



OLQP News

Friday 6th December 2024
www.olqoprprimary.org.uk



Forthcoming Events

A reminder to parents of the following events that are coming up in school over the next fortnight:

Monday 9th December

* 3:00pm - Christmas jumper swap in the Hall.
We have had many wonderful pre-loved donations of outgrown Christmas jumpers. If you would like to come and peruse our stock, please pop into the Hall. Everything is free to take; please come and help us to 'do our bit' for our environment. The Hall will be open until 4pm.

Tuesday 10th December

* 1:30pm - Reception Nativity
* 3:30pm - Information session for parents in preparation for the Y5 trip to the Youth Village

Wednesday 11th December

* 9:15am - Nursery sing-a-long and Christmas crafts
* 7:00pm - Community Carol Service at Church - representatives from the Choir have been invited to attend

Thursday 12th December

* Christmas jumper day
* Christmas lunch
* 10:00am - Whole School Advent Mass
* 1:30pm - Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas performance in the Hall

Friday 13th December

* 10:00am - Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas performance in the Hall
* Year 5 and Year 6 trip to the Pantomime

Monday 16th December

* EYFS Party Day and Breakfast with Santa. Specific details are in the Weduc calendar.

Tuesday 17th December

* Year 5 and Year 6 Party Day
* Year 3 and Year 4 trip to the Pantomime
* 6:30pm - St. Robert's Carol Service at Church - representatives from the Choir have been invited to attend

Wednesday 18th December

* Year 1 and Year 2 Party Day
* 9:30am - KS2 Carol Service in Church

Thursday 19th December

* Year 3 and Year 4 Party Day
* Year 1 and Year 2 trip to the Theatre

Friday 20th December

School closes for the Christmas holidays

Christmas Performances

Parents do not need tickets for Christmas performances. All we ask is that **no more than two adults per child** attend each event to comply with safety guidelines. Refreshments will be served at each performance held in school for a small donation. Please note we are unable to serve refreshments in Church at the KS2 Carol Service. There is no limit on numbers in the Hall for the Reception Nativity.

Christmas Party Days

Children can come into school wearing their party clothes on their allocated days. Please remember a warm coat and a change of shoes, especially if your child may be wearing special party shoes which could be ruined on the school playground. Party food will be provided by the school kitchen for all children. Packed lunches are not required on your child's party day. Sincere thanks to Mrs Lines and her team!

Attendance

Our whole school attendance from Reception to Year 6 for this fortnight has been **96.2%**. This is close to our target of 97% - keep up the hard work everyone!

We are delighted to announce that **Mondrian** are the winners of our attendance trophy for this week with an amazing overall attendance of **98.0%**!

Mondrian classes were the winners of our attendance trophy last week with a brilliant **99.3%** - well done!

If parents have any questions about their child's attendance, please do not hesitate to contact school and a member of the attendance team will be in touch. Thank you very much for your support.

Payment for Christmas Lunch

If your child is in Key Stage 2 and usually has a packed lunch, but would like to order a Christmas dinner, please let the Office know. Payment can be made via Arbor, the cost is £2.85. Thank you.

Asda's Cashpot for School

Our Cashpot closed at a staggering **£570.72**. Thank you so much to you all for your support. We will receive this money in the New Year which will be added to our *Friends of Our Lady Queen of Peace* funds. THANK YOU.

Christmas Holidays

On Friday 20th December, school closes for the Christmas holidays. On this day, the children can wear their Christmas jumpers. This is not for any money or donations - just for fun!

School will reopen again on **Tuesday 7th January 2025** to all pupils. Please note that Monday 6th January is a staff training day. Thank you.



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Christmas Mass Times

A warm welcome awaits everyone as we come together to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Please find below the Mass times and venues across the Parish of St. John XXIII.

Advent Reconciliation Services

Tuesday 10th December - 7:00pm
Our Blessed Lady Immaculate, Washington

Wednesday 18th December - 7:00pm
St. Joseph's, Birtley

Blue Christmas Service

A service in which we remember our loved ones who have passed away. Friday 20th December - 8:30pm
Our Blessed Lady Immaculate

Tuesday 24th December - Christmas Eve

4:30pm - St. Bede's, Sacriston (Carols 4:00pm)
5:00pm - St. Bede's, Washington
5:30pm - Our Blessed Lady Immaculate, Washington
6:00pm - St. Joseph's, Birtley (Carols from 5:30pm)
6:30pm - St. Cuthbert's, Chester-le-Street (Carols from 6:00pm)
7:00pm - St. John Boste, Washington (Carols from 6:30pm)
7:30pm - Our Lady Queen of Peace, Penshaw (Carols from 7:00pm)
11:30pm - Our Blessed Lady Immaculate (Carols from 11:00pm)

Christmas Day - Wednesday 25th December

9:30am - St. John Boste, Washington
10:00am - St. Cuthbert's, Chester-le-Street
10:00am - Our Lady Queen of Peace, Penshaw
10:00am - St. Joseph's, Birtley

A Christmas Message

Thank you to all our parents, grandparents and families for your continued support.

As Christmas time draws near, we would like to remind families that there is absolutely no obligation or expectation to buy gifts for staff. We appreciate that many children and parents like to express their thanks, but we are living in difficult times with the cost of living crisis and financial hardship felt by so many. Homemade cards, gifts and prayers for staff are very much welcomed and will, as always, be very warmly and gratefully received.

Please be assured that you will be in our thoughts and prayers over this Christmas season. If we can be of help in anyway, please do not hesitate to get in touch with school via the Weduc messaging system, or pop into the School Office.

Y5 Trip to London

Our Y5 pupils had a fabulous day in London last Friday. They were an absolute credit to our school and their families with their impeccable behaviour, enthusiasm and passion. We even had comments from members of the public about their wonderful behaviour.

The day would not have been possible without the team of staff who gave up additional hours and worked so hard to ensure everything went to plan. Thank you so much to the staff in school who covered various roles in their absence too!

Special thanks must go to Mrs Ludford for her fabulous organisation and hours of preparation behind the scenes. Well done and thank you everyone!

Sacrament of Reconciliation

On Thursday, our children in Key Stage 2, who are on their Sacramental Preparation journey, made their first confession and received the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We were extremely proud of them all. The children sang beautifully, spoke clearly and were very reverent during such a special occasion. Sincere thanks must go to Mrs Fish for preparing the children so well.

We keep the children and their families in our prayers as they continue their Sacramental journey.

SEND Roadshow

We had a wonderful opportunity in school on Friday for external agencies, professionals and parents to talk together and explore the local services and support networks that are available to parents of pupils with SEND in Sunderland.

A huge thank you to all who gave up their time to make this event possible. Much information was shared, which we hope parents found useful.

Sincere thanks must go to Mrs Fish who organised the whole event and brought so many support agencies together.

If parents were unable to attend, but would like to receive an information pack, please ask at the office.

Uniform Swap Shop

Please remember our Uniform Swap Shop is always open. Please feel free to come along and take any additional uniform your child may require for the start of the new Spring term ahead. For more information, please speak to Mrs Forbister, or the School Office. There is no charge for this, thank you.

Car Parking

We are very blessed to be able to use our church car park at drop off and pick up times. Please could we ask all parents to take care in and around the school car park during busy drop off and pick up times. Thank you for helping us to control the flow of traffic safely.