



Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Primary School

Newsletter — September 2018



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

'Compassionate and Loving'.

Pupils at Our Lady of Fatima School aim to be **compassionate** towards others, near and far, especially the less fortunate; and **loving** by just actions and forgiving words.

Welcome



A very warm welcome back to everyone. I hope that you all had a lovely summer break with your families and

enjoyed what was a wonderful summer break weather-wise. I would like to extend a special warm welcome to our new children and their families. I know that the whole school community will help our new families to settle in well. I am sure that all the children are happy to be reunited with their friends.

We also welcome Mr Simmons and Mrs Zorescu to our school community and hope that they will be very happy teaching at Our Lady of Fatima School. Miss Brown and Miss Hill will also be joining the staff as Lunchtime Supervisors.

May I ask you to remember in your prayers the current Year 7 pupils starting their Secondary Schools. They will be feeling excited, but may also be feeling a little anxious about their new settings.

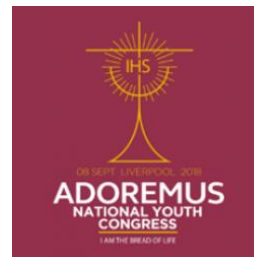
Mass : Monday 10th September 2018

You are all invited to our first Mass of the new school year in the school hall starting at 9.05 am. We will dedicate the Mass for the intentions of our whole school community as we begin



this new school year together. Please do join us in this school community worship.

Adoremus



In September the Catholic Church in England and Wales is holding a Eucharistic Pilgrimage and Congress in Liverpool. This is an opportunity for over 10,000 Catholics to gather

together and to learn about how important the wonderful Gift of the Eucharist is in our lives, and also to pray together. Some children from our school have been invited to join the Archbishop in prayer in his private chapel before the Blessed Sacrament at St Chad's Cathedral. This will be live streamed from the Archbishop's private chapel on the afternoon of **Tuesday 11th September.**

Parish News

The refurbishment work to the church hall is progressing well and is on schedule for completion at the end of September. You can look at the parish website for current news and updates www.catholicquinton.org.uk The parish also has a Twitter account which is regularly updated:

OLFQuinton

Pope Francis



Some of our school community were fortunate to visit Knock, when Pope Francis visited Ireland

on the weekend of 25-26th August. This was a wonderful occasion, especially as it was nearly 40 years ago in 1979 since Pope John Paul II visited Ireland. You can follow Pope Francis' messages on the Pope's App: <http://www.news.va/en/source/vatican.va> Pope Francis also has a Twitter account and his daily messages are most inspiring and poignant: **Pope Francis@Pontifex**.

School Information

If there are any changes of address or telephone numbers, please let the office staff know ASAP. We require at least two current phone numbers



in case the school needs to contact you urgently. Mobile phone numbers change frequently, so please make sure we have your current mobile number. An annual medical update form for Years 1-6 is being sent out with this newsletter. **Please return this as soon as possible, even if your child has no known medical conditions (just write N/A)**. We can then be certain that we have the most up-to-date information from you. If your child has an inhaler or any other medication please make sure it is back in school after the holiday and that the 'use by date' will last for the whole term. May I also remind you that First Aiders may only give prescribed medicines if parents complete a school consent form.

School Nurse Drop In Clinic

The NHS has made cut backs to the services provided to schools and unfortunately this means that for the unforeseeable future, the Drop In Clinic at school, which used to take place every month on Tuesdays, will no longer take



place. The nurses at Quinton Lane are still able to offer advice and support with any medical issues or other concerns such as sleeping routines or dietary requirements.

I will inform you if and when the visits provided to school resume.

School Appointments

If there are any problems or concerns that parents would like to discuss with a class teacher, staff are more than willing to meet you **after school by appointment**. Mornings are not really suitable for meetings without prior notice, as staff are preparing for the school day and once the bell rings, their priority is the children. Other more urgent messages may, of course, be left with the office.

Attendance and Punctuality



We pride ourselves that our overall school attendance exceeds the national figure. When we broke up in July, our overall attendance for the academic year of 2017-18 was

97.2%. This was a slight increase from 2016-17. The overall best attenders were the current Year 3 with a fabulous attendance of 97.8%.

We also place importance on the punctuality of all children as this makes a good start to the day. The Infant and Junior doors will open from 8:45 a.m. to allow all children to arrive in their classroom by 8:55 a.m. Please make sure your child starts the school day well by being present when the register is called in the classroom at 8.55 am. Should your child's attendance fall below 95%, we will contact you to arrange to make an appointment to discuss the reasons and to create an improvement plan. Holidays during term time are strictly **unauthorised**. This includes days off for extended weekends away. Today you will also receive an attendance leaflet, which I would urge you to read.

It is in line with the Government guidelines regarding school attendance and punctuality during term time.

Our Lady of Fatima School Website



www.olfatima.bham.sch.uk

Our school website is regularly updated. It continues to be a great line of communication, so that parents and others who want to find out more about our school are able to be kept up to date with news, information and events. Please do spend some time looking at our Events Page, where you will see the varied activities your children complete in school. At the bottom of the welcome page there is an itemised list of what has been added most recently.

Dinner Money / Other Money

During this school year we will become a 'cashless school' so that all payments will be made online. This is currently working successfully in some of our Academy schools. Details will be sent out separately about this, but until this change occurs, when sending money into school, please ensure it is in a sealed envelope labelled with your child's name, class and what the money is for.

Money for different items should be sent in separate envelopes via your child. It is helpful if the correct change is brought into school for snack money. The office staff will no longer randomly receive money /payments from parents. A reminder that school dinners are £11.50 per week for KS2 pupils (Universal Free School Meals for Reception and KS1 pupils) and this should be handed in on Monday morning. Dinner money can be paid weekly or half termly by cheque (made payable to 'SNOMAC' with your child's initials on the back).

Children who usually have a packed lunch might like to have a Friday lunch which is paid for at the beginning

of the week - £ 2.30. There will be a special menu for all children on Thursday 4th October. Details to follow.

Free School Meal Entitlement

All Infant pupils are entitled to Universal Free School Meals. In addition to this entitlement the DfE use a formula for allocating money to schools and the % of children entitled to free school meals significantly increases a school's budget. Details regarding entitlement to free school meals are available from the school office. The school subscribes to a Birmingham service that checks a family's eligibility to Free School Meals. It is very simple to use and avoids any need to provide proof to the school. Once registered, parents do not have to do anymore. We would encourage all parents, regardless of income to log on to the site and register:

<https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/birmingham/school>

Early Birds and Evening Owls Club

At present the club has a few spaces both in the mornings and evenings.



There are cancellations on occasions, so it is always worth checking with Mrs Rickerby - 07805 511796 should you require child care before or after school. If you have booked places but do not need them, please let Mrs Rickerby know as soon as possible. **A reminder that sessions are chargeable when booked, even if they are not taken up.**



P.T.A. News: Diary Dates

P.T.A A.G.M - Thursday 20th September 7 p.m.

Welcome Disco - Friday 28th September 6:30-9pm

Our annual Summer Fayre last July was a huge success. A total profit of over £1,500 was raised, which is tremendous seeing as it took place on the same day as England played in the quarter finals of the World Cup.

A huge thank you to all P.T.A volunteers, parents, families and friends who supported this event. The committed P.T.A are always ready to welcome new or existing parents - please consider whether you can volunteer to be a member of the P.T.A. or volunteer to help out at events - why not come along to the A.G.M. on Thursday 20th September to find out more?

The Welcome Disco on 28th September is open to all families and is a great way for our new families to get to know each other but please remember that all children must be accompanied and supervised by an adult. A polite reminder: as a public building, the law regarding no smoking/vaping covers all parts of the school premises including the playground and paths.

Alton Castle

Year 6 children will be taking part in a retreat between 24th- 26th September. Further details for Year 6 parents will follow.

Internet Safety Yr 1-6



In line with our Internet Safety Policy, an acceptable use form will be sent home with a letter today. The form needs to be signed and returned to school by Monday 17th September.

Inspire Workshops

A separate letter has already been issued to inform you of the Inspire Workshop dates. The workshops for most classes will focus on our new approach to teaching Maths- fluency, reasoning and problem solving including Maths Mastery and will be led by class teachers. Please make a note of the workshop for your child/ren so that you can make arrangements to attend.

Uniform

Your children have all returned to school looking extremely smart. Thank you for supporting our school uniform policy- a copy can be found attached to this

newsletter and on the school's website. This includes reference to fashion haircuts, hair accessories, jewellery etc. Towards the end of the Summer term, a small minority of pupils arrived at school with fashion haircuts. Please do not be persuaded by your child to allow fashion haircuts as these are not permitted in school. Please also ensure that all your child's uniform and PE kit is labelled.

Parking : A reminder to our new and existing families.



As a new school year begins, it is a good time to remind all parents to co-operate by safely parking with consideration on the roads surrounding the school so that local residents can gain access to their own properties. Parents should never park on any zig zag lines. Please consider leaving home a few minutes earlier so that you have time to park legally and walk your child into the school playgrounds. Parents should also avoid parking in the bus lane on the Hagley Road, as this is a parking offence and parking tickets and fines will be enforced by West Midlands Police. Your co-operation is greatly appreciated. Our local community police officers have informed me that they will be conducting spot checks before and after school to check that cars are parked legally ensuring the safety of the children and families at all times. It is only a small minority of the same parents who continue to park illegally and without consideration for others.

Teacher Training Days

Monday 3rd September 2018
Friday 12th October 2018
Monday 25th February 2019
Monday 10th June 2019
Monday 22nd July 2019



School Fund

Parents are asked to contribute £5 a term per family for school fund. Please try to send in your donation by the end of September. Thank you for your support and to those parents who have already sent this in. This contribution does help towards providing extra resources for your children.



Secondary School Transfer for Sept 2019

<http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions>

Secondary School Meetings Parents in Year 6 will need to complete their secondary preference forms shortly. All of the schools are holding open evenings (Hagley High has an Open Morning on Saturday 13th October 2018) and I would strongly advise parents to go along with their child to visit schools that you intend to include on your preference form.

Parents must [apply online](#) or have returned their Birmingham Local Authority Preference Form by 31st October 2018.

Primary School Applications for Sept 2019

<http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions>

If you have a child starting this school **next** September - you must apply by 15th January 2019.

You should [apply online](#) to the local authority or return your completed preference form to School Admissions and Pupil Placements Service. If you live in Birmingham and your child attends a community or private nursery in the city, you should receive information from the local authority (Birmingham City Council) via post about how to start your child at school in the reception year for September 2019. Information will be obtainable from the school shortly. If you live **outside** Birmingham you must apply to the local authority in which you live (i.e. the Council to which you pay your Council Tax) for their Preference Form. You should include this school on that form and return it to your local authority.

Also, if your child is Catholic, you will need to get a Supplementary Information Form from our school office and you must return it to us together with original proof of your child's baptism. You can do this NOW - this information is used to rank children in order.

Diary Dates - September 2018- December 2018: Further dates will be added as available.

Mon 3 Sept	Teacher Day (1)
Tues 4 Sept	All pupils return to school. Rec class half days begin for the week
Sun 9 Sept	Education Sunday
Mon 10 Sept	9.05 am Mass led by Year 6
Mon 10 Sept	Reception Class begin full week
Tues 11 Sept	ADOREMUS Live Stream with Archbishop pm
Wed 12 Sept	Hagley Pyramid Concert fortnightly lessons begin- Yr 5
Sun 16 Sept	Year 6 Mass readers at OLF
Thurs 20 Sept	7 pm PTA AGM in school
Sun 23 Sept	Year 5 Mass readers at OLF

Mon 24 -Wed 26 Sept Year 6 - Alton Castle

Mon 24 Sept 6.30 pm Full MAC Board Meeting

Mon 24 Sept 1-3 pm CAT workshop in BASC (6 week programme each Monday)

Tues 25 Sept 9.10 am Year 5 Inspire Workshop

Fri 28 Sept 6.30- 9pm Welcome Disco ALL VERY WELCOME!!!

Sun 30 Sept Year 4 Mass readers at OLF

October- Month of the Rosary

Mon 1 Oct 4-7 pm Parents' Evening (1) Parents only for all appointments -
please make arrangements for your child/ren to be supervised at home.

Tues 2 Oct Year 4 Inspire Workshop

Thurs 4 Oct Themed school lunch

Thurs 4 Oct 9.05 am Reception Class' Blessing Service

Sun 7 Oct Year 6 Mass readers at OLF

Wed 10 Oct Parents' Evening (2) 4-7 pm Parents only for all appointments -
please make arrangements for your child/ren to be supervised at home.

Thurs 11 Oct 9.05 am Harvest Service led by Year 5

Fri 12 Oct **Teacher Day (2)**

Sun 14 Oct Year 5 Mass readers at OLF

Mon 15 Oct all week Black History Week

Wed 17 Oct Year 3 Inspire Workshop 9.10 am

Wed 17 Oct 6 pm Academy Committee Meeting

Thurs 18 Oct 2.30 pm Reception Class Learning to read workshop

Sun 21 Oct Year 4 Mass readers at OLF

Mon 22 Oct Flu Immunisation Rec-Year 5

Tues 23 Oct 9.05 am Year 2 Inspire Workshop

Fri 26 Oct 3.30 pm PTA cake sale

Thurs 25 Oct Year 5 and 6 Able Maths Day

HALF TERM

Mon 5 Nov Staff and pupils back to school

Tues 6 Nov 9.10 am Year 6 Inspire workshop

Wed 7 Nov 9.30- 11.30 am Open Morning

Fri 9 Nov 6.30 pm PTA Firework Disco - *to be confirmed*

Sun 11 Nov Year 6 Mass readers at OLF

Mon 12 Nov Book Week all week- details to follow

Mon 12 Nov	6.30 pm Full MAC Board Meeting
Wed 14 Nov	9.05 am Year 2's Assembly
Sun 18 Nov	Year 5 Mass readers at OLF
Mon 19 Nov	2pm KS2 Benediction
Wed 21Nov	9.10 am Year 1 Inspire Workshop
Thurs 22 Nov	7 pm Year 3 FHC meeting (1)
Sun 25 Nov	11 am Year 3 FHC Mass of Enrolment FHC at OLF church
Sun 2 Dec	Advent begins
Sun 2 Dec	Year 4 Mass readers at OLF
Mon 3 Dec	9.05 am Advent Mass in school
Fri 7 th Dec	3.35-5.30 pm PTA Film Night in school hall
Sun 9 Dec	Year 6 Mass readers at OLF
Wed 12 Dec	6 pm Academy Committee meeting
Thurs 13 Dec	9.15 am and 2.15 pm KS1 Nativity- <i>to be confirmed</i>
Thurs 13 Dec	6.30 pm PTA Christmas Disco in the church hall- <i>to be confirmed</i>
Sun 16 Dec	Year 5 Mass readers at OLF
Tues 18 Dec	9.10 am KS2 Carol Service - <i>to be confirmed</i>
Tues 18 Dec	Christmas Panto 1.40 pm
Wed 19 Dec	Christmas Lunch
Thurs 20 Dec	Christmas parties and visit from Santa
Fri 21 Dec	Christmas jumper day
Fri 21 Dec	BREAK UP for Christmas holidays

Pupils and staff return to school on **Monday 7th January 2019**.

School Uniform 2018/19

The wearing of school uniform is strongly encouraged as it helps the child to identify more closely with the 'school family' and generally assists in promoting the public image of the school.

The winter uniform consists of:

BOYS Grey trousers, white shirt, royal blue pullover with school crest, grey socks, school tie, and sensible black shoes.

GIRLS Plain grey skirt/pinafore dress or trousers / culottes, white blouse, royal blue cardigan with school crest, white socks or grey woollen tights, school tie, sensible black shoes.

Summer Uniform:

BOYS Grey shorts or trousers. White 'polo' shirt can be worn instead of shirt / tie.

GIRLS Blue/white striped or check summer dress. White 'polo' shirt can be worn instead of shirt / tie, sensible black shoes.

School caps or sun hats can be purchased from the school office

P.E.

Boys and Girls: Navy shorts and plain white T-shirt. Pumps for indoor P.E. and dance.

Track suits may be worn for outdoor games during the winter months.

Training shoes which do not cover the ankles may be worn for outdoor games. They are not suitable for indoor P.E.

Swimming Costume and towel. One piece swimsuit for girls, swimming trunks (not shorts) for boys.

Book bags, pump bags, elastic ties and sun hats can be purchased from the school. Parents are free to obtain items from wherever they please with the exception of the school crest jumpers and cardigans which can be obtained from Clive Marks in Bearwood, Somal Fashions: 11 Faraday Avenue B32 1JP or Tesco Online.

ALL CLOTHING SHOULD BE MARKED WITH THE CHILD'S NAME.

Long hair should be tied back for hygiene reasons and especially during P.E., for safety reasons. Hair accessories should be simple and follow school colours. **'Fashion' haircuts are not appropriate** for school for boys or girls.

Boys' hair should not be 'shaved' or include patterns and should be even in length.

Children are asked not to wear jewellery apart from a watch. For safety and hygiene, the wearing of earrings is not allowed but if necessary, ear studs may be worn which must be removed for swimming lessons.

SCHOOL FUND AUTUMN TERM 2018

I attach my family contribution of £5 / other £ _____ for the Autumn Term.

Eldest child in school _____ Class _____.

Please make cheques payable to SNOMAC.

Received in school by _____

Thank you for your support.