

Our Lady's School

Newsletter 8

School website: www.ourladyofmtcarmelschool.org.uk

17th January 2019

Firstly all the staff at Our Lady's wish you a very Happy New Year! We began this term with a Collective Worship about New Year Resolutions and our Value - RESILIENCE. Many of the children shared their resolutions, which ranged from getting better at swimming to solving mathematical problems – all of which need Resilience!

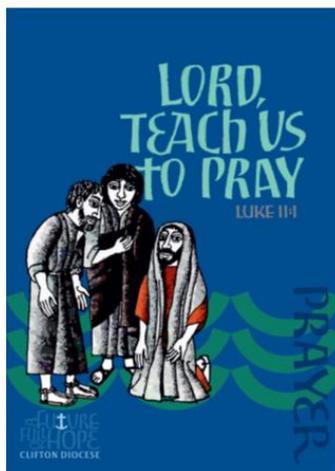
Many exciting hooks are planned to engage the children in their topics this half term. Holly Class are off to Hooke Court for a Roman day, Willow Class are celebrating Chinese New Year by dressing in red for the day and Cherry Class will be visiting Wincanton Fire Station.

Pupil Council are off to the recreation ground on 24th January to plant a tree (organised by the Town Council) which will then have a plaque to state that Our Lady's planted it. We really value taking part in Community events.

We also look forward to seeing you at Parents Evening on 30th and 31st January which will give you the opportunity to talk about your child's learning, as we are now almost half way through the academic year! There will also be another parents evening in April, as many of you requested this in order that you are kept up to date with your child's progress and can continue to support your child in the summer term.

FINALLY A HUGE THANK YOU TO YOU ALL FOR THE CHRISTMAS GIFTS – WE REALLY APPRECIATED THEM!

Danuta Girton
Interim Headteacher



YEAR OF PRAYER

The Year of Prayer will allow us to deepen our own relationship with God and explore prayer. We will be exploring different ways of praying and how we can use these to celebrate our faith as individuals and a community. All of the classes within school will be focussing on a story from Luke to think about the Year of Prayer.

Designated Safeguarding Leads –Mrs Danuta Girton, Interim Headteacher. Mrs Lorraine Allison, Business Manager.

Mrs Sally Elvish, SENCO

Safeguarding Governor- Mrs Katie Owen, Chair of Governors

For further information or to report concerns go to <http://sscb.safeguardingsomerset.org.uk> or call 0300 123 2224

Attendance Facts

To comply with Government Regulations, we are obliged to report to the Education Attendance Officer if any child's attendance falls below 97%. This is to ensure that children have the best opportunities that they can in their education. We are not able to authorise any family holidays. Only absences for exceptional circumstances can be authorised and these will be assessed individually. If our school percentage as a whole drops below 97%, we will fail any OFSTED inspection we may have. Don't forget school staff have the same restrictions, we can't take holiday in term time either!

Our Whole School Attendance – 95.6% ↓

Apple Class = 95.3% ↓

Cherry Class = 94.9% ↓

Willow Class = 96.1% ↓

Holly Class = 95.4% ↓

Silver Birch Class = 96.2% ↓

Oak Class = 95.8% ↓

Welcome! To Owen who has joined Holly Class.

PARKING

On our first day back a local resident popped into the office at the end of the school day to say that someone had parked in his allocated parking space and that he had blocked the car in! This area belongs to the residents of Lansdowne Place and as the sign at the entrance says is a private car park.

Despite many reminders regarding parking, I am becoming increasingly concerned and worried about the safety of both our school community and the wider community. I am in regular contact with the community police who try to be present when they can to ensure that everyone adheres to the parking regulations. I am aware of complaints posted on social media questioning the school's lack of concern about this. Please be assured that the children and everyone's safety is paramount; I can only request again that everyone takes some time to reflect where they are parking and question if it is actually a safe and sensible place. Let us work together please, to ensure we are all kept safe. Danuta Girton



Coming Up

Thursday 17 th January 1:30 – 3:00pm	Digital Family Workshop for years 5 & 6 parents with children. Invites to follow
Thursday 17 th January 6:00 – 7:00pm	ESafety for all parents
Friday 18 th January 10:30am	Celebratory Assembly
Friday 18 th January 11:30am	Mass – Willow Class
Friday 25 th January 11:30am	Mass – Silver Birch (leading)
Saturday 26 th January	PTFA Table Top Sale in the School Hall
Wednesday 30 th January 4:00 – 6:30pm	Parents' Evening
Thursday 31 st January 4:00 – 6:30pm	Parents' Evening
Friday 1 st February 10:30am	Celebratory Assembly
Friday 1 st February 11:30am	Mass – Oak Class
Friday 8 th February 11:30am	Mass – Apple Class
Friday 15 th February 10:30am	Celebratory Assembly
Friday 15 th February 11:30am	Mass – Cherry Class
Friday 15 th February 3:30pm	Break up for half term
Monday 21 st February 8:50am	Return from Half Term Holiday
Tuesday 5 th March	Shrove Tuesday - Lent begins
Wednesday 6 th March 9:30am	Ash Wednesday Mass – St Luke & St Teresa's Church
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day
Friday 4 th April 3:30pm	Break up for Easter Holidays
Tuesday 23 rd April	INSET – SCHOOL CLOSED
Wednesday 24 th April 8:50am	Children return to school

Celebratory Assemblies

We thought you would like some clarification about Celebratory Assemblies.

We were finding that the Celebratory Assemblies on the last afternoon of each half term were very crowded and long, particularly for the children. So, this year, we decided to hold them once a fortnight, on Friday mornings. This gives us more time to share the children's achievements and sometimes even sing a hymn.

If your child is to receive a Headteacher's Award or a bronze, silver or gold star we will contact you, usually by text, to let you know a day or so beforehand. This half term's dates are in the 'Coming Up' section of this Newsletter.



What Happens if the School is Forced to Close?



With the threat of bad weather in the winter or we have a flood, gas leak or any other unforeseen crisis, we will do all we can to keep the school open. If we do have to shut a text message will be sent as early as Mrs Allison is able to get into school, a message will scroll along the top of the website and there will be a sign on the front door.



SATURDAY JANUARY 26TH

10AM TIL 2PM

**OUR LADY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL
WINCANTON**

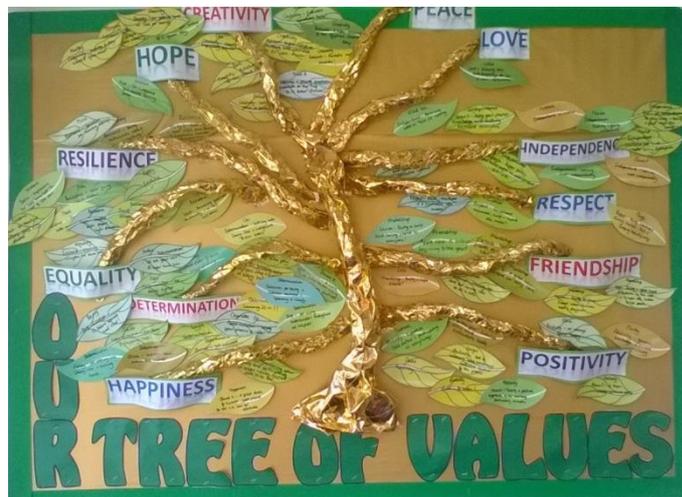
**£6 FOR A TABLE (PROVIDED)
£1 EXTRA IF BRINGING HANGING RAIL**

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

50P ENTRY FOR ADULTS (CHILDREN FREE)

SMART WATCHES

We are aware that some lucky children received SMART Watches (or the equivalent) for Christmas. If your child chooses to wear their watch to school (with your permission) please be aware that there is a risk of them getting lost or damaged and we cannot be responsible for this. Should the teacher notice that the watch is distracting your child in class they will be asked not to wear it at school. Please support us with this.



Our Tree of Values is in the Father Oliver room and those children who received the Headteacher's award during Celebration Assembly at the end of last term now have their leaf displayed on the tree.

*Well done to the following children:-
Apple Class - James for Happiness, Wiktoria for Determination
Cherry Class – Adam for Creativity, Gabriella for Love
Willow Class – Alicia for Independence, Nathan for Determination
Holly Class – Ben for Positivity, William for Determination
Silver Birch – Brooke for Resilience, Gracie for Friendship, Cynthia for Friendship
Oak Class – Katie for Creativity, Barnaby for Happiness.*