



# Our Lady of Fatima Primary School

## Newsletter October 2017

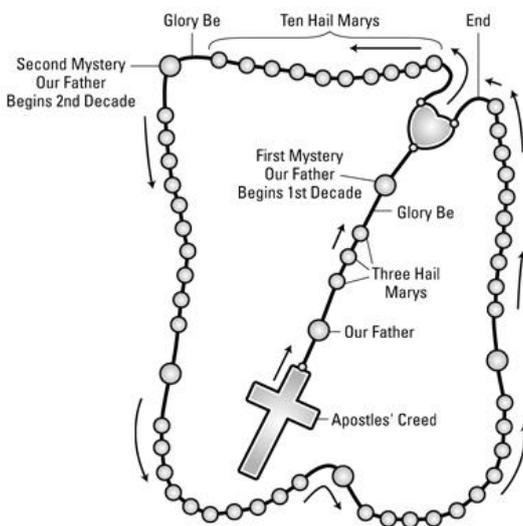
'We welcome everyone into our community to live, love and learn together in the light and example of Jesus Christ'

[www.olfatima.bham.sch.uk](http://www.olfatima.bham.sch.uk)

### 'Eloquent and Truthful'

Pupils at Our Lady of Fatima School aim to be **eloquent** in what they say of themselves and **truthful** about themselves and to all they meet.

**October** is the month of the Rosary. Our school name is dedicated in honour of Our Lady. Please spend time with your child sharing prayers from their class Prayer Book and praying the Rosary in your home as a family.



us the privilege of nurturing and educating your children through their primary years. Please remember all our new children and their families in your prayers.

### Serving Christ in the Community

I would like to thank the children who regularly read at the 11.00 am Mass on Sundays at Our Lady of Fatima Church. Years 4, 5 and 6 take it in turns to read and advance notification of these Masses always appears at the end of each newsletter with the diary dates. Ideally five volunteers are required for each Mass. Please encourage your child to volunteer to read as it is a wonderful way to additionally serve the community. Thank you also to our regular Altar Servers who assist Father Craig during Masses. Mrs McGuinness is currently training several of our Junior children to become Altar Servers. This is a wonderful way of serving the school and church community.



On Thursday we will officially welcome our new Reception Class to Our Lady of Fatima School family during a special Blessing Service. It will undoubtedly be an uplifting, prayerful occasion. Thank you to our new and existing parents from Reception Class for allowing

## Harvest Celebration Service

We look forward to welcoming everyone to our Harvest Celebration Service in school on:



**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2017 at 9.05 am**

This year's theme for our Harvest Service is 'Brighten Up the World this Harvest' and is taken from Laudato Si from Pope Francis - looking after our world's resources and not wasting them. Once again we will be supporting the **Fireside Centre** - a Birmingham charity for the homeless. We ask for donations of non-perishable foods and toiletries. These should be brought into school **as soon as possible**. Charitable donations are truly recognised as a way the children can show kind acts of helping their neighbour through the Corporal Works of Mercy.



We also like to support our global family and we do this by making a donation to the charity **CAFOD**. This year there will be a collection at the end of the service. Peter McCann, a representative from CAFOD will once again, be attending our Harvest Service, where he will talk to the children about how their donations really do make a difference, especially with the current refugee crisis. We are therefore not only asking for your compassion and prayers, but also your generosity. Thank you.

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## Automatic Gates

Many parents have commented most positively about the additional safety and security the new automatic gates have provided. The double gates to the drive will be locked at all times. Access to the school can be gained via the pedestrian gate which opens automatically via the office intercom.

## Punctuality

May I remind all parents that they must sign their children into school at the office should they arrive after 8.55 am when the Infant and Junior doors are closed. The number of children arriving at the office unaccompanied has increased. Should you be unavoidably late after 3.30 pm. Please contact the office to ensure that we can reassure your child of your time of arrival. All children must be signed out of the school building after 3.30 pm. Thank you for your co-operation.

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## October Inspire Workshops



Being educated in a Catholic school is parental choice. This year the theme of our Inspire workshops is Catholic Life, Prayer and Child Led Worship. Years 2 and 4 have already enjoyed their workshop with their parents. They shared different ways of how their faith journey is developed through prayer and worship. Thank you to the parents for the most positive feedback we have already received. Year 6 will be working alongside their parents at their workshop on 17<sup>th</sup> October and Year 1's workshop is on 31<sup>st</sup> October both starting at 9.10am.

Reception Class parents are invited to a meeting on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October at 2.30 pm where Mrs Lake will share tips and ideas for making learning to read fun.

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## Parents' Evenings

We look forward to welcoming all parents on either 4<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> October for Parents' Evening. Thank you, in advance for making arrangements for your child/ren to be supervised at home. These 'meet

and greet' meetings are so important so that you can be reassured of how well your child has settled into their new class. You will be asked to check your child's Data Collection for so that our records are up to date.

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### **Open Morning**

Our Open Morning for prospective parents here at Our Lady of Fatima School is on Thursday 2nd November 9.30 - 11.30 a.m. If you are intending to apply for a place for your child, please provide the school office with your child's Baptismal Certificate by the end of term. You must complete the relevant Local Authority form.

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### **Open Day**

Hagley RC High School has asked us to remind parents in Years 5 and 6 that they will be holding their annual Open Day on

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October**  
**9.00 am to 12.00 pm.**

There will be demonstrations, performances and displays which reflect the range of opportunities offered at Hagley Catholic High School. A tour of the school is likely to take approximately 2 hours so it is advisable for visitors to arrive between 9:00am and 10:00 am.

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### **Operation Christmas Child**

I am aware that it is only October and we do try not to think about Christmas until at least after half term, but planning ahead I will be sending out our annual 'Operation Christmas Child' slips before we break up. The team that collect the shoe boxes will collect them during November. It is a lovely activity for the children to engage in during the half term break. Last year we sent **128** boxes to



Kyrgyzstan. It a big challenge but let's see if we can beat our record this year. Further details to follow.

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### **School Nurse Clinic**

Our school nurse will be available in school every fortnight on Tuesday mornings from 8.30- 10.30 am. Her next visit will be on 17<sup>th</sup> October. She will be able to offer advice and support with any medical issues or other concerns such as dietary requirements. She will also be meeting with pupils who have medical conditions such as asthma, to help to support them in their understanding and use of administering their inhalers independently. Should you have any concerns about this, please contact the school office.

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### **School Admissions September 2018**

Secondary School closing date: Tuesday 31st October 2017 (Birmingham).

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### **Year 3 Sacramental Preparation**

**Advance Notice:** There will be a meeting for Year 3 parents on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November at 7 p.m. All parents should attend. The dates for sacramental preparation have already been issued and can also be found on the school's website. On 21st November parents will be asked to opt for one of the two dates in May 2018 for First Holy Communion.

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### **Thank You**

September was the first month in a very long time when I did not receive complaints from the residents about inconsiderate parking. I can only assume that parents are parking with due care, consideration and safety on the surrounding roads to school. Many thanks for your co-operation. We try hard to maintain good relationships with the local residents in our local community.

## £1 Coins



The old style £1 coins will go out of circulation on 15<sup>th</sup> October. We would be grateful if you would only send the new style coins into school from now on. Thank you.

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## Lunchtimes

We like to offer flexibility for lunch choices but we are experiencing problems arising from pupils swapping from a packed lunch to a cooked dinner several times during the week. A cooked lunch is offered to all pupils on a Friday, should they wish to avail of this option. Occasionally throughout the year we also offer a 'themed lunch' to all children. KS2 pupils must send their money into school on a Monday for cooked lunches for the week please.

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## PTA News

Many thanks to all the parents and pupils who attended the first PTA event of the year-the Welcome Disco. The entertainment, BBQ and refreshments were extremely popular. The night raised over £700, so many thanks again to everyone who supported the event!



The PTA work incredibly hard to make sure every fundraising event is successful. The next event will be a cake sale on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October from 3.30 pm. All donations will be gratefully accepted.

Advance notice of our annual Firework Disco which will take place on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November from 6.30-9 pm. Additional resourcing would not be possible without your generous support and the work of the volunteers who give their time and energy to planning and running events. We always need more helpers, and recognise that not everyone can make evening meetings, or want to be involved in every event. Even if you can only help out at one event over the year, this would still help - please contact the PTA at [olfpta@gmail.com](mailto:olfpta@gmail.com)  
Thank you as always for your generous support.

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## School Uniform

Planning ahead a little- please ensure that your child returns to school after the half term holidays on 30<sup>th</sup> October wearing full winter uniform, including shirts/blouses and ties. A waterproof coat is also essential as we aim to have children playing outside during all playtimes unless the weather dictates otherwise. Thank you.

## October

Sun 1 Oct  
Mon 2 Oct  
Tues 3 Oct  
Tues 3 Oct  
Wed 4 Oct  
Wed 4 Oct

## Month of the Rosary

Year 4 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church  
9 am Reception Class Eye Tests  
9.10 am Year 4 Inspire Workshop  
8.30-10.30 am School Nurse Clinic  
**Year 1 only-** St Francis' Feast Day- own clothes  
Parents' Evening 4pm-7pm **Parents only for all appointments -**

please make arrangements for your child/ren to be supervised at home.

Thurs 5 Oct	9.05 am Reception Class' Welcome and Blessing Service
Thurs 5 Oct	Themed school lunch day
Sun 8 Oct	Year 6 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Mon 9 Oct	Parents' Evening 4pm-7pm <b><u>Parents only for all appointments</u></b> - please make arrangements for your child/ren to be supervised at home
Tues 10 Oct	Under 11's 6 a-side Football tournament a/m
Wed 11 Oct	6 pm OLOF Academy Committee Meeting
Thurs 12 Oct	9.05 am Harvest Service led by Year 6
Fri 13 Oct	<b>Teacher Day (3)- School closed to pupils</b>
Fri 13 Oct	Our Lady of Fatima's 100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church-7pm. All welcome.
Sun 15 Oct	Year 5 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Mon 16 Oct	Black History Week
Tues 17 Oct	9.10 am Yr 6 Inspire Workshop
Tues 17 Oct	8.30-10.30 am School Nurse Clinic
Thurs 19 Oct	2.30 pm Reception Class Introduction to Reading Parents' Meeting
Fri 20 Oct	3.30 pm PTA Cake Sale
	<b>HALF TERM</b>
Mon 30 Oct	Pupils return to school
Mon 30 Oct	9.40 am Yr 1,2,3 anti flu treatment (awaiting confirmation for Reception)
Tues 31 Oct	9.10 am Year 1 Inspire Workshop
Tues 31 Oct	8.30-10.30 am School Nurse Clinic
Tues 31 Oct	Able Maths Workshop 9.15 -3 pm at Harborne Primary School
<b>November</b>	<b>Dedicated Month for Holy Souls</b>
Wed 1 Nov	9.05 am Mass for the Feast of All Saints led by Year 4
Thurs 2 Nov	9.30- 11.30 am Open Morning
Fri 3 Nov	Science Ambassadors' Day at Our Lady and St Kenelm's Primary School
Fri 3 Nov	6.30 pm PTA Firework Disco
Sun 5 Nov	Year 4 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Mon 6 Nov	Book Week starts
Mon 6 Nov	6 pm MAC Full Board meeting
Thurs 9 Nov	9.05 am Year 2's Assembly. All welcome.
Sun 12 Nov	Year 6 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church

Tues 14 Nov	9.10 am Year 3 Inspire Workshop
Tues 14 Nov	8.30-10.30 am School Nurse Clinic
Fri 17 Nov	Stringables
Sun 19 Nov	Year 5 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Tues 21 Nov	9.10 am Year 5 Inspire Workshop
Tues 21 Nov	7 pm FHC Meeting in school hall
Fri 24 Nov	7-9 pm PTA Craft Fayre
Sun 26 Nov	11.00 am in church Year 3 Mass of Enrolment for First Holy Communion
Tues 28 Nov	8.30-10.30 am School Nurse Clinic
Thurs 30 Nov	KS2 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

## **December**

Sun 3 Dec	Advent begins- Year 4 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Mon 4 Dec	9.05 am Whole School Mass led by Year 3
Mon 4 Dec	6 pm Full MAC Board Meeting
Wed 6 Dec	6 pm OLOF Academy Committee Meeting
Thurs 7 Dec	KS1 Nativity 9.15 am and 2.15 pm
Fri 8 Dec	3.30-5.30 pm PTA Film Night
Sun 10 Dec	Year 6 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Tues 12 Dec	8.30-10.30 am School Nurse Clinic
Wed 13 Dec	Year 3 to visit Santa at Baskerville School
Thurs 14 Dec	9.15 am Carol Service
Thurs 14 Dec	PTA Christmas Disco in church hall
Sun 17 Dec	Year 5 reading at 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church
Tues 19 Dec	Christmas Pantomime a.m
Wed 20 Dec	Christmas Dinner day
Thurs 21 Dec	Christmas Parties and Santa's visit pm
Fri 22 Dec	Christmas Jumper Day

**Break-up for Christmas Holiday 3.30 p.m.**

Pupils back to school on **Monday 8th January 2018** - School opens for pupils **8.45 a.m.**

Thank you to those families who have already contributed to the Autumn Term's School Fund. Your £5.00 termly family donation enables us to buy additional resources for your children. Please consider contributing if you haven't already done so.



**SCHOOL FUND AUTUMN TERM 2017**

I attach my family contribution of £5 / other £ \_\_\_\_\_ for the Autumn Term 2017.

Eldest child in school \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ .

We will return this slip to you to acknowledge your contribution.

Please make cheque payable to SNOMAC.

Received in school by \_\_\_\_\_ Thank you for your support.