes. Applications will close on Friday 24 September at midday, or when all boxes are allocated.

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.

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 8.45am at £4.50 without breakfast and £5.00 with breakfast. Afterschool Club sessions are from 3.15-4.15 with a snack for £4.50, or 3.15-5.15pm for £8.50. 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.

PE Days

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

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

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.

School Security

As part of our School Security Policy (and not as a result of any recent incidents) we are asking parents to be vigilant when they are around the area of the school. Look out for suspicious/out of the ordinary behaviour i.e

- People in stationary vehicles watching the school
- vehicles moving slowly near the school, or parked in suspicious circumstances
- people using recording equipment, including camera phones, or seen making notes or sketches of security details
- someone suspicious paying close attention to specific entry and exit points
- people loitering at or near premises for long periods and watching staff, visitors and deliveries for no apparent reason
- people asking detailed or unusual questions about buildings and business operations, facilities (such as room layouts), security or parking for no apparent reason
- anyone in 'off limits' areas, plant rooms and similar – ask these people who they are and what they're doing, and report this immediately to the Executive Headteacher and police.

Any suspicious behaviour should be reported to the school office on 01271 345164 immediately.

Please note that the school gates opens at 8.40am and registration closes at 9am. School gates will not be opened in the afternoon until 3.00pm please do not arrive at school prior to these times to avoid congestions in waiting areas. The gates remain closed until these times for safeguarding reasons.

Thank you for your co-operation with this matter.

Autumn Term Dates

Fri 22nd Oct	Last day of half term
Mon 25th Oct	Half Term Holiday
Mon 1st Nov	Non Pupil Day
Tues 2nd Nov	Pupils Return to School
Thur 16th Dec	Last day of term
Tue 4th Jan	Pupils Return to School

Any future dates will be shared via parentmail.

We will be arranging after school sporting clubs shortly.

School Webiste

Please keep a check on the school website as this will be updated regularly. The class pages will be updated with class newsletters, photos, areas of topic etc. You will find details on all our key documents and policies together with the current school dinner menu.

Please visit:-

www.ourladys.devon.sch.uk



Power Maths

Exciting news about maths. We are adopting a new maths scheme called Power Maths to support our teaching of maths.

Power Maths is a resource that has been designed for UK schools based on research and extensive experience of teaching and learning around the world and here in the UK. It has been designed to support and challenge all pupils, and is built on the belief that EVERYONE can learn maths successfully.

There is more information about Power Maths available on the school website in the 'About' tab and 'Curriculum' or by following the link here:-

<https://ourladyscatholicpri.eschools.co.uk/website/curriculum/288541>

Our Lady's Catholic Primary school proudly present..... The OLCS School Chaplains.

Introducing: Bailey Gwynn, Harry Oke, Elliott Barstow, Oliver Lear and Leo Davies

These chaplains are the Guardians of the 'Gift of Great Price' which is faith. They will do this in many ways such as supporting younger students in all areas of school life, supporting prayer times in church, the hall or in classrooms, leading assemblies, charity work, outreach to families helping celebrate occasions and offer support, being a helpful support to all on parents evenings and many other things.

If you have any questions, suggestions or contributions please let us know. We usually meet every other Friday. Our first meeting this year is Friday 17th September. They look forward to working with you all and sharing many special moments with you all. God Bless.



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, termly class updates, school diary of events etc.

Special Educational Needs

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 £2.34 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 'Parents' tab or from the school office.

The next newsletter will go home on: Friday 1st October 2021