

Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic School



School Newsletter – Friday 9th September 2022

Headteacher's Message

Happy New Year! A warm welcome back, I hope you all had a wonderful summer break and enjoyed all the sunshine. The children have made a fantastic start to the new school year, they seem excited to be back and they tell me they are looking forward to the year ahead.

I often describe schooling as being on a journey, most of the time the road is smooth and straight and everything is going well. Sometimes the road can become windy and perhaps a little bumpy. I cannot stress enough the importance of us working together during such periods. Please talk to your child's class teacher in the first instance.

I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome the new staff joining our school community:

- Mrs Lewis (Year 4 class teacher)
- Mr Way (Year 6 class teacher)
- Mrs Moss ((Teacher Assistant in Early Years)
- Mrs Hooper (Teaching Assistant in Early Years),

Finally, I would like to thank you for your continued support and all your efforts and hard work as a parent in ensuring Our Lady of the Wayside is the successful school it is today. I feel truly blessed to be the Headteacher of such a wonderful community with the most amazing children, staff, governors and parents.

God bless, Mr Taylor

Gospel Reflection

In today's Gospel St Luke recounts three particularly attractive stories about forgiveness. The first two form a typical Lukan pair. First he tells the story of the lost sheep, which also occurs in St Matthew's Gospel account. Luke, however, places the accent on the joy in heaven at the return of the sinner. Then, to the story of the man looking for his sheep, Luke adds the story of a woman looking for her lost coin. He is always careful to show that women have an equal part in the Kingdom with men. So he deliberately pairs Zechariah and Mary, Simeon and Anna, Jairus' daughter raised to life with the Widow of Naim's son, and so on. The main story today, however, is the Prodigal Son, told with all Luke's love, artistry and delicacy of character-study. In the full version of this Gospel, we hear of the wastrel son who goes back home simply because he is hungry; of the loving father perpetually on the look-out, running to meet the son, interrupting the carefully prepared speech and pampering the returned young dissolute; of the disgruntled stay-at-home who invents slanders about the other's 'loose women' and is gently corrected by his father's reminder that he is 'your brother'. Jesus presents us with an unforgettable picture of the overflowing love and forgiveness of God. Is there anyone you have not yet forgiven? Sometimes it is not easy.
Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

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This Sunday's Gospel

Taken from the Gospel for 11th September 2022 (Luke 15:1-32): Forgiveness

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. "This man," they said, "welcomes sinners and eats with them." So he spoke this parable to them: "What man among you with a hundred sheep, losing one, would not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the missing one till he found it? And when he found it, would he not joyfully take it on his shoulders and then, when he got home, call together his friends and neighbours? 'Rejoice with me,' he would say, 'I have found my sheep that was lost.' In the same way, I tell you, there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one repentant sinner than over ninety-nine virtuous men who have no need of repentance. Or again, what woman with ten drachmas would not, if she lost one, light a lamp and sweep out the house and search thoroughly till she found it? And then, when she had found it, call together her friends and neighbours? 'Rejoice with me,' she would say, 'I have found the drachma I lost.' In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing among the angels of God over one repentant sinner." Jesus also said: "A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, 'Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me.' So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery. When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine. So he left the place and went back to his father. While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. And they began to celebrate. Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. 'Your brother has come,' replied the servant, 'and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound.' He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, 'Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property - he and his women - you kill the calf we had been fattening.' The father said, 'My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found.'"

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Attendance

It is essential that children regularly attend school, poor attendance has a serious and long lasting impact on your child. To promote and encourage good attendance we publish weekly attendance figures.

Reception		
Year 1	Class 1C 97.3%	Class 1Y 96.0%
Year 2	Class 2F 98.0%	Class 2CS 98.0%
Year 3	Class 3M 93.3%	Class 3TS 90.6%
Year 4	Class 4C 94.9%	Class 4L 96.2%
Year 5	Class 5E 96.3%	Class 5P 96.2%
Year 6	Class 6O 96.9%	Class 6W 95.0%

Overall attendance for this week is 95.5%. Well done this week to Class 2F and Class 2CS with an attendance figure of 98.0%

Start of Term Mass

Our first school Mass of the new academic year has been arranged for **Tuesday 13th September at 10:00am**. During this Mass class candles are blessed, candles which will be used throughout the year in class worship and assemblies. You are most welcome to join us in church or using the livestreaming facility.

Morning Snack

As a healthy school we are committed to encouraging children to make healthy food choices. Please could parents of pupils in Years 3-6 encourage their children to bring a healthy snack of their choice to eat at morning break - children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 receive a free piece of fruit each morning. We would prefer children not to bring crisps, chocolate, etc. Alternatively, for children in Years 3-6, toast (25p) and fruit (35p) can be purchased at the tuck shop and paid for via Parent Pay.

School Uniform

Last academic year, we had a huge amount of lost property at the end of the school year. Please can we remind all parents to label items of uniform. We will be installing clothing containers on the playground/field so that children have a designated space in which to place jumpers/cardigans, etc. Children will be reminded at the end of breaktimes to collect their uniform. Please note, jewellery is not to be worn to school with the exception of a stud earring. Watches are allowed but not smart watches. Thank you

Thank you

On behalf of all the staff we would like to say a huge thank you for all your gifts, cards and kind words at the end of last academic year. The staff were most touched by your generosity and kindness.

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Her Majesty The Queen

It was with great sadness that we all learnt about the death of Her Majesty The Queen yesterday. In school today, children remembered the Queen in their prayers: praying for the repose of her soul, recognising her life of service, praying for those who mourn and prayers for the King.

Next week we will hold a prayer service in remembrance of her life.

Eternal rest grant unto her,
O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine
upon her.
May she rest in peace. Amen.

Our Lady of the Wayside Church is open for people wishing to light a candle or sign a Book of Condolences located in St Aiden's Day Chapel.

200 Club

Attached to this week's newsletter is information regarding the 200 Club. It costs £30 to enter (you can pay for the year or termly) and there is a £100 prize draw every half term. Please do consider entering and perhaps encourage friends and family to buy a number too!

Brain Teaser

Claire leaves New York by eight in the morning, driving 35mph. Nina starts driving to New York at a speed of 50mph. When they meet, which one will be furthest away from New York?

School Lunches

Please see attachment for lunch menu next week.

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Physical Education

Below is timetable for Physical Education across school. Grey highlighted boxes indicate days on which your child will be doing PE. Children can wear school PE kit into school on the day of PE. In cold weather, shorts can be worn under plain black tracksuit bottoms. (no logos please) There are current shortages with our new PE top, so please speak to a member of staff if you have any queries.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Year 1					
Year 2					
Year 3					
Year 4					
Year 5					
Year 6					

Sharing and Resolving Concerns

We have developed clear pathways to ensure a concern you may have is quickly and effectively resolved. The pathway is:

Stage 1: Discuss your concern with your child's class teacher. They will work with you to discuss and resolve your concern. Please allow sufficient time for this process to be completed.

Stage 2: Please escalate your concern to your child's Phase Leader who will consider your concern and review the response given by your child's class teacher. The Phase Leaders for academic year 2022-2023 are:

Early Phase (Nursery and Reception) Mr Barr

Lower Phase (Year 1 and Year 2) Mrs Sallis

Middle Phase (Year 3 and Year 4) Miss McNamee

Upper Phase (Year 5 and Year 6) Miss Pitman

Stage 3: Please escalate your concern to Mrs Ashcroft, Deputy Headteacher. Mrs Ashcroft will consider your concern and review the responses given by your child's class teacher and your child's Phase Leader.

Stage 4: Make a formal complaint following the School's Complaint Policy (available on our website). Mr Taylor will consider your complaint and review the responses given by Mrs Ashcroft, your child's Phase Leader and their class teacher.

Wish to escalate a concern? Please complete a parent escalation form. (attached) The appropriate member of staff will be in contact; we aim to respond within three working days.

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Planned Changes for Sharing Achievement Information

We write with important news on planned changes to our arrangements for sharing and reporting your child's achievements and progress. Our new arrangements aim to:

- Strengthen the partnership between teacher, pupil and parent.
- Provide parents with information in a timelier manner.
- Assist parents in better understanding how they can support their child's education at home.
- Ensure teacher's time is used efficiently and effectively.

What are the new arrangements?

We plan to revise our pupil report cards with additional information. We plan to update pupil report cards five times a year; you will receive achievement information about your child approximately every 6-7 weeks, excluding holiday periods.

What information will be included on the revised pupil report card?

We plan to divide our revised pupil report cards into sections:

Section A	Attendance information
Section B	National assessments predictions (for Year 1, Year 2 and Year 6)
Section C	School life and learning characteristics
Section D	Curriculum achievement
Section E	Next steps (child's targets)
Section F	Parent and pupil voice

Can I discuss my child's pupil report card with their class teacher?

Yes, you will be offered five pupil review meetings. These meetings will take place with your child present. Your child is at the heart of these new plans and it is very important to us that your child has ownership of their learning. Section E and Section F of their pupil report will be completed during the pupil review meetings.

Will parents' evening continue?

Traditionally, we have offered two parents' evening during an academic year - one in the autumn term and one in the spring term. These have, traditionally, been 5 minutes in length (8 minutes during the last academic year). We plan to replace parents' evening with five pupil review meetings with 10 minutes allocated to each pupil review meeting.

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Will I be able to view my child's work?

Yes, we believe it is important you have the opportunity to view your child's work. We plan to offer termly drop in sessions where you can visit your child's classroom and see a wide selection of their work.

Will there be changes to the annual school report?

Yes, rather than one long lengthy school report issued in the summer term, we our plans will provide five mini school reports (pupil report cards) spread over the academic year.

Before we share final details, we are keen to know if you feel the proposed changes are the right approach. If we could please ask for you to complete a very short parent survey:

<https://forms.office.com/r/ss7M3AwxKu>

(please note, due to ParentPay settings, you may need to copy and paste this link into your web browser)

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School Association



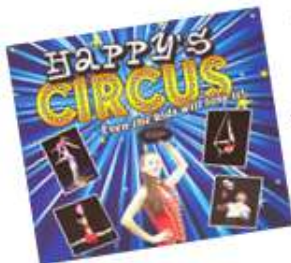
At Our Lady of the Wayside School
Thursday 22nd September

Gates open 5pm for refreshments

Big Top entry 5.30pm

Pre-show entertainment 5.40pm

Main show 6-8.30pm with a 30-minute interval



The circus will not be back next year! Don't miss out!

Book your tickets now.

£10 per ticket

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/happys-circus-returns-to-our-lady-of-the-wayside-school-tickets-358605979137>

