



Welcome Back

Hello to all of our family and friends of Our Lady's R.C Primary School. I hope that you have all had a great holiday with your families. I would like to send you all a very warm welcome for what I am sure will be a very busy and exciting year ahead. We also send our prayers and best wishes with the children who moved on this summer and wish them the very best in their new High School careers.

I would also like to extend a special welcome to all our new parents/carers - including those of our Reception class.

We are really looking forward to what I am sure will be another fantastic year for the children. We will continue to build on the fantastic efforts of all the school community of last year. We will all strive to meet the expectations expressed in our mission statement:



'Learning and loving together; we grow with Jesus.'

Our School Mission Team worked hard last year to review our Mission Statement and Core Values and linked a quote to each value for how

each individual would strive to act each day—see below

Kind 'Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord' Proverbs' 19:17

Loving 'Love God and love people' Matthew 22:36-40

Safe 'You can always turn to the Lord when times are tough' Psalms 9:9-10

Forgiving 'Forgive and you will be forgiven' Luke 6:37

Honest 'I am the way, the truth, the life' John 14:6

Positive 'Rejoice always' Thessalonians 5-16

Respect 'Lord, your God shall you worship and him alone shall you serve' Matthew 4:1-11

Nurturing 'Grow in the grace and knowledge of Saviour Jesus Christ' 2 Peter 3-18



Art Work Belinda

In the holidays, throughout school, our artist in residence has been completing art work to enhance our environment. Please see these examples of her work.

As a school, we look forward to working with her again this academic year.



Building Work

Our roofing work has been ongoing over the summer holidays to reduce any impact on daily school life. We are pleased that the programme ran to schedule and there has been no impact to life at school this year. The Hall, EYFS and KS1, including some offices have all been successfully completed.

Also, many thanks to one of our parents, Mr Ackers, who has given up his own time over the summer to support school with some repairs to our Eco Shed and Reception Sandpit.

You may also have seen recent media coverage regarding Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) and its use in educational settings. We wanted to inform you that this doesn't affect Our Lady's and therefore we continue as normal. I hope that this offers reassurance to our families.

Welcome Mass

On Thursday 21st September at 11.00am, we will be having a Mass for our new school year. Year 5 will be leading us and a link will be sent out to our families via Microsoft Teams — the invite will be sent out to all families shortly. As always, all parents, families, friends and parishioners are welcome to join us virtually.

Meet the Teacher Coffee Mornings

We will once again be hosting our 'Meet the Teacher' meetings in our school hall. For those families who are unable to attend we will also send out a 'Meet the Teacher Powerpoint' for each class which will be available from our school website from Thursday 14th September. These sessions are an ideal opportunity to find out about what they will be doing over the course of the year.

They begin around 9:05am after the children have been registered. Please find below the dates for each class:

R: Wednesday 27th September

Y1: Tuesday 19th September

Y2: Wednesday 20th September

Y3: Friday 22nd September

Y4: Tuesday 26th September

Y5: Friday 15th September

Y6: Monday 11th September

Apologies for the short notice, but these sessions are an informal opportunity to visit school, get to know the curriculum for your child a little better and ask any questions.

Class Assembly Rota

Please find below the dates of each class assembly for this term. Assemblies will begin at 9:05 after registration.

Date	Class
Thursday 5th October	Y2
Thursday 12th October	Y5
Thursday 19th October	Y4
Thursday 2nd November	Y3
Thursday 16th November	Y6
Thursday 23rd November	Y1
Thursday 30th November	YR



School Photographs

On Thursday 14th September, the children will be having their school photograph taken during the school day. We will also be taking sibling photographs for those pupils who currently attend Our Lady's. Brushed hair and bright smiles at the ready!

Attendance –

A polite reminder that school starts at 8:55am. If your child is late please report to the school office to sign your child in. The school's Attendance Officer will be performing sporadic "late gate" checks. You MUST notify the school office if your child is absent. A child will receive an unauthorised mark if notification is not given or arrives after the registers have closed at 9:30am. Working within a Code of Conduct, the Local Authority can issue a penalty notice to parents or carers if a child has missed a number of sessions without permission from the school.

If your child falls within one or more of these categories within a 12 week period:



Newsletter

Monday 4th September

www.aspullourlady.s.wigan.sch.uk

@OURLADYASPULL

- 10 sessions (5 days) of unauthorised absence with under 90% attendance
- 20 sessions (10 days) of unauthorised absence
- Persistently arrives late for school after the close of registration
- The school's Attendance Officer will make contact with you to offer help and guidance when required.

Class Organisation

A reminder that the class organisation for this year is as follows:

Year Group	Teachers & Teaching Assistants
Reception	Mrs Rafferty (formerly Stafford) Miss Almond Miss Turner
Y1	Miss Wright, Mrs West Miss Webber
Y2	Miss Cunningham Mrs Flores Mrs Clarke
Y3	Miss Lowe Mrs Whitton Mrs Goulding Mrs Scott Mrs Holden
Y4	Miss Fairbank Miss Conroy Mrs Radu
Y5	Mr Cregan Mrs Bithell
Y6	Miss Wallace Miss Balfour

Mrs Pitilla will be working from the Rainbow Room continuing to provide excellent nurture activities for small groups of children.

Daily Mile



The 'Daily Mile' will also commence next week and will now be on every morning of the week. We would love for you to come along and join Wigan Warriors, Mrs Bithell and Mrs Goulding.

From 8:30am. all children and families (parents, grandparents and younger

siblings) are welcome to come and join us on the KS2 yard.

Uniform Reminders

Please ensure that all uniform is clearly labelled with your child's name. This includes PE Kits which should be in school every day. Could parents/carers also please ensure that children come to school with a coat if the weather requires. Further reminders on uniform expectations are:

- Neat and tidy hair /not shaved (No 1) or unnaturally structured or unduly long.
- No hair gel or any similar products.
- Small black or blue hair ornaments (headbands/bows)
- Earrings not to be worn.
- Grey trousers/ skirts /dresses (not black)
- Black shoes
- Long hair tied back.

Low Bank Ground

We have been allocated the week of Monday 3rd June to Friday 7th June by Low Bank Ground for our annual Y6 Outdoor pursuits residential week. Additional information to follow.

PTA FOOLS (Friends of Our Lady's)

All parents/carers are automatically invited and we would like to offer a very especially warm welcome to all new families. We recognise that family life is busy, but any attendance and help is greatly appreciated. The date of our first meeting will be sent out early this term.

Considerate Parking

Please can I urge everybody to park safely and appropriately at all times. Unfortunately, Holly Road is relatively narrow and not the best for convenient parking. However, please do not park on the zig zags at all, as they are specifically designed to safeguard the pedestrian areas (usually used by children) as the signs demonstrate. Also, we have been contacted by our crossing patrol who has been distressed at the way some parents have been parking. I thank the vast majority who take this into consideration and show due respect for the safety of the children and the needs of our neighbours.

School Reading Wallets -

It is school policy that all pupils should use a reading wallet as they are much safer and more practical for school use. A reading wallet enables the pupils to transport their reading book, reading journal and any other equipment they may have and is more suitable than a large rucksack. School

continues to sell these wallets from the school office throughout the academic year. The wallets will cost £5. Reading wallets can also be purchased from Aspull Embroidery in the village.

Swimming

Next week, Y3 begin their swimming lessons at the Wigan Life Centre. They will go each Tuesday afternoon, the first session being 12th September, and will return in time for normal collection.

Pirate Ship & Tyres

A polite reminder that we ask that the children do not go on the pirate ship and the KS2 tyres in a morning before school as this equipment is not supervised at this time.

Safeguarding

At Our Lady's, we recognise that keeping children safe is everybody's responsibility and that the best interests of the child are paramount. Everyone who comes into contact with children and their families and carers has a role to play in safeguarding children. In order to fulfil this responsibility effectively, all professionals will make sure that their approach is child centred. This means they will consider at all times what is in the best interest of the child.

All staff share a commitment to providing a caring, positive, safe and stimulating environment; that promotes the social, physical and moral development of the individual child, promoting healthy development.

Our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policies, as well as other important policies relevant to the safeguarding agenda such as: Inclusion, Behaviour and Anti-Bullying, can be found on the school website and are also available upon request from the school office.

For your information our Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) are as follows:

- Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mr C Horridge (Headteacher),
- Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads -
Mr A Cregan (Deputy Headteacher)
Miss E Wright (Assistant Headteacher)
Mrs B Parkinson (Senior Leader)

Dates for Diary

Dates for diary are on the next page. Please take note that we endeavour not to make changes, however if this is the case we will inform you as soon as possible.



Our Lady's R.C. Primary School

Dates for Diary 2023/2024

Autumn Term 2023

Monday 4 th September Tuesday 5 th September		Autumn 1 Term Starts Y1 – Y6 Autumn 1 Term starts YR (Reception) – Y6
Friday 8 th September		Seasons of Creation Day
Tuesday 12 th September		Y1 Balance Bikeability
Thursday 14 th September		Coffee Morning PDFs released Yr-Y6
Thursday 21 st September	11:00am	School – New Term Mass Led by Y5
Begin 11 th September & end on 27 th September	9:05 am	Coffee Mornings R: Wednesday 27 th September Y1: Tuesday 19 th September Y2: Wednesday 20 th September Y3: Friday 22 nd September Y4: Tuesday 26 th September Y5: Friday 15 th September Y6: Monday 11 th September
Tuesday 26 th September		European Day of Languages
Friday 29 th September		Harvest Festival
Week beginning 2 nd October		Black History Week
Wednesday 4 th October	3:25pm	Reception Parental Writing & Phonics Workshop
Friday 6 th October	10:30 am	Parishioners Coffee Morning
Thursday 12 th & Friday 13 th October		World Mental Health & Kindness Days
Thursday 12 th October Friday 13 th October		Healthy Relationships Workshops
Tuesday 17 th October Wednesday 18 th October Monday 16 th October	3:00 pm	Y1 & Y2 Maths Parental Workshop Y3 & Y4 Maths Parental Workshop Y5 & Y6 Maths Parental Workshop
Tuesday 17 th October Wednesday 18 th October Thursday 19 th October	4:00 - 6:30p.m. By appointment only	New Intake - 1-1 tours by appointment with Senior Leaders
Wednesday 18 th October		Break the Rules Day
Thursday 19 th October		Whole School Pantomime
Friday 20 th October – Friday 27 th October		Half Term
Monday 30 th October		Autumn 2 Term Starts
Monday 30 th October – Friday 3 rd November		Multi Faith Week – Hinduism & Sikhism
Tuesday 7 th November and Wednesday 8 th November	4:00 – 6:30p.m. 4:00 – 6:00p.m.	Parents' Evening/ Parents' Interim Reports Out
Sunday 12 th November	TBC	TBC - Remembrance Sunday – Meet at The British Legion in Aspull at 10:30am
Monday 13 th - Friday 17 th November Friday 17 th November		Anti-Bullying Week – Odd Socks Day
Wednesday 22 nd November	3:00 pm	YR, Y1 & Y2 English Parental Workshop -
Thursday 23 rd November	3:00 pm	Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6 English Parental Workshop
Friday 24 th November		Rock Kidz Concert – Whole School
Friday 24 th November	6:15 – 7:15 (KS1) 7:30 – 8:30 (KS2)	FOOLS Disco – Family Chocolate Bar for Entry

Our Lady's R.C. Primary School

Dates for Diary 2023/2024

Autumn Term 2023

Tuesday 28 th November		Advent retreat at St Anthony's for Faith Team
Thursday 7 th December	11:00 a.m.	Advent Mass in School (Y4 to Lead)
Thursday 7 th December	11:00 a.m.	Own Clothes Day – (Bring a Bottle into School) TBC
Friday 8 th December	3:40 – 5:00 p.m.	Christmas Fair - TBC
Monday 11 th December	10:00am.	Community Carol Service at St David's Church
Wednesday 13 th December	2:00p.m & 6:00p.m.	EYFS & KSI Nativity
Monday 18 th December	11:00 am	Christmas Mass – (Y3 to Lead)
Monday 18 th December	6:00 p.m.	Blessing of the Crib Outside Church
Wednesday 20 th December	3:35p.m.	Term Ends Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day