

OUR LADY AND ST EDWARD'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

9th January 2026

Dear Parents

I hope that you had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year break. On behalf of all the staff I would like to thank you all for your kind wishes and messages of support. We truly appreciate your continued support.

Thank you for your donations on Christmas jumper day and for the Nativity retiring collection – we raised a total of £336.28 for Kalomo.

I would like to thank everyone who supported the Christmas disco and the Christmas lunch. The children had a wonderful time at both events.

The children have enjoyed their Christmas break and are enthusiastically embracing their learning.

There is a reminder in this newsletter about uniform, hairstyles, school equipment and attendance. Please make sure that your child is following the expectations.

K Woods

Dates for your diary

Thursday 15th January 11.59pm – Closing date for applications for Reception Class September 2026 – including Supplementary Faith Request Form to school.

Tuesday 20th January - PTA AGM meeting – 6.00pm in school

Monday 2nd February to Friday 13th February - Year 3 swimming

Tuesday 10th February - Safer Internet Day

Friday 13th February - School closes for half term at 3.20/3.30pm

Monday 23rd February - INSET Day - **School closed**

Tuesday 24th February – School re-opens

Weekly Newsletter

From next week, we will be introducing a weekly newsletter which will include celebrations, certificate winners and events of the week. We will continue with a half termly newsletter which will have reminders and diary dates for the term ahead.

Class Worship-Spring Term Dates

Reception - Thursday 12th March 9.00am in school

Year 1 - Wednesday 1st April 9.10am - leading the end of term assembly in school

Year 2 - Wednesday 4th February 9.00am in school

Year 3 - Thursday 29th January at 9.10am in school

Year 4 - Thursday 2nd April at 9.10am - leading the end of term assembly in school

Year 5 - Tuesday 17th March – leading Broughton Service (children only)

Year 6 - Thursday 19th March 9.10am in school

Sports News

Boys' Football – The boys completed their league matches with a game against Sherwood where they were narrowly defeated.

Girls' Football – The girls began their league run with two comfortable wins against Queens Drive and Goosnargh Oliversons.

Staffing in Year 1

As Miss O'Donnell is now teaching in Year 6, her position is being covered each Friday by Mrs Jeanette King, who was the Year 1 teacher last year. We welcome her back to our school family. Ms Cullen will continue to teach Monday to Thursday.

Value of the Month

The value for January is **PEACE**. Our world is very troubled and therefore, our hopes focus on our children growing up in a place where there is peace. Peace of course begins in our own hearts and homes, and by showing peace to others we can hope for a better world for us all to live in. The children will be exploring the theme of peace in assembly and in class—"Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called children of God."

TenTen Newsletter

As a school we subscribe to the TenTen resources which we use in assemblies, class worship and staff prayer. Please read the newsletters each month as they provide useful information and spiritual guidance, supporting the work we do in school. Below is a link to the parent newsletter

www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/

School Uniform Reminder

Please see below details of uniform expectations. If in doubt please call into the school office where you will be able to see samples. All uniform is available at 'Bang Bang' uniform shop in Preston City Centre and online from Stitch Design www.stitchdesign.co.uk

- Trousers, skirts, shorts and pinafores should be **grey NOT black**
- Cardigans and sweaters should have the school logo
- **School shoes should be a full shoe with secure fastenings and not slip on shoes.** Therefore, if you are buying new shoes please select a full shoe which fastens. Children can wear laced shoes as long as they know how to tie them. Pupils are expected to wear shoes to and from school and are allowed to change into trainers at lunchtime for comfort whilst playing games.
- **PE kits should be grey school hoodie and black shorts (not cycling shorts) and black tracksuit bottoms/leggings. These must be plain and not contain any logos/stripes or patterns.** Girls in KS2 can continue to wear the blue skort if they wish. Most of the supermarkets sell plain black shorts and tracksuit bottoms. Children may continue to wear the old uniform of blue shorts etc until they grow out of them so that parents are not going to an extra expense. PE t-shirts are house team t-shirts only.
- School caps & hats are available from Bang Bang - Legionnaire's cap aimed at the KS1 children, and baseball cap aimed at the KS2 children. Alternatively pupils can wear a plain coloured hat with no logo
- **Extreme hairstyles** are **not permitted** in school which includes any shaved shapes/partings. If hair clippers are used, **no lower than a number 2** is allowed on any part of the head and hair should be a blended cut with no ridges or lines. An excess of hair gel is also not allowed. Girls hair accessories are to be in school/hair colours only and of a reasonable size.
- **Ear-rings** are not permitted in school. Anyone who has had their ears pierced during the holidays and is waiting for the 6 weeks before they can be removed must cover their ear-rings with plasters. They must be removed as soon as possible. Plastic retainers may be worn but must be removed for PE/Sports.
- **Sunglasses are not permitted** in school (unless permission has previously been granted for medical purposes).
- A reminder too that all drinks bottles brought into school should only be filled with water – no juice. **Please ensure that the drink bottle is only a small bottle as we have limited space in class to store these we have noticed that a number of children are bringing in extremely large bottles.**
- Due to the limited space in EYFS & KS1 classrooms only school blue bags and drawstring PE bags should be brought into school in these classes. At times when children are required to bring additional equipment into school, eg extra-curricular sports kit, they should bring it in a small carrier bag.
- Children in KS2 can bring in a rucksack instead of the school blue bag. PE kits should be in a separate drawstring bag and must be in school at all times.

PTA News

Tuesday 20th January - PTA AGM meeting - 6.00pm in school. Please join us if you can.

Have you signed up to the School Lottery yet? We only have 16 members and need lots more!! You can join for £1 per week and the profits come back to the school either in direct fundraising or as cash prizes for our school families and there are some big prizes to be won! A number of draws have taken place with members winning money. Join here:

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/our-lady-and-st-edwards-catholic-primary-school>

Easy Fundraising - Have you downloaded the Easyfundraising app yet? easyfundraising is the simplest way to raise money for Our Lady & St Edward's Primary School PTA – we have raised over £1,400 so far!

Shop with any of over 3,300 well-known retailers via the easyfundraising website - <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/invite/UJX6FK/MHPPE8/>

When you click on this link just search for the cause – Our Lady & St Edward's Primary School PTA. It's simple and quick to do!

Adventure Areas

A reminder to all pupils and parents that the adventure areas on both playgrounds are not to be used at the end of the school day.

We ask also that infant children who have been collected and are waiting for their older sibling, are supervised. There have been a number of occasions where children have been engaging in dangerous behaviours. We ask that parents inform other family members, who collect their child(ren), to ensure the children are supervised at all times.

St Edward's School Club

A reminder that if you are booking a session within 48 hours please also email the school office on bursar@ourlady-st-edwards.lancs.sch.uk to advise so that your child can be manually added to the list. This also applies if you are booking over a weekend for a session on the following Monday or Tuesday.

A reminder too that bookings are not confirmed until payment has been received or voucher payment has been ordered.

Arbor Payments

Please keep a check on Arbor as your balance for school lunches should always be in credit.

Class Attendance for the Autumn Term

Reception- 94.58%

Year 1- 96.69%

Year 2- 96.15%

Year 3- 97.89%

Year 4- 97.98%

Year 5- 96.26%

Year 6- 96.72%

Congratulations to Year 4 who achieved the highest attendance for the term. National average for the term was 95.07%

Attendance

Good attendance in school is essential for a number of reasons firstly to ensure children meet their academic milestones, to ensure continuity of learning and to maintain friendships. Children who are frequently absent struggle to secure these aspects. We understand that illness cannot be avoided and we recognise that there are times when it is essential that a child is absent from school.

Dojo Points

Behaviour continues to be good around school and we are incredibly proud of how the children conduct themselves in school and at school events/visits. We regularly receive positive reports about the children's behaviour and good manners. The winners of the dojo awards have chosen their reward. The winners for the Autumn term are:

Reception – Matilda S

Year 1 - Joanna

Year 2 - Oliver

Year 3 - Archie

Year 4 - Izzy

Year 5 – Ayesha

Year 6 – George B

Child and Family Wellbeing Service

A monthly drop in where families can access free advice & support

Work well Coach - Through the WorkWell project we can help you take positive steps forward

School Nurse - Bed wetting Sleep Hygiene & More

Compass bloom YP Mental Health support

Housing - Preston City Council - Gateway

Citizen Advice

Benefit Advice - DWP

Debt Advice/Support

Employment advice - DWP

Home safety - Lancs Fire & Rescue

Free Funded Nursery Places

Runshaw College Apprenticeships

Lancashire Women Support for ladies

Domestic Abuse Support

Community Education Sexual Health

Drop in sessions held on the last Tuesday of each month 2-4pm -no appointment needed

Ribbleton Family Hub,

Ribbleton Hall Drive,

Ribbleton,

Preston,

PR2 6EE

Autumn Star of the Term Certificates

Reception -Emily-Mae and Noah

Year 1- Joanna and Jax

Year 2-Bella and Louie

Year 3-Phoebe and Adrien

Year 4 Mae and Zach

Year 5-Ayesha and Andy

Year 6-Audrey and Ben

Congratulations to everyone for their hard work.

SEND Newsletter – Lancashire County Council

The SEND Newsletter is for parents and carers of, and professionals working with, children and young people with special educational needs and/or a disability (SEND).

Download the latest issue at: <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities/getting-help/send-newsletter/>

Parents and carers can also sign up for a regular copy at the link above.

Reading

Following our recent in-house pupil progress meetings, it has been notable that a number of children in our infant classes are not reading at home. It is vital that reading is a regular activity at home as well as at school. Reading is the gateway to access all other learning as well as providing a relaxing hobby. It is well researched that pupils who read at home make better progress than those who do not. Evidence suggests that home reading is linked to improved vocabulary, writing, and overall literacy, especially when supported by parents.

Children do not need to read a full book each night, a few pages each night is better than nothing at all.

Please support your child's learning by hearing them read.

Online Safety From the Children's Commissioner

The Children's Commissioner, Rachel De Souza, has produced a useful document to support parents with their child's online activity. Please take the time to look at her report.

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/resource/what-i-wish-my-parents-or-carers-knew-a-guide-for-parents-and-carers-on-managing-childrens-digital-lives/>