



Our Lady and St Patrick's Primary School Newsletter

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Angela Folland

Living, Loving and Learning in God's Way

29th January 2021

Headteacher's News

This week's news has given us much to be positive about. Although our school will not reopen to all of our children after half term (something I think we all knew was unlikely to happen), we are now waiting for further information about the possibility of opening on or around 8th March. Of course, as throughout this pandemic, this is an ever changing landscape and we wait for firm decisions from the Government about dates and detail.

Our staff now have access to lateral flow testing which they self administer twice a week and we remain hopeful that teaching staff will be included in the priority list for vaccination. All of these things strengthen the ways we can minimise disruption to schools and learning for our children as the year progresses.

Thank you to all the parents who have returned the blended learning protocol. To those who haven't yet done so, please remember to go to the link and confirm your agreement to your children taking part in live sessions etc.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeaeJntiPepWyk2pEHIWeqqBbYoPFEBWx6LxPWzxDVijThBAG/viewform?usp=pp_url

Exciting News!

We're still working hard in school to keep developments going and this week we can share the exciting news that we have commissioned an all weather running track to be installed on the top field. We are hoping that work will begin in March and the track will be ready for use in the summer term. We saved some of our sports premium funding last year and are grateful to the Friends for contributing towards this big investment which will certainly improve the quality of PE and outdoor play for all of our children for many years to come.



Important Information

Children's Mental Health Week

Now more than ever this is such an important week. From 1-7 February 2021, we're taking part in Place2Be's Children's Mental Health Week. This year's theme is Express Yourself.

As a school we are aware of the struggles facing young people currently and as a result have created a



'Children's Well-Being' page on our website. Here you can find age appropriate guided meditations, mindfulness activities and parent advice and support.

This week, teachers will be inviting children to engage in an activity linked to this year's theme and we invite all families to join **Place2Be's live assembly at 9am on Monday**. Let's bring the nation's children together (virtually!) with a positive message about the power of creative self-expression. Follow the link on our webpage.

http://www.olsp-rc.com/web/childrens_well-being/538575

Year 2 - Candlemas Liturgy

Next Tuesday, 2nd February is the feast of Candlemas - where Jesus was presented in the Temple. One of the developments we have been working towards is each class leading a whole school liturgy during the year (to which parents are invited). Obviously this year has been a bit stop, start but Mrs Day has been working hard with the Year 2 children in school to prepare a liturgy for the whole school next Tuesday. This will be recorded and put into each class' google classroom so that everyone can take part in our celebrations of this great feast. Well done Year 2!

Thank You to Chamberlain's Estate Agents



Chamberlain's Estate Agents has been busy delivering £7,500 worth of tablet computers to 21 schools across Teignbridge. We were generously gifted four tablets, for which we are very grateful. This has enabled some of our families who would have otherwise struggled to access home learning to remain engaged with their lessons. Thank you Chamberlains!

Change4Life have created recipes and shopping lists for families which can be used to create lunches for around £15 each week. Change4Life have asked all schools to share the following link with our parents:

<https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/lunch/cheap-lockdown-lunch-ideas>

Prayer

Bring your light and restoring presence to the dark places in our lives. Bring your hope to hearts that feel defeated. Bring your love and compassion to those in pain. Give us faith to say with the psalmist, "Lord, you light my lamp; my God illuminates my darkness." May your light of hope shine in the darkness for families today. Show us glimpses of your presence with us and the comfort you bring.



Our Lady and St Patrick's Primary School and Nursery
Website: www.olsp-rc.com

Our Lady and St Patrick's School is committed to safeguarding children.

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Rachel O'Sullivan Deputy Child Protection Leads: Mrs A Folland, Mrs R

