



Our Lady's RC Primary School

Newsletter

www.aspullourladys.wigan.sch.uk



2023/24

Issue No 11

Monday 5th February



Sacramental Programme

Well done to all of the pupils who were presented at Mass this weekend to mark this important stage in their ongoing faith journey. These pupils and their families remain in our prayers.

Pope Francis' Monthly Intentions

In February, we pray with Pope Francis for the terminally ill. We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

Junior Speaks

This Wednesday, Our Lady's will again host the Rotary Club's Junior Speaks Public Speaking competition. Our pupils have worked tirelessly and I'm sure that they will do themselves and Our Lady's proud!

Parents' Evenings

This evening and tomorrow, we have our parents' evening sessions. You will have already received online parental reports which can be discussed during the five minute slots.

Booking slots are still available via the school website.

Online-Safety Week



We will be having a particular focus on Online Safety over the next couple of weeks, which is even more important given the amount of time children are spending on the internet nowadays. As part of this initiative, pupils will be involved in a range of activities including those on Tuesday 6th February, Internet Safety Day. The theme this year is, 'Together for a Better internet'.

Online Safety & Curriculum Newsletters

Please ensure you have a good read of the Online Safety Newsletter that will be released next week. A digital copy can also be found at <https://www.aspullourladys.wigan.sch.uk/computing>

There is some really important advice on how to keep your children safe online. A reminder that there is also a selection of curriculum newsletters which can be found at

<https://www.aspullourladys.wigan.sch.uk/documents>

As a school, we try to keep you informed of what goes on in all areas of our school curriculum so these newsletters are a handy reminder.

Times Tables Mornings

Over the next few weeks we will be hosting a 'Times Table Challenge' for our Year 2, 3 and 4 classes. The challenge will take place in our school hall and will include representatives from some of our partner schools. The challenge begins with our Year 2 class on Monday 12th February, with Year 3 and 4 participating after half term. Following on from previous years, I'm sure that all of the children will thoroughly enjoy the experience.

Young Voices



Our choir are so excited about performing at Manchester's AO Arena this Wednesday. It is always an amazing evening of music and fun.

Love Your Community Day/Week –



On Wednesday next week, all pupils will be coming to school wearing something red (non-uniform) and also will be bringing in a tinned item, pack of biscuits etc. that can be donated to the 'One House' Community project work in Aspull.

Our schools are coming together to celebrate the things that we love about our local community. During the week, our school choirs will be singing at various locations throughout Aspull. Our ambassadors will be taking gifts and

cards to members of our community, creating a community prayer and our Eco teams will be litter picking around the village.

As a school, we will share on our media channels @OURLADYSASPULL the work that our community does on Monday and for the duration of this special community week.

NSPCC Number Day



Last Friday, Our Lady's took part in National Number Day. Everyone had a fantastic day of Maths. Thank you for all of your donations to NSPCC. In total we raised an impressive £410.



Our Lady's Sport

Boccia



As the winners of the heats last term at Wigan School Games, our four boys excitedly competed in the Boccia Regional Finals at Bolton Arena last week representing Wigan.

They showed great sportsmanship, being led by their Team Captain, Jenson – Sam,

Learning and loving together; we grow with Jesus.'

Thank you - Mr C Horridge - Headteacher

'If you hoard material possessions, they will rob you of your soul.'



James and Filip who all demonstrated excellent skill, precision and team work winning 3 out of their 4 matches in their group.

The boys loved the experience and felt incredibly proud of themselves for doing so well.

It was announced they had come top of their group and proceeded to play in the semi-finals against William Hulme. Having been defeated, they then played for 3rd/4th placing.

The successful morning resulted with the Our Lady's Boccia team coming 3rd and they have now earned a place in the North West Boccia Championships to be held in Liverpool in March.

We are all behind you boys!



KS2 Swimming Gala

Next Thursday, some of our Key Stage 2 children will be participating in an inter school sports swimming gala on the evening of Thursday 15th February. A reminder that those pupils selected are to be at Wigan Baths for 6:15pm. Ready for a 6:30 start. We look forward to this popular event and wish the children the best of luck!



Y3 WigLe Dance Festival

As you will be aware, our Y3 pupils have been given the opportunity to be involved with the WigLe Dance Festival in March. Instructors have been working with the children since the end of January and will do so for 6 weeks to prepare them for the final performance, which will take place on Thursday 14th March.

This event will take place at The Edge Conference Centre, Riveredge, Wigan WN3 5AB and run from 6.30pm to

approximately 8.00pm. Pupils are to be at the venue for 5:45/6:00pm for the evening performance. If you would like to order tickets they are available to purchase directly from the website link below,

https://www.quaytickets.com/theedge/en-GB/shows/wigan_borough_dance_festival_2024/events

Tickets are available at a cost of £8.80 per person.

Class Assemblies

Well done to Y6 for their recent assembly. As usual, the children were a credit to you and school and we thank you for your continued support. See below the dates for the rest of the classes this term:

Y1—Thursday 8th February at 9:05am

Y4—Thursday 15th February at 9:05am

Hairstyles

Please be reminded that children's hair should not be cut very short on the back and sides and distinctly longer on top to make a 'stepped' effect. Also any 'hair gel' or similar products should not be used in school and oversized headbands should not be worn.

PE Kits & School Uniform

A reminder that the children should have their PE kit in school at all times. Can I also politely remind parents that all children should be wearing black school shoes and not trainers as per our uniform policy.

Attendance and Punctuality

May I thank parents and children for their positive response to recent messages from our newsletters regarding attendance and punctuality. A polite reminder that school doors will open at 8:55 and will be closed shortly afterwards. The KS2 yard is closed from 9:05am and pupils who are late must be brought round to the school office by a parent.

Half Term

Next Friday, 16th February, is the last day of this half term. The school will reopen on Monday 26th February.

Attendance Matters

As you know we have a huge emphasis on the importance of great school attendance. The last few weeks before Christmas, saw a rise of coughs, colds and viruses. Going forwards though, we are determined to return to the previous excellent attendance and we're sure our families will join us in making this a key priority.

The world is run by those who turn up.

Attending school every day = 100% attendance

Attending 4½ days a week = 90% attendance = 4 weeks missed per year

Attending 4 days a week = 80% attendance = more than half a term missed per year.

Attending 3½ days each week = 70% attendance = more than a quarter of the school year missed.

An average attendance of 80% or less across a child's school career adds up to missing a whole 2 years from school.

Being late for school reduces learning time. If your child is 5 minutes late every day they will miss three days of learning each year.

If your child is 15 minutes late every day they will miss 2 weeks of learning each year.

School Attendance

Class	WB: 22.1.2024	WB: 29.1.2024
Year R	99%	95.3%
Year 1	95%	98.3%
Year 2	97.4%	97.7%
Year 3	90.7%	97.8%
Year 4	97.9%	94.6%
Year 5	95.9%	95.6%
Year 6	96.7%	94.4%
Whole School	96.1%	96.3%



Our Lady's R.C. Primary School

Dates for Diary 2023/2024

Spring Term 2024

Monday 8 th January		Spring 1 Term Starts
Tuesday 9 th January	9:05 a.m.	Y6 Assessment Information Meeting
Tuesday 16 th January	9:05 a.m.	Y2 Assessment Information Meeting
Friday 2 nd February		Number Day - NSPCC
Monday 5 th February	3:45p.m. – 6:30p.m.	Parents' Evening (all year groups)
Tuesday 6 th February	3:45p.m. – 6:00p.m.	Parents' Evening (all year groups)
Wednesday 7 th February		Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 7 th February		Young Voices (Choir Members)
Wednesday 14 th February	10:15am	Ash Wednesday Service (led by Y6)
Thursday 15 th February	10:30 a.m. 6:30 -8:30p.m.	Parishioners Coffee Morning Swimming Gala
Week Commencing Monday 12 th February		Love Your Community Week & 2041 Project Cake Sales during Week - TBC
Monday 19 th February – 23 rd February		Half Term
Monday 26 th February		Lent Day (1 st Sunday of Lent on 18 th Feb)
Wednesday 6 th March		GIFT team Lent retreat at St Anthony's
Thursday 7 th March		World Book Day
Week Commencing 11 th March		Science Week
Thursday 14 th March	3:35 p.m.	Y1 Phonics Information Workshop
Tuesday 26 th March		Break the Rules Day
Thursday 28 th March	3:35p.m.	Term Ends



Our Lady's R.C. Primary School

Dates for Diary 2023/2024

Summer Term 2024		
Monday 15th April		Summer 1 Term Starts
Thursday 18 th April	11:00 a.m.	Easter Service (Y4 to Lead)
Monday 6 th May		Bank Holiday
Thursday 9 th May	11:00am	Ascension Mass (Y6 to Lead)
Friday 10 th May	3:35 p.m.	Hot Dog Friday
Week Commencing 13 th May		Y6 SATs Week
Monday 20 th May		Dr Bike – Details to follow
Week Commencing 20 th May		Walk/Cycle to School & Laudato Si Week
Tuesday 21 st May		Y6 Bikeability Week
Wednesday 22 nd May	6:00 p.m.	New Intake Parents' Meeting
Week Commencing 3 rd June		Y6 Low Bank Ground
Sunday 2 nd June	2:00p.m.	Walking Day
Week Commencing 10 th June		Phonics Screening Week
Friday 14 th June	6:15 – 7:15 (KS1) 7:30 – 8:30 (KS2)	FOOLS Wellbeing Disco- TBC
Friday 14 th June	9:30 am -12:00pm	KS1 Inter School Sports @ Canon Sharples
Week Commencing 17 th June		Refugee Week
Thursday 20 th June	4:00- 6:00pm	KS2 Inter School Sports @ Our Lady's
Week Commencing 24 th June		Diversity Week
Wednesday 26 th June		Creative Curriculum Day with Aspull Church & St David's
Friday 5 th July		Own Clothes Day – Bring a Bottle for Bottle Tombola
Sunday 7 th July	1:00 – 4:00 p.m.	Summer Gala & Sports Day
Thursday 11 th July	3:00 p.m.	Y6 Leavers' Assembly
Monday 15 th July		Bastille Day
Tuesday 16 th July		Reports Out
Thursday 18 th July	11:00 a.m.	End of Year & Y6 Leavers' Mass
Friday 19 th July	3:35p.m.	Term Ends



Our Lady's Primary School

Masses, Celebrations and Sacramental Programme for 2023/24

Date	Event	Time	Venue
21/9/23	Mass - New Term (Led by Y5)	11:00am	School Hall
6/10/23	Parishioners Coffee Morning (Faith Team)?	10.30am	School Hall
1/11/23	Mass- All Saints' (Led by Y6)	11:00am	School Hall
7/12/22	Mass- Advent (Led by Y4)	11:00am	School Hall
8/12/23	Mass - Our Lady's Feast Day (Whole School)	11:00am	Our Lady's Church
13/12/23	Nativity (KS1)	2:00pm 6:00pm	School Hall
18/12/23	Mass - Christmas (Led by Y3)	11:00am	School Hall
15/2/24	Parishioners Coffee Morning (Faith Team)?	10.30am	School Hall
9/1/24	Sacramental Programme Meeting - Community Meeting	6:00pm	Our Lady's Church
3/2/24 4/2/24	Presentation Masses	6:00pm 9:30am 11.15 am	Church - Our Lady's Church - Holy Family
14/2/24	Lenten Service - Including distribution of ashes) (Led by Y5)	10:15am	School Hall
13/3/24	Reconciliation	6:00pm	Church - Our Lady's
18/4/24	Mass - Easter Theme (Led by Y3)	11:00am	School Hall
9/5/24	Ascension Mass (Led by Y6)	11:00am	School Hall
2/6/24	Walking Day	2:00pm	Church - Our Lady's
22/6/24	First Holy Communion	12.00pm	Church - Holy Family
23/6/24	First Holy Communion	3:00pm	Church - Our Lady's
18/7/24	Leavers' Mass and End of School Year Mass (Led by Y6)	11:00am	School Hall

Class Visits to Church

Mass begins at 9.15am KS1 - offertory KS2-readings

Monday 25 th September 2023	Pupil Committees
Wednesday 4 th October 9.30am Wednesday 13 th March 9.30am Wednesday 17 th April 9.30am	Y5/Y6
Wednesday 11 th October 9.30am Wednesday 20 th March 9.30am Wednesday 24 th April 9.30am	Y3/Y4
Wednesday 18 th October 9.30am Wednesday 27 th March 9.30am Wednesday 1 st May	YR/Y1/Y2



Dates for Diary – Sacramental Programme 2023/24



Reconciliation	Jan-Feb	9.1.24 6pm at Our Lady's Church Initial Welcome Meeting Parents and Children		Session 1: Thankfulness the Gift of Life.	Session 2: Honesty and Bravery-God is calling you.
	Feb-March		21st January during 9.30am Mass – Children's Liturgy 28.2.24 6pm at Holy Family Church Session 3 of Heart Speaks to Heart: Reflection-called to love. Children's meeting	Session 4: Friendship and Respect- turning to God. (complete with children during Lent).	
First Holy Communion	April-May		8.5.24 6pm at Holy Family Church Session 2: Entering God's House. (First Holy Communion Preparation) Children's meeting	Session 4: Stillness-God Speaks His Word Session 5: Generosity and Gratitude-Jesus offers himself for us.	Session 1: My Life's Journey Session 3: Love-Holy Mass Begins
	June	9.6.24- reminder and finalisation of arrangements emailed virtually to parents.	12.6.24 6pm at Our Lady's Church Session 6: Courage-food for the Journey. (Last Supper) Children's meeting	Session 7 Reflection: My Journey continues.	
Celebration/Event		Date		Time	
Presentation		3 rd and 4 th February		6:00pm. Our Lady's or 9:30am Our Lady's	
Reconciliation		Wednesday 13 th March		6:00pm. Our Lady's	
Walking Day		Sunday 2 nd June		2:00pm. Meet at Our Lady's	
First Holy Communion		Sunday 23 rd June		3:00pm. Our Lady's	