



# Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Primary School

## Newsletter October 2018

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

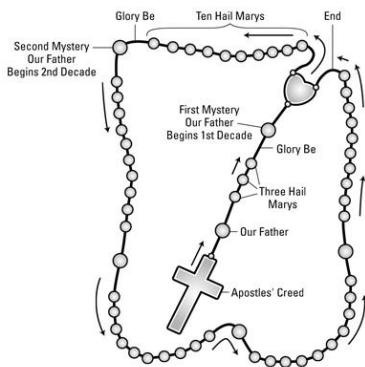
[www.olfatima.bham.sch.uk](http://www.olfatima.bham.sch.uk)

'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.

**October** is the month of the Rosary. Our school name is dedicated in honour of Our Lady. The children will be saying the Rosary in class and in Assemblies but it would be so beneficial if you could

spend time with your child sharing prayers from their class Prayer Book and praying the Rosary in your home as a family.

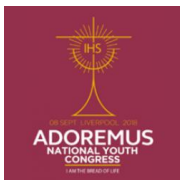


thanks to the school commending the children on their reverence and respect. Well done everyone!



On Thursday we will officially welcome our new Reception Class to Our Lady of Fatima School during a special Welcome and Blessing Service. It will surely be an uplifting, prayerful and emotional occasion. All Reception Class parents and grandparents are warmly invited to join us at 9.05 am in the school hall. Thank you to our new and existing parents from Reception Class for trusting us with the privilege of nurturing and educating your children through their primary years. Please remember all our new children and their families in your prayers.

### Adoremus



On 11<sup>th</sup> September some children from Years 5 and 6 were invited to join, His Grace, Archbishop Bernard Longley in prayer in his private chapel

before the Blessed Sacrament at St Chad's Cathedral. This was live streamed to all catholic primary schools in the diocese. I was immensely proud of all the children; those who joined the Archbishop and those who watched the service live from the school hall. The Archbishop wrote a lovely letter of

### 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 will be starting the Altar Servers training after October half term. Hopefully there will be many children from Year 4,5 and 6 wishing to become Altar Servers as it is a wonderful way of serving the school and church community.

---

### Harvest Celebration Service



We look forward to welcoming everyone to our Harvest Celebration Service in school on:  
**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018 at**

**9.05 am in the school hall.**

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. A letter has already been sent out asking 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 local neighbours.



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 love, compassion and prayers, but also your generosity. Thank you.

---

### 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. This is for safeguarding purposes; if your child is late, it is likely they have missed registration and it is imperative that the office staff are aware that they have arrived, so that registers can be updated. 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. A 'Late Collection' Policy will be issued in due course, so that parents are aware of the procedures that will be followed if they are late collecting their children from school or from any after school clubs or from the Before and After School Club. Thank you for your co-operation.

---

### October Inspire Workshops



Years 4 and 5 parents have already attended the Maths Mastery Inspire workshops and feedback has been most positive. It is always beneficial to inform parents as new approaches to teaching and learning occur, so that the right support can be offered at home, following the school's calculation methods. Years 2 and 3's workshops will take place in October. Separate letters have been issued.

Reception Class parents are invited to a meeting on Thursday 18th October at 2.30 pm where Mrs Lake will share tips and ideas for making learning to read fun.

---

### Parents' Evenings

Thank you to the parents who took the time to meet their child's class teacher on Monday. We look forward to seeing the remaining parents on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> October. Thank you also 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 emergency information and contact numbers so that our records are up to date.

---

### Open Morning

Our Open Morning for prospective parents here at Our Lady of Fatima School is on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> 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 online Local Authority form. The closing date for applications is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

---

### Open Day

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

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2018**

**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.

---

### 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 collected **109** boxes. It a big challenge but let's see if we can collect more than 109 this year. If every family donated a box, we would be able to send 173 boxes off to children in our global family. Further details to follow.

---

### School Online Admissions September 2019

Secondary School closing date: Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018 (Birmingham).

---

### Year 3 Sacramental Preparation

**Advance Notice:** There will be a meeting for Year 3 parents on Thursday 22<sup>nd</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 22<sup>nd</sup> November parents will be asked to opt for one of the two dates in May 2018 for First Holy Communion.

---

### Thank You

Last month I did not receive any 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.

There are still a couple of vehicles being parked in the bus bay on the Hagley Road. The Local Community Police Officers have stated that they will issue on the spot fines if vehicles are illegally parked.

---

### 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.

There will be themed lunches on :

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October: Brunch**

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November: Burgers and hotdogs lunch**

Should your KS2 child usually have a packed lunch, but would like to take advantage of having a cooked meal on any or all of these dates, please send in the correct money- £2.30 per meal, in a named envelope as soon as possible so that arrangements can be made. Pupils in Reception and KS1 who usually have a packed lunch, but would like a themed lunch on any or all of the days just need to inform the office of their preferred arrangements.

---

### 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 money raised will go towards class excursions and the annual Christmas Panto.



The PTA work incredibly hard to make sure every fundraising event is successful. The next event will be a Film Night on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October from 3.30-5.30 pm. Details to follow.

Advance notice of our annual Firework Disco which will take place on Friday 9<sup>th</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.

---

### School Uniform

Planning ahead a little: please ensure that your child returns to school after the half term holidays on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November 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.

---

### School Fund



Thank you to all the parents who have already responded by contributing towards school fund.

It would be very much appreciated if a voluntary contribution of £5 per family (per term) was made to the fund by all families.

If you haven't done so already, please return the

attached slip with your contribution as soon as possible. All donations are recorded so please fill in your child(ren)s name(s) on the attached slip. A final reminder will be sent to parents who have not replied by half term.

---

### Parent/Visitor Code of Conduct

A new policy was ratified by the Academy Committee in February 2018 and issued to all parents in March 2018. There have been some recent incidents where the policy has not been adhered to by some parents, as staff members have not been spoken to or treated with respect during planned and unscheduled meetings.

This policy is attached again for parents and visitors collecting children to read. It outlines acceptable behaviour whilst on school premises. We support your children by instilling in them the values as taught by Jesus, so that they accept, understand and live by the ethos of our school. This positive policy ensures that our Mission Statement is demonstrated by all our adult visitors. Thank you for your co-operation.

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

#### October- Month of the Rosary

Mon 1 Oct	4-7 pm Parents' Evening (1) <u>Parents only for all appointments</u> - please make arrangements for your child/ren to be supervised at home.
Tues 2 Oct	Year 4 Inspire Workshop
Thurs 4 Oct	Year 1 celebrate their class saint's feast day- St Francis- non school uniform
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
Mon 8 Oct	3.35-4.30 pm Netball training after school
Wed 10 Oct	Parents' Evening (2) 4-7 pm <u>Parents only for all appointments</u> -

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	<b>Teacher Day (2)</b>
Sun 14 Oct	Year 5 Mass readers at OLF
Mon 15 Oct	3.35-4.30 pm Netball training after school
Mon 15 Oct all week	Black History Week
Wed 17 Oct	9.10 am Year 3 Inspire Workshop
Wed 17 Oct	6 pm Academy Committee Meeting
Thurs 18 Oct	2.30 pm Reception Class Learning to read workshop
Fri 19 Oct	3.30-5.30 pm PTA Film Night
Sun 21 Oct	Year 4 Mass readers at OLF
Mon 22 Oct	Flu Immunisation Rec-Year 5
Mon 22 Oct	3.35 -4.30 pm Netball training
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
	<b>HALF TERM</b>
Mon 5 Nov	Staff and pupils back to school
Tues 6 Nov	9.10 am Year 6 Inspire workshop
Tues 6 Nov	4 pm Netball Match OLF v Pagnet
Wed 7 Nov	9.30- 11.30 am Open Morning
Fri 9 Nov	3.35-4.30 pm Coding Club
Fri 9 Nov	6.30 pm PTA Firework Disco
Sun 11 Nov	Year 6 Mass readers at OLF
Mon 12 Nov	Book Week all week- details to follow
Mon 12 Nov	4 pm Netball Match EHS v OLF
Mon 12 Nov	6.30 pm Full MAC Board Meeting
Wed 14 Nov	9.05 am Year 2's Assembly
Fri 16 Nov	3.35-4.30 pm Coding Club
Sun 18 Nov	Year 5 Mass readers at OLF
Mon 19 Nov	2pm KS2 Benediction
Wed 21 Nov	9.10 am Year 1 Inspire Workshop
Thurs 22 Nov	10 am IntoFilm for Years 5 and 6
Thurs 22 Nov	7 pm Year 3 FHC meeting (1)
Fri 23 Nov	3.35-4.30 pm Coding Club

Sun 25 Nov	11 am Year 3 FHC Mass of Enrolment FHC at OLF church
Fri 30 Nov	3.35-4.30 pm Coding Club
<b>Sun 2 Dec</b>	<b>Advent begins</b>
Sun 2 Dec	Year 4 Mass readers at OLF
Mon 3 Dec	9.05 am Advent Mass in school
Fri 7 Dec	3pm Basketball Competition at Shenley Academy
Fri 7 Dec	3.35-4.30 pm Coding Club
Sun 9 Dec	Year 6 Mass readers at OLF
Wed 12 Dec	Year 6 trip to WBA Stadium
Wed 12 Dec	6 pm Academy Committee meeting
Thurs 13 Dec	9.15 am and 2.15 pm KS1 Nativity
Thurs 13 Dec	6.30 pm PTA Christmas Disco in the church hall TBC
Sun 16 Dec	Year 5 Mass readers at OLF
Tues 18 Dec	9.10 am KS2 Carol Service
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 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019**.

---

**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.**