

# OLASP NEWS

September 2024



## Welcome back!

We hope that everyone had a lovely summer and enjoyed the rest. Another school year begins; let's hope that it is a very happy and successful one for all.

We extend the warmest of welcomes to any new pupils and staff (Miss Nielsen & Mrs Mangan) who have joined us this September. Welcome to our wonderful school family.

We also welcome Father Mark Fairhurst to our parish community. The children and staff look forward to strengthening links with our parish.

Please remember that lessons begins at 08:45am; should children turn up to school after this time they will miss the beginning of lessons. The school day will end at 3:15pm.

## Dress to Impress: Uniform

It is pleasing to see that so many children have returned adhering to the school's uniform policy – they look so smart. This is something that we ask families to support (especially in relation to footwear; **please note, shoes must be black**)

Make up, fake eyelashes or nails are not permitted. Earrings – stud only.

Should you require support with uniforms, please contact Mrs Dwyer who will help to source them if we can.



## Prayer Trail:

Our children & staff were happy to take part in an afternoon of reflection, prayer and focus at Church during their first week back.

They explored friendship, kindness and how to follow in Jesus' footsteps.

They also spoke about our mission statement "*The Love of Christ Shines Here*" and thought of ways we could demonstrate this in our new school year.

### **Religious Education:**

This year, our children in Early Years to Year 3 will continue their journey with the new religious education directory, "To Know You More Clearly". Their autumn topics are 'Creation & Covenant' and 'Prophecy & Promise whilst Year 4—6 continue with Come and See and begin 'Domestic Church' and topics about family.

For more information, please see our RE Newsletters, the school website and Seesaw/Dojo.



### **Attendance & Punctuality:**

The most important thing that you can do for your child is for them to attend school as regularly as possible and to be on time. We must aim to achieve the 97% attendance target set by the Government. Please continue to support us in this matter and give our children the best chance to make progress.

### **Contact details, consent forms & medical forms:**

We cannot stress enough how important it is that school is able to contact families in an emergency, that we have your consent for photographs and up to date information regarding children's medical conditions. Thank you for the consent forms that have returned so far. If you need a new one, please contact the school office.

### **Seesaw/Dojo:**

If you have not already done so, please sign up for this app: it is a much more efficient and eco-friendly way of school communicating with families and vice versa. Families receive information more reliably than those who rely on children remembering to pass on written communication. Families who have previously signed up for Seesaw will not have to re-join but those who wish to sign up should request joining instructions from class teachers.

Nursery & Reception use Dojo. Sign up codes will have been given out as part of your child's induction but if you need help, please ask class teachers who will support.

Year 1 parents/carers, we will send out your joining instructions very soon as we ask you to now use this app rather than Dojo. Please do sign-up as it will make communication between school and home much more efficient.

### School lunches:

If your child has transitioned from Year 2 to Year 3 and you believe that you are entitled to free school meals, the onus is on parents/carers to make an application to the council for free school meals. The school cannot make this application on your behalf and you must pay for meals or provide a packed lunch while the application is processed.

If you believe that your child is eligible for free school meals please make an application to the local authority (even if your child is in KS1) as the school receives extra funding for all pupils entitled to free meals.

Payments for school lunches must be received each Monday for meals to be eaten that week. School cannot afford to pay costs on behalf of families. **Debts will not be allowed to be accrued for longer than one week. Please do not cause the school embarrassment by having to say that we cannot provide a meal due to outstanding debts.** Parents who owe outstanding money from the last academic year should contact the office to make arrangements for payment.

As always, if you are in need of support or someone to talk to, please reach out. We will help our families as much as possible.



### Tuck shop:

Children from Reception to Year 6 are able to purchase a treat from our Friday tuck shops each week. Children can choose one treat priced at 50p each. All monies raised will go back to the children through resources, contributions to trips & other exciting opportunities. We thank you for your support in our fund raising.

### Dates for the diary:

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September 10am = whole school Mass

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 9am = Y4 St Philomena class assembly

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2.30pm = "Stay and Pray – Meet the teacher" parents welcome Reception to Y6

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September = Nurses in school for Flu vaccinations/nasal sprays

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September 9am = Macmillan coffee morning, parents welcome for tea & cake

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 9am = Y3 Harvest class assembly