

Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic School



School Newsletter – Friday 6th October 2023

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Mrs Ashcroft, Mrs Gray and myself have had an exciting week looking at your children's books across the whole school as well as talking to them about their learning. They were a real delight and were very articulate at telling us about all the different activities that they experience at school. They were also able to tell us about their friendship groups and teachers. They said that they were proud to be a pupil at Our lady of the Wayside and felt safe in and around school. There were a few recommendations from the children including wanting some new play equipment for playtimes and some new blinds in the hall. They said it was difficult to see the whiteboard when the sun shines! £500 has been kindly donated to the school this week from the Will of Thelma Harradence. This money will be spent on new play equipment and I am sure Thelma will be very happy knowing that her money will be used in such a practical way. The School Association will pay for the hall blinds which is wonderful. This has allowed us to listen to the voice of our children and action their requests straight away.

October is the month dedicated to Mary and the holy rosary and this week in assembly we discussed the mysteries of the rosary and said a decade of the rosary. We will continue to pray the rosary throughout October. As a family please try and take time to pray the rosary during this special month.

God bless

Mrs Enstone

This Sunday's Gospel

Taken from the Gospel for Sunday 8th October 2023 - True Justice (Matthew 21:33-43)

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son," he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance". So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures: "It was the stone rejected by the builders that became the keystone. This was the Lord's doing and it is wonderful to see!" I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

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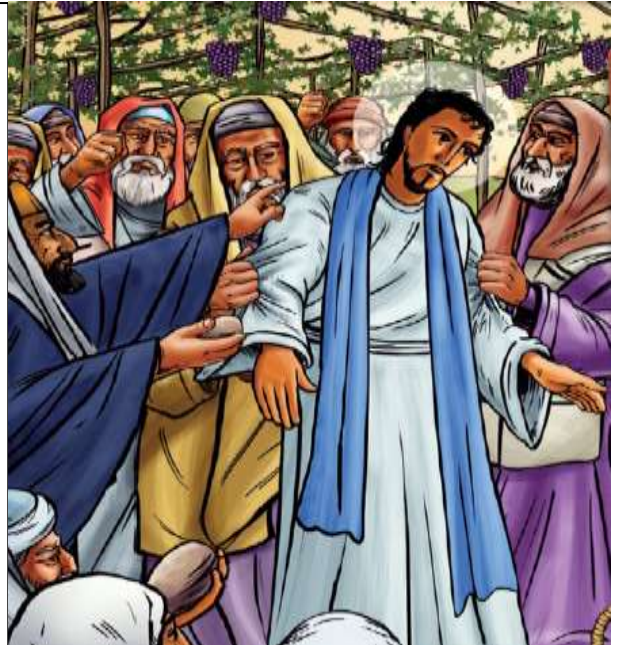


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Gospel Reflection

It's easy to get caught up in the daily busyness of life and forget what life's really all about. However, to assist us on our path through life, God sends messengers to help us remember what is most important. In this Sunday's Gospel, the servants represent God's messengers (the Prophets) and the tenants of the vineyard represent the leaders of Israel at that time. Jesus told this story because some of the leaders were not listening to God's messengers. In many ways we are like 'tenants' in this world. The messengers that God sends today remind us that God has a great plan for our lives. We are created for everlasting life and, for now, we are here to share, enjoy and develop what God gives to us in this life. Pope Francis reminds us, "May you always be messengers of peace and goodwill."

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB



Cafod Fast Day

Next Friday, 13th October we are holding our harvest CAFOD Fast Day, a day where we ask children to go without their normal morning snacks donating the money they would have normally spent on their morning snack to CAFOD. Your child should have received an envelope for donations. Please return these to school on/before Friday 13th or alternatively donations can be placed in a collection container at the school gate next Friday.

One World Liturgy

This year's One World Liturgy will also take place on Friday 20th October, 2:45pm in OLW Church. As in previous years, we will be collecting tins of food, spaghetti, dried food, etc which we will send to a charity called Brushstrokes for distribution across Solihull and Birmingham. Can we please ask for food donations to be brought into school week commencing 16th October.

Pupil Review Meetings

Pupil Review Meetings will take place in the week beginning 16th October. We will send out details about how to book an appointment on Monday. Below is a timetable for the week.

Pupil Review 1 – week commencing 16th October

Nursery	Monday 16 th October	Year 3	Monday 16 th October
Reception Blue	Tuesday 17 th October	Year 4	Thursday 19 th October
Reception Red	Wednesday 18 th October	Year 5	Tuesday 17 th October
Year 1	Tuesday 17 th October	Year 6	Wednesday 18 th October
Year 2	Monday 16 th October		

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Parent Information Meetings

We hope that you found the Parent Information Meetings useful. For any parents unable to attend, this information can be found on the school's website under Class Pages. Year 3 Parent Information meeting will take place on Monday 9th October at 2:45pm in the school hall.

Parish/School Mass

Following the success of our parish/school Masses last academic year, we are delighted to be able to continue with this initiative this year. Each month, children and their families from a particular year group will be invited to come together with Our Lady of the Wayside Parish in the celebration of Mass. The children will welcome people to Mass, they will read the Word of God and they will lead the Prayer of the Faithful. The dates for this term are:

- Saturday 14th October Year 5
- Saturday 11th November Year 3 (First Holy Communion Enrolment Mass)



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 94.0%	Blue 92.2%
Year 1	Class 1C 93.7%	Class 1Y 95.7%
Year 2	Class 2F 96.6%	Class 2SH 96.6%
Year 3	Class 3A 93.5%	Class 3TS 95.3%
Year 4	Class 4M 95.5%	Class 4L 99.6%
Year 5	Class 5E 96.7%	Class 5T 95.8%
Year 6	Class 6O 96.7%	Class 6C 98.6%

Overall attendance for this week is 96.4%. Well done this week to Class 4L with an attendance figure of 99.6%

School Association News

The School Association are planning two events this term so save the dates!

Sunday 12th November – An autumn themed disco to be held at Our Lady of Lourdes Social Club (TBC), 4-6pm.



Saturday 2nd December – The Christmas Fayre to be held in the school hall.

Further details from the School Association will be sent.

A reminder that the deadline for completed artwork was today and that the deadline for online orders is Tuesday 31st October.

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Y5 OLAAS MAC Football Competition

This afternoon some children from Year 5 took part in the first Y5 OLAAS MAC football competition at St Peter's. Well done to all the children who took part. Congratulations to St Augustine's who were overall winners. Thank you to St Peter's for hosting the event.



Hateful content



Hateful content is where others are inciting hatred towards an individual or a group. If the focus of the hateful content is a protected characteristic, then it's a hate crime.

Hate crime is where a person focuses on disability, race or ethnicity, religion or beliefs, sexual orientation or gender identity to abuse another person. Hate crime can happen online as well as offline.

If your child experiences this, they might feel frightened or angry about the abuse. But your child may also see this behaviour directed at other people. You should explain that hate crime is illegal and that it can be reported to the police. Discuss with your child what they can do if they see this happening and explain that they shouldn't ignore it.

Encourage your child to respect other online users and to think before making a comment, sharing an image or sending a message. Sometimes it can be a good idea to wait a little while and think if what you are about to do could hurt someone's feelings.

What should you do if they do see this content?

Report it - Make sure you and your child know where you can report content. Look at our online reporting page for more information depending on what you want to report.

Set up parental controls - Setting up parental controls can help prevent it happening again.

Explore in-app settings - Look for content or age settings on the app to help limit certain types of content.

Show them Childline's Calm Zone - The Calm Zone has activities to help children feel better when they are feeling anxious, scared or sad.

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Open Day

Parents seeking a Nursery or Reception school place for September 2024 are invited to visit Our Lady of the Wayside School on Friday 13th October or Thursday 19th October. There will be two guided tours by Year 6 children on these dates: 9:30am or 10:00 am. Please call the office to book an appointment.

Holy Communion Parent Meeting

A parent meeting providing details on Holy Communion preparation and dates has been arranged for Thursday 26th October at 6:30pm in the School Hall. If you are unable to attend, information will be issued after the meeting.