

Latest School News

Gospel Reflection

Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection:

Following on from the four adjustments of the Law in last Sunday's gospel come two more, perhaps the most demanding. The Law of Moses had limited revenge: only a tooth might be taken for a tooth, only an eye for an eye, not life itself. Jesus, however, will not tolerate even this limited vengeance: he allows no revenge at all. Again and again in the course of the gospel Jesus returns to this need for unconditional forgiveness. We daringly engage ourselves with this teaching whenever we say the Lord's Prayer, 'forgive us just as we forgive...'. The final demand, however, is the most challenging of all. There is in fact no passage of the canonical scripture which encourages 'hate your enemy'. In any case, just as God lavishes his benefits of life, sun and rain on good and evil alike, so we must put no limits to our love. Only in this way - think of the first reading! - can we attempt to honour and imitate the holiness of God. This is what it means to be a son of God, 'sons of your Father in heaven': only by following in his way and by fulfilling his designs can we be integrated into his family. There can be no enmity in Christianity

Sunday's Gospel

Taken from the Gospel for Sunday 19th February 2023 - Jesus completes the Law (Matthew 5:38-48)

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You have learnt how it was said: Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well; if a man takes you to law and would have your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him. Give to anyone who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away. You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be sons of your Father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike. For if you love those who love you, what right have you to claim any credit? Even the tax collectors do as much, do they not? And if you save your greetings for your brothers, are you doing anything exceptional? Even the pagans do as much, do they not? You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.'

Weekend Mass Times at Our Lady of the Wayside Church

Saturday evening Vigil Mass for Sunday 5.30pm

Sunday Mass: 10am

Did you know.... our mission statement is 'Learning and growing together, rooted in Christ'. This is displayed throughout school and is discussed in classrooms and in school assemblies.

Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic School

School Newsletter

Monday 13th February 2023

Headteacher Vacancy

Following Mr Taylor's announcement, we can confirm that the process to recruit a new Headteacher for Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic School has begun. The vacancy will be advertised after half-term. Our Lady and All Saints Catholic MAC and Our Lady of the Wayside Governors are hopeful to have made an appointment by early Summer 2023 Term.

Gas Update

We can confirm that the mains gas pipe will be replaced during half-term. Please note, there will be no access to the school playground for vehicle parking on the weekends of 18th February and 25th February.

Half Term and INSET Days

A reminder that next week (20th February to 24th February) is half-term. Monday 27th February and Tuesday 28th February are INSET days and school is closed for all pupils. Pupils return to Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic School on **Wednesday 1st March**.

We can also confirm that Monday 8th May is a Bank Holiday, an additional Bank Holiday to mark the King Charles' Coronation.

There will be no newsletter this Friday. We hope you all have a wonderful half-term.

Year 6 Visit St Chad's Cathedral

Last week, as part of their programme of preparation to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, our Year 6 children visited St Chad's Cathedral in Birmingham. They had a guided tour of the Cathedral where they learnt about the Cathedral and its role as the principal church within the Archdiocese of Birmingham. They also joined with St Chad's parishioners in the celebration of Mass. Please remember Year 6 in your prayers as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.



King Charles' Coronation

We are considering what to do to celebrate the King's Coronation; we have reserved Friday 5th May as a day for Coronation celebrations. We will be meeting with Our Lady of the Wayside's School Council after half-term to discuss ideas. Please let the school office know if you have any suggestions.

One project we are planning is some form of local environment initiative, this will link with the Coronation's Big Help Project and King Charles' support for the environment. Our thinking currently is some form family litter pick. Further details will follow shortly.

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	Red Group 94.0%	Blue Group 89.6%
Year 1	Class 1C 92.0%	Class 1Y 99.3%
Year 2	Class 2F 92.3%	Class 2CS 97.3%
Year 3	Class 3M 96.6%	Class 3TS 88.6%
Year 4	Class 4C 95.0%	Class 4L 98.1%
Year 5	Class 5E 99.0%	Class 5V 93.7%
Year 6	Class 6O 99.0%	Class 6P 98.4%

Overall attendance for this week is 94.9%. Well done this week to Class 1Y with an attendance figure of 99.3%



Brain Teaser

This week's brainteaser:

When John was six years old he hammered a nail into his favourite tree to mark his height. Ten years later at age sixteen, John returned to see how much higher the nail was. If the tree grew by five centimetres each year, how much higher would the nail be?

Teacher Vacancy

Early Years - Nursery

We are looking to recruit an Early Years teacher for Summer 2023 Term, initially this will be a fixed term contract. This is a full time position and the successful candidate will be based in our Nursery. Applications from recently qualified teachers and experienced Early Years practitioners are welcome. Further information is available on the school website or from the school office.

Assistant Headteacher Vacancy

We have now begun the process of recruiting a new Assistant Headteacher for Our Lady of the Wayside. Our previous Assistant Headteacher, Mr Jim Hill, retired at the end of last academic year. Due to financial reasons at the time, we were unable to recruit a replacement. In December, the Government announced that all schools in England would receive additional school funding. We plan to invest this additional school funding in the recruitment of a new Assistant Headteacher. This role will be full time (we would consider 4 days a week) and will be non-class based. The new Assistant Headteacher will lead on inclusion (including special educational needs), pastoral support and behaviour. The start date will be Summer 2023 Term or Autumn 2023 Term. Further information can be found on the school website or office.

KS1 Individual Needs Support Worker

We are also looking to recruit for the above position. This is a temporary post for the summer term. The position is for two days per week (11 hours in total) - THURSDAY and FRIDAY working pattern. Further information is available on the school website or via the school office.

India Visit

Good luck to Mrs Lloyd and Mrs Sallis who are visiting St Mary's Educational Trust in India during February half-term. They will be teaching in St Mary's during the day and working with the boarding children in the evening. We wish them a safe journey and look forward to hearing all about their visit after half-term.

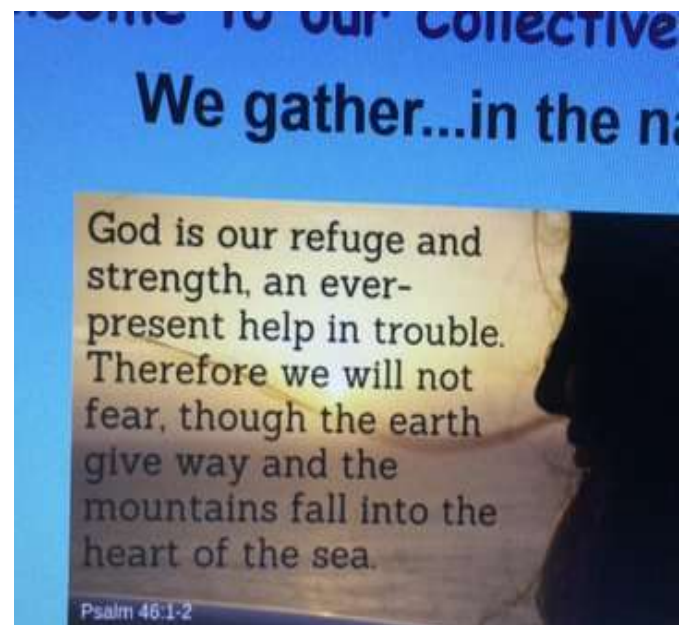


Earthquake in Turkey and Syria

We have all been shocked by the level of devastation caused by last week's earthquake in Turkey and Syria. Throughout last week, children were praying for those affected and for the rescuers. **This Thursday, 16th February is a non-uniform day in support of the earthquake appeal. There is no set amount, donations please.**

Year 5 Drum Club

Kenzie, one of our Year 5 pupils, loves his drumming, so much so that Kenzie is starting his own Drum Club after half-term! Our sincere thanks to St Andrew's Catholic School who kindly donated an old drum kit for our new Drum Club. Kenzie, and some of his friends, visited St Andrew's last Thursday to collect our new drum kit.



Safer Internet Day

Last Tuesday was Safer Internet Day. Children undertook a variety of tasks. They considered how to stay safe when online and how they should behave when online. Here are some of their different activities:

For safer internet day, Year 6 discussed their online experiences and at what age different tech milestones start to happen. They also worked in groups to create a Safer Internet Day charter youth charter.



The E-safety Champions shared Hanni's and the window with lower phase children and exploring who they can talk to. #SaferInternetDay2023



Year 4 have been taking part in safer internet day. They were using their debating skills to negotiate appropriate behaviour in different online scenarios. There were lots of different views #democracy #SaferInternetDay2023



Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic School

School Newsletter

Monday 13th February 2023

Non Uniform Days

Thursday - Non-uniform day in support of earthquake in Turkey and Syria. Donations please.

Friday - School Association non-uniform day - £1 charge.

Special Lunch Menus

Tuesday 14th February - Valentine's Day

- Healthy Sausage Hot Dogs
- Mac N Cheese
- Garlic bread
- Sweetcorn
- Peas
- Heart biscuits and sweetheart jelly

Wednesday 15th February - Early Pancake Day

- Roast beef with Yorkshire pudding
- Salmon fishcakes
- Roast potatoes
- Cabbage and carrots
- Pancakes and fruit

Message from Our Lady of the Wayside Pre-School

SCHOOL ASSISTANT - 3 Mornings

We have a vacancy for an enthusiastic and caring Pre-School Assistant to join our team in our busy Pre-School. The post will be for Monday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings 9.00am - 12.30pm during term time and subject to a 3 month probationary period.

Applicants must have one or more of the following: CACHE Level 3 Diploma in Pre-school Practice, NVQ Level 3 or equivalent as well as a sound understanding of the EYFS with an ability to fully implement its requirements. Experience of completing children's development files in line with the EYFS is also essential.

You must be able to plan, deliver and evaluate learning experiences, have effective communication skills and be willing to undertake additional training.

For an informal discussion, application form, job description & person specification or setting visit, please contact Ann Marie Brady, Manager 07474 743744, alternatively contact us by email ourladyofthewaysidepreschool@gmail.com Please note we do not accept CVs. Closing date for applications is Friday 10th March 2023. Our Lady of the Wayside PreSchool has a responsibility for and a commitment to, safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and requires all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

The successful candidate will be subject to suitable references and an enhanced DRB check.