

NEWSLETTER

Friday 18th February 2022

The statement to live by this week is **'I notice that we are the same and we are different'**. Please spend some time talking about what this means with your child.

The season of Lent begins on **Ash Wednesday which is the 2nd March this year**. Lent is the most important season in the Church's year. It is a time of preparation as we ready ourselves to journey towards Easter.



Each year during the Lenten season, we focus on a special theme or charity to pray and fundraise for. This year the CAFOD focus is 'Walking for Hunger'. In school we have decided to focus upon the theme of **'Hunger and Homelessness'**. During Lent, we will be collecting food for our local foodbanks. The foodbanks help families within our local area by providing them with the food and supplies that they need. There will be drop off points in school during Lent for any contributions to the food bank to be made. Additionally, if anyone would like to make a donation towards funds to support hunger and homelessness in our area, there will be a payment item set up on ParentPay to make your donation. As always we would like to reinforce that we understand that each family's circumstances are different and there is *no expectation* that you give anything at all. Your prayers and good wishes alone for our chosen charities during Lent, will certainly make a big difference to these important causes.

Our Visits from the Police

Jet and Ben

In school, we have had a few visits from the Police in the last few weeks. First of all, some officers brought Jet and Ben into school to talk to us all about 'Stranger Danger'. They told us all about how to stay safe and we had fun meeting the Police Dogs up close.



Anti- Bullying

Laura and David, 2 local police officers, came into school this week to talk to us about Anti-Bullying. They talked about what bullying means, how it can impact those around us and how seriously it is dealt with. Our children enjoyed chatting to them about bullying and general anti-social behavior in and around Shotton.

Go Well Heart Project – Week 6

The challenges this week are:

M = Ball Bounce

N = Obstacle Course



Equipment

Children participating in the project should now have received their skipping ropes and hoop this week. (Week 7's challenge requires the hoop).

Second booklet

After half-term, children will be receiving the second 6-week booklet. This will be for Week 7 which will start as soon as your child receives the second booklet during that first week back. The Heart Project team have asked for the first booklets to be brought back into school on Monday 28th February in order for them to do some research with the surveys on pages 6 and 24, booklets will then be returned back to the children, once the data has been collected.

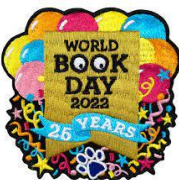
Please send us your children's best photos with their HEART bag/bottle/booklet or equipment - in a park, up a tree, on the swings. Prizes for the most creative and original photo will be awarded by the Heart Project team - please send these to j.croxford490@ourladyoflourdes.durham.sch.uk



"As unique children of God we love, learn, grow and inspire.
We let our light shine."
Mission Statement

World Book Day 2022

We will celebrate World Book day on Thursday 3rd March this year.



The children will be spending World Book Day designing and creating their own t-shirts (these will be provided by school) linked to specially chosen books and vocabulary. The children will then bring their t-shirts home to share their learning, fun and creativity with you.

Safety on the School Grounds

In order to keep everyone safe on the school site, please ensure that children **do not arrive at school any earlier than 8.30am, unless they are accessing Breakfast Club or Booster**. Before 8.30am, we have delivery drivers with large vehicles on site and there should be no children walking through the carpark at this time. Please also ensure that if your child is going to Breakfast Club, you take them to the main reception door and stay with them until the Breakfast Club Staff arrive. We appreciate your co-operation.

Useful Websites and Information for Parents

Over half term staff emails will not be monitored. Any emails will be responded to, within school hours, after half term.

We thought that it may be helpful to some parents to have a list of useful websites should they require support or a listening ear over the half term holiday.



<https://www.samaritans.org/>

<https://www.myharbour.org.uk/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

<https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/>

<https://www.durham.gov.uk/article/2320/Children-s-Services> **If you have any safeguarding concerns about any child or adult the First Contact/Social Care Direct number 03000 267 979 is manned 24hours per day**

We now have access to a team of professionals who are part of the 'Piece of Mind Team' within our local area. Our school contact is called **Lindsey Mains**. If any parents would like to access any parent support, Lindsey's role is to be an impartial listening ear. She has a wealth of expertise and is happy to work with any of our parents/carers. If you feel that you would like to access this support, **after half term**, please contact Mrs Wright at g.wright200@ourladyoflourdes.durham.sch.uk and she will arrange this with Lindsey for you.

Parents' Evening Appointments

Thank you to all those who have returned your Parents' Evening slips to school. Staff will send out appointments to all parents after the half term.

Dates for your Diary	
Break up for Half Term	Friday 18th February
Return After Half Term	Monday 28th February
Fairtrade Fortnight	21 st February-6 th March
World Book Day	Thursday 3 rd March
Parents' Evening	Monday 14 th and Tuesday 22 nd March
Break up for Easter	Friday 8th April
Return after Easter	Tuesday 26th April
May Day 2022	Monday 2nd of May (School closed, children return on Tuesday 3rd)
Break up for Summer Half Term	Friday 27th May
Return to School After Half Term	Monday 6th June
Jubilee Additional Holiday Day	Monday 20th June (School closed, children return on Tuesday 21st June)
Break up for Summer Holiday	Thursday 21st July 2022



We wish you all a fun and happy half term holiday and look forward to hearing all about it when you return to school on **Monday 28th February.**