



Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Primary School

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'Christ at the centre, Children at the heart'

Dear Parents/Carers,

The clocks have gone back, the weather has changed and we are back in a state of lockdown. The good thing is that this time we are allowed to remain fully open and continue to do our best to maintain our high standards of teaching and learning. There have been many reports in the press of teachers and education staff seeking school closures; this is never the case at Our Lady of the Rosary and I am sure is also true of many other schools. As educators our staff have a very strong sense of duty and commitment to securing the best provision for our young people at all times. It is challenging to manage the situation currently but I know that you will join with me in thanking our staff for their continued efforts in meeting all the needs of all our pupils. May I also thank you for your support and the part you play in helping us to keep everyone safe by following the measures we have put in place for health and safety reasons.

It was great to get back to school last week and to see everyone refreshed after their half-term break. It certainly didn't take long for everyone to get back into the swing of things and the school has been a hive of activity since we've come back! Highlights have included spooky writing activities, Bonfire night art work and the creation of beautiful painted stones to form poppies for Remembrance Day.

We have a lot going on over the next few weeks so please take some time to read all of the important messages below.

Protecting your children

As you are well aware, we are doing everything we possibly can to minimise the risk of contamination within school. I therefore ask that you continue to do your bit, by **keeping your distance** from others when waiting to drop off/pick up your child(ren) and also, by **wearing a mask**. These are simply common-sense precautions. I implore you to keep the risk down and follow all the advice/procedures that have been put in place to reduce the spread of COVID. Please act responsibly!

Reception class in September 2021

Nursery parents can now apply for their child's reception place for September 2021. We would ask you to visit <https://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions> and submit an online application between now and **15 January 2021** (the final closing date).

Film Crew

On Friday, we will welcome a film crew into school who will be making a short video to showcase the outstanding teaching and learning and fun that takes place at our school on a daily basis. It will be on the school website in the coming weeks. The video will be available to view. If you, or any other parents you know, are looking to choose the right school for your children.

Please let the office staff know if you DO NOT want your child on the video. On Friday, children must attend school in their school uniform and bring a bag with their PE kit in so they can change if your child is due to have PE. Y2 and 4 will be working inside so will need plimsolls, plain white t-shirt and blue shorts, Y6 will be outside so will need a white t-shirt and navy blue or black jogging bottoms.

Good News

We are delighted to let you know that Mrs Johnson is now the proud mam of a beautiful baby girl, Isla Lily. Both mam and baby are well and we hope she enjoys all of the time she spends together with her husband and new baby.

Reporting a Positive Covid Case

If your child tests positive for COVID over the weekend or after the Office closes at 4:00pm please email Mrs. Sutherland on:

c.sutherland100@durhamlearning.net

Parents' Evening Autumn 2020

Please make an appointment to speak to your child's class teacher if you haven't already done so.

Santa's Wish

This year we are welcoming contributions of Christmas toys and gifts (unwrapped) which will be distributed to families in need this Christmas through Peterlee Town Council. All donations will be gratefully received after half term until the beginning of December.



Events coming up:

Children in Need and World Kindness Day

Thursday, 12th November we will celebrate Children in Need and World Kindness Day in school– we will be holding a non-uniform day to raise money for charity – we are asking for a contribution of £1.00 to be paid via your child’s ParentPay account. **This will show as Children in Need 2020 on ParentPay.**

Anti-Bullying Week

W/C 16th November is Anti Bullying Week – classes will be taking part in activities throughout the week.

Movie Night cancelled

Thursday, 19th November – Please note due to recently introduced COVID lockdown restrictions by the government we are unable to host our classroom/bubble movie night. Instead, as the children’s half term behaviour treat, children will have a movie afternoon in December with treats.

Christmas Jumper Day

On Friday, 11th December, children can come to school wearing their Christmas Jumpers with their school uniform trousers and skirts. We are asking for a donation of £1.00. All donations will be sent to Save the Children. **This will appear on ParentPay as Christmas Jumper Day 2020.**

Christmas Dinner Day

This will take place w/c 7th December and costs £2.10 for those who pay for their child’s meal or for those children that would like to have lunch with their class friends and would normally bring a packed lunch. Please pay this on ParentPay the week commencing Monday, 7th December so the office staff know it is for that day.

Christmas Parties:

14th December Nursery and Reception	15th December Year 1 and Year 2	16th December Year 3 and Year 4	17th December Year 5 and Year 6
The cost of the Christmas party will be <u>£2.00</u> with the children receiving a ‘goodie bag’. This will appear as Christmas Party 2020 on ParentPay. Parties will be held in classrooms this year and bubbles will not be mixed.			