



OLQP NEWS

Friday 4th September 2026

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... created to flourish in God's image ...

Dear Parents - **welcome back!**



We hope you all had a fabulous summer and a well-deserved rest. It is wonderful to see the children back at school again. They have been AMAZING this week and have settled so quickly, adapting to the routines and expectations with ease! Special congratulations must go to our Nursery and Reception classes who have made a brilliant start to their journey at Our Lady Queen of Peace. We look forward to meeting more of our Nursery children next week.

Special thanks must go to Mr Mee and the cleaners who have worked so hard over the summer to prepare the school and classrooms for the return of the children. It has been a really positive start. We look forward to the term ahead.

Forthcoming Events / Diary Dates



Attached to the newsletter is a **full list of key dates** and events for the academic year ahead.

We hope parents find this information useful. Mrs Ludford is also busy updating the calendar on Weduc.

Please note that dates can be subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances. If this were to happen, we aim to give parents as much notice as possible. Any new dates that are added to the diary will be highlighted on the newsletter, where possible, and added to the Weduc calendar.

We will also send information via Weduc about after school club sessions which will begin in the next couple of weeks. Staff will also be beginning lunchtime clubs as soon as possible. Please look out for more details to follow. The following events are coming up in school over these next three weeks:

Date	Time	Event	Details
09.09.26	All morning	Health Heads sessions for Y5/6	See information below
10.09.26	10:00am	Whole School Mass in Church	All welcome
14.09.26	All day	Roald Dahl Day	See information below
16.09.26	4:00pm and 4:30pm	Curriculum Evenings	See information below
17.09.26	10:00am	UKS2 Mass – Himid to lead	All welcome
18.09.26	9:00am	Himid Celebration of the Word	Parents of Himid class welcome
21.09.26	All morning	School Photographer	See information below
24.09.26	All day	Flu Immunisations	See information below
25.09.26	9:00am	Macmillan Coffee morning (Hall)	All welcome
25.09.26	All day	European Day of Languages	See information below

PE Days

Routines for PE days will be the same as last year. All children need to come into school wearing their PE kit on their allocated days listed below. PE will be outside where possible, so please make sure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather that day and is wearing suitable footwear.

PE days for this term are as follows:

Reception Class (not Nursery)

Tuesday and Thursday

Rousseau, Constable and Mondrian (Y1 and Y2)

Monday and Thursday

Picasso and Seurat (Y3 and Y4) Autumn term

Wednesday and Thursday

Kandinsky (Y3 and Y4) Autumn term

Swimming every Tuesday (beginning from 15.09.26)

Wednesday PE lesson in school

Dali, Himid and Caravaggio (Y5 and Y6)

Wednesday and Friday



Head Boy and Head Girl

We will be choosing a Head Boy and Head Girl from our Year 6 pupils over the next couple of weeks. This is a very important role and a wonderful opportunity for the chosen pupils to represent our school and take on extra responsibility. Any child in Year 6, who is interested in this role, is invited to write a short manifesto to explain why they feel they would be the best ambassador for our school.

The deadline for these completed manifestos is **Monday 21st September**. Please hand these to Mrs Garbutt. We look forward to reading all about your skills and qualities!

Pupil Groups

Next Friday, in Celebration Assembly, we will announce the names of the students in each class who have been elected as School Council members (led by Mrs Duffy), Mini Vinnies (led by Mrs Lamond), Eco-Warriors (led by Mrs Elder), Sports Leaders (led by Mrs Young) and Friendship Ambassadors (led by Miss Hill).

A big thank you in advance to all of the children who have prepared speeches and put their names forward to represent our school in these important roles. We will announce our new committees on the next newsletter and look forward to working with them throughout this year.

Curriculum Evenings

We look forward to welcoming parents into school on **Wednesday 16th September** for our Curriculum Evenings. These are for pupils in Reception to Year 6 and will be held in your child's classroom.

There will be two sessions taking place so parents have the option to attend more than one session if you have children in different Key Stages.

The timings are as follows: **Session 1 - 4:00pm** **Session 2 - 4:30pm**

Please note: Year 2 (Mondrian) will be running one session only at 4:00pm.



Please come and join us in the school hall before or after your meeting where we will be serving tray bakes and tea and coffee. Mrs Garbutt will be in the Hall if parents have any questions or queries.

Our uniform swap shop will also be available in the Hall if parents would like to come along and take any additional uniform your child may require for the start of term. There is no charge for this, thank you.

If parents can't make the session, please let us know and we can send home any handouts and information leaflets if requested. We look forward to seeing you all on Wednesday 16th September. Thank you.

School Photographer

Our School Photographer will be in school taking individual and sibling photographs on **Monday 21st September**. From 8:30am, parents can come into school to have photographs taken with any pre-school siblings. We look forward to seeing your best smiles!

Please note: if your child is due to have PE on Monday 21st, they need to wear their full school uniform for the photographs, not PE kit. Children can bring trainers into school for PE and will change their footwear only. This will affect Year 1 and Year 2 only.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

MacMillian Coffee morning held by our Mini Vinnies.



All parents and family members are welcome to come along and join us for coffee and a cake to help to raise much needed funds for this wonderful charity. The event will be held by our Mini Vinnies in the Hall from 9:00am. If anyone wishes to donate any cakes or sweet treats, we would be most grateful. Donations can be brought into school from Wednesday 23rd September onwards. If you are home baking, please could we ask that you label any key ingredients to help with dietary requirements. Thank you for your support.

Flu Immunisations

Our School Nursing Team will be administering flu vaccinations to all registered pupils from Reception to Year 6 on **Thursday 24th September**. Further information will be sent to parents from the Immunisations Team in due course. Please save the date!

Road Dahl Day



On **Monday 14th September**, we will celebrate Roald Dahl Day in school.

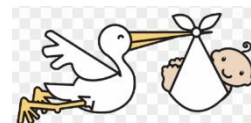
The children will not be dressing up – they will wear their uniform as normal. However, if they have one, they can bring in their favourite Roald Dahl book. Activities will be held in class, and we will begin the morning with a special assembly.

European Day of Languages



On **Friday 25th September**, we will celebrate the European Day of Languages. Each class will study a different country, and special activities will take place throughout the day! There will also be a themed lunch from the kitchen which the children on packed lunches can also sign up to. Look out for further information to follow. Please note – the children will wear their school uniform as normal on this day. *Merci*

Congratulations!



We are delighted to announce that Mrs Young (Himid) is expecting a baby.

We are thrilled to share her wonderful news and offer Mr and Mrs Young our congratulations and best wishes.

To cover the time that Mrs Young is on maternity leave, we will be advertising for a fixed term, Key Stage 2 teacher. As soon as we have made a successful appointment, we will write to parents with further details and information. Thank you for your support and understanding.

Year 5 and Year 6 Football Trials – Monday 7th September

We are delighted to announce that our Year 5 and Year 6 football teams will be getting off the ground again this academic year thanks to the support and dedication of Mr Morris. Football trials will be held on Monday afternoon, 7th September, (during school time). If any of the pupils are interested in trying out for the **girls or boys** Year 5 and Year 6 football team, please come to school on Monday in your PE kit and bring football boots or trainers. Further information about teams, training and matches will then follow in due course.

Healthy Heads Partnership

This year, we have entered into a partnership with *Healthy Heads*. The Healthy Heads Team is a school-based mental health service provided by South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust. They work with schools to develop a whole school approach to ensuring that children, families and staff work together to understand and support mental health and well-being. They do this through; whole class sessions, assemblies, parent workshops and staff training. A full action plan of workshops and activities has been devised for the academic year ahead. During the first half of the Autumn term our Year 5 and Year 6 classes will be working with the Healthy Heads Team. The sessions start this coming Wednesday for the next 5 weeks. If parents have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to Mrs Fish or Mrs Garbutt.

Health and Safety News Items

Water Bottles

Please remember to send your child to school with a named water bottle each day. In an emergency, disposable paper cups are available. Upon the advice from the Local Authority following our Healthy Schools Award, please fill children's classroom bottles with water only. If bottles contain juice and spill, this can make a very sticky mess on desks, carpets and children's work. Thank you for your understanding.

Medicines / Inhalers

If your child has any allergies, requires medication to be kept in school, or has an inhaler, could you please contact the school office to make an appointment to complete an updated Care Plan. Our First Aid policy has been amended and therefore the paperwork has slightly changed. All existing Care Plans will need to be checked and amended by Mrs Ludford via an appointment at a mutually convenient time.

Please hand any medicines into school. Some children's inhalers have expired over the summer holidays or were taken home in July. Please ensure that your child has an inhaler in school. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Ludford or Mrs Dickman.

Packed Lunches

Please can we remind parents that we are a 'nut free' school. There are children and staff within school who have severe allergies to nuts. We would ask parents to be mindful of this when making their children's packed lunches. This also includes anything which may contain nuts such as cereal bars; please check the ingredients.

Our school is also a healthy school! We do ask that parents try to avoid packing chocolate or sweets in children's packed lunches. We all need a sweet treat, but we would ask parents to avoid large packets of sweets and big bulky chocolate bars please. A chocolate covered biscuit is ideal. Please, do not include pop for drinks. Thank you for your understanding and support.

Health and Safety

A reminder to parents that children are not supervised by school staff on the playground before 8:45am and after 3:25pm. Some children arrive at school quite early in the morning and, although staff are in the building, children are unsupervised on the playground until the bell goes. Staff do need to attend morning briefings prior to 8:45am.

Children should not be playing on the equipment (tricky trail) or field before or after school. Again, as there are no school staff on duty, if there were to be any accidents, the children are not insured on this equipment before 8:45am or after 3:25pm without a member of staff present.

Thank you for your understanding and support in this important matter.

Relationships and Health Education (RHE)

Teaching Relationships and Health Education is a statutory part of our curriculum and strongly links with the Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) statutory curriculum. As a Catholic school, we follow a scheme of work entitled '*Ten Ten – Life to the Full*'. This has been approved by our Diocese and Bishop Stephen. It is taught with a spiral approach to learning in which pupils will revisit the same topics at an age-appropriate stage through their school life, the programme includes teaching about personal health, physical and emotional well-being, strong emotions, private parts of the body, personal relationships, family structures, trusted adults, growing bodies, puberty, life cycles, the dangers of social media, an understanding of the Common Good and living in the wider world.

The entire teaching is underpinned with a Christian faith understanding that our deepest identity is as a child of God – created, chosen and loved by God. The programme is fully inclusive of all pupils and their families

As part of Life to the Full, an Online Parent Portal can be accessed. It provides a summary of each lesson, links to specific content and suggestions for further engagement at home. Parents can view the content on the Online Parent Portal by visiting:

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal/>

Username: our-lady-dh4 Password: mercury-1-dh4



If parents have any concerns, questions or worries, please speak to the School Office, your child's class teacher or ask for an appointment to speak to Mrs Lamond or Mrs Garbutt.

Attendance

Over the next two weeks, Mrs Ludford will be sending out attendance letters, in line with our policy, which remind parents of your child's attendance from last academic year. We will then begin our monitoring procedures as normal to ensure that we strive to achieve high attendance percentages for all pupils. If parents have any questions following these letters, please do not hesitate to contact the School Office. Thank you.

Arbor Accounts

Please could we remind all parents to top up their child's Arbor account and clear any outstanding debts in a timely manner, particularly for Breakfast and After School Club and for school lunches if school meals are paid for. Payments can be made online via the Arbor app or parent portal, or alternatively you can pay by cash at the school office. Please note: all meals should be paid for in advance of your child receiving them. We would suggest topping up the account each weekend for the coming week or making a monthly payment in advance, where possible, so the account does not go into arrears. We understand that there are many financial pressures upon families; we are sorry that we must write such reminders on our newsletter. If parents are having financial difficulties and would like to set up a payment plan, please speak to Mrs Ludford in confidence. Thank you for your understanding.