



Our Lady and St Teresa's Catholic Primary School

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Aspire, Achieve, Learn and Love as one family in Christ

Newsletter – 22nd December 2017

Another term here at OLST has come to an end and what a busy term it has been full of hard work and amazing performances. The Christmas break also marks a whole year since I joined Our Lady's; I have found myself leading this fabulous school full of children who make us all smile and feel proud of them every single day. I feel very lucky to say that I work here with the best staff team possible and the most wonderful children. Thank you to all of the families who have made this first year such a positive one here at school.

As head very quickly towards Christmas may I take this moment to reflect on the following words: This is Christmas: not the tinsel, not the giving and receiving, not even the carols, but the humble heart that receives anew the wondrous gift, the Christ.

I hope everyone has a very happy and holy Christmas.

Mrs Suzie Wilson - Head Teacher

KS2 Carol Service



Wow! What a fantastic retelling of the Christmas story by our Key Stage 2 children on Tuesday evening. A big thank you to the staff team for all of the hard work and effort they put into preparing the children and a huge well done to all of the children for singing, reading and performing so wonderfully – it was a fantastic way to remind us all of the real Christmas story. Thank you Key Stage 2!



Issues/Concerns

Please can we remind everyone of the procedure for dealing with issues and concerns. Please arrange an appointment with your child's class teacher in the first instance, if you are still unhappy you can arrange to meet with the Key Stage leader which is Mrs Ridges for YR-Y2 and Miss Castle for Y3-Y6. If you still feel your concerns have not been addressed please make an appointment to speak to Mrs Wilson. Please do come and talk to us if you have concerns rather than discussing these on social media.

Key Diary Dates

Tuesday January 9th 9am – school re-opens for all children.

Thursday January 11th – Violin Lessons recommence

Friday January 12th – Guitar Lessons recommence

Wednesday 17th January from 9am – Inclusion team coffee morning

Friday January 26th 9.15am – Y1 Class Assembly

Thank You

Mrs Trowton would like to extend a huge thank you to all of the very generous gifts she received from children and their families this week and for all of the kind words and warm wishes. She is very grateful and is going to miss seeing everyone each week here at school and wishes everyone a Merry Christmas.

Primary Admissions

If you have a child whose birthday falls between 01.09.2013 and 31.08.2014 you need to apply now for a primary school place for your child in September 2018. Apply online at <http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/applyforschool>
Closing date for applications is 15th January 2018. We are a Catholic School but welcome all who are sympathetic to our ethos – please take a closer look at our admissions policy on our website for further details.

Attendance

Our attendance target is 96%

Reception – 94.1%

Yr1 – 94%

Yr2 – 86.2%

Yr3 – 99%

Yr4 – 88.5%

Yr5 – 90%

Yr6 – 94.5%

Whole school – 92.2%

Whole school since September – 95.2%



School Meals



A letter was sent out to all families earlier this week and is once again attached as arrangements for hot meals at school will change from January. Your SchoolComms account will need to be in credit before the children can order hot meals at school. All outstanding debts need to be cleared by the end of the year and hot meals then need to be paid in advance from January. You should have received an update of your account this week so you know if you have any outstanding balances. If you are unable to clear outstanding balances before January please ensure you send your child with a packed lunch until all balances are paid and your account is in credit.

Attendance

Our attendance here at school has taken a dip lately and so I would like to remind everyone of the importance of good attendance at school. Regular and punctual attendance at school is both a legal requirement and essential for pupils in order to maximise their educational opportunities. If children are not here they miss vital parts of their learning and learning is often like building, pieces of information and skills act like bricks that support one another so you can move onto the next layer. When parts are missed children struggle to move forwards with their peers. Good attendance is considered anything over 96% and when attendance falls below this level we will act to try and address this and this could lead to fixed penalty notices being issued. Please remember that term time holidays are not allowed and will not be authorised.

Lost Property

- We have a beautiful black scarf with white bumblebees on and some black velvet gloves here at school which we believe were left after the carol service. Please call into the office if they are yours.
- We will always try and get property back to children if it gets left somewhere else during the school day but this can only be done if all items are clearly labelled. Please ensure all items of clothing and equipment in school are labelled.

Toy Appeal

- We had a huge response to the toy appeal here at school; we were able to hand over a great big pile of toys that could be shared amongst children and families in need in our own community. We had a lovely thank you from the organisers of the appeal within the parish and I would like to extend a special thank you to our Minnie Vinnies who helped wrap the present too. There is a review of the appeal from the parish attached to this newsletter.



The real message of Christmas is not the gifts that we give to each other. Rather, it is a reminder of the gift that God has given to each of us: Jesus Christ our Saviour. It is the only gift that truly keeps on giving.