



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to a new term and a new academic year at Our Lady of Lourdes School! I am really looking forward to working with your children this year and I look forward to getting to know them all over the next few weeks. This letter is to welcome you and your children back to Our Lady of Lourdes and to give you an overview of what we are going to be covering this term in Class 5. There are also some changes to our school routine, which will be explained in this letter. Don't forget to check our Class 5 Blog regularly to see what we are getting up to in Class 5!

### PE Days

PE is an incredibly important part of our curriculum: It not only helps with our physical fitness but taking part in exercise can help to support our mental health. To avoid the need to get changed in school and to make sure we can stay in our own classrooms (rather than having to change in different classrooms/areas of the school) **children will attend school in full PE kit on the days they have PE.** Class 5 will have PE on **Monday and Friday** and will need to come to school in an outdoor PE kit on those days. As a reminder, this consists of tracksuit bottoms, a PE T-shirt and a school sweatshirt/cardigan. As PE lessons will be taking place outside, children should wear trainers rather than plimsols on PE days. This system will be in place from **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020** until further notice.

### Homework and Reading

Homework will be a bit different this year, with a focus on basic maths and English skills rather than the homework menu system we were using at the end of last term. Homework will be sent home as a pack (rather than a separate piece each week). Times tables are a key skill and are a foundation in mathematics. As part of their homework, children can access Times Tables

Rockstars to practice their tables. If children have forgotten their username/password I will happily remind them, all they need to do is ask! Homework packs will be sent out in the coming weeks. As we start our new term, reading books will not be sent home for now. This is to avoid items being transferred between home and school in quick succession. Information about how to access reading materials at home will be sent out in due course.

### **Curriculum and learning**

As we begin our new academic year, we will be having a focus on being settled, comfortable and happy in school once again. This will also include going through any new routines/changes with the children and reminding them of the routines frequently to ensure we are all being safe in school. We will take part in lessons and activities to help us understand our feelings and to promote our own wellbeing. Moving forward, we have an exciting term to look forward to in Class 5! In our history lessons we will be learning about the Vikings and trying to decide if they really were vicious! Our geography lessons will focus on the interesting and exciting physical processes that shape the world around us. In our science lessons we will start by looking at the process of digestion in humans, including studying teeth, before moving onto Earth and Space. Our art lessons will link into our space topic as we study space artists and how to represent space, and our DT lessons will look at designing a space buggy! In our RE lessons this term, we will learn about "Ourselves", focusing on who we are as individuals and what we can do to make a difference. We will also learn about "Life choices" and "Hope" (learning about the hope that we feel for the return of Jesus) in the run up to Christmas.

Once again I am looking forward to working with yourselves and your children this academic year,

Mr McPhail

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