



Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Primary School

Westway, Peterlee, Co. Durham SR8 1DE

Tel. 0191 5862264: Fax. 0191 5182537

Acting Executive Head Teacher: Mrs. M. Graham

olotr@durhamlearning.net www.ourladyrosary.durham.sch.uk/



Bishop Chadwick
Catholic Education Trust

Dear Parents/Carers,

A very warm welcome to all of our new Reception children and their families who have joined our school this term. The children have all settled in fantastically well and have been busy discovering lots of new exciting things during their sessions. It has been lovely to see them getting to know each other and growing in confidence. It has also been lovely to see the children in other year groups continuing to reconnect with their friends and classmates in the September sunshine as they settle back in to the more familiar routines of school life.

We have seen some fabulous learning taking place across the classes this term: from swimming, to completing engineering challenges, work on biomes, art in the style of Picasso to embarking on our daily mile training! Many thanks to parents and carers for using the COVID drop off and pick up routines: your promptness and punctuality at gate times really has helped ensure that all children have a calm, safe entry and exit into school so thank you to all involved.

We do appreciate feedback and would like to know how you are finding the COVID pick up time of 3:15pm for all our pupils. Please return the tear off slip at the bottom of the letter.



A few reminders:

School Equipment/Uniform

Pupils should wear school uniform (including a coat) as the weather at the minute is so variable. Please ensure suitable black school shoes and skirts when worn must be of an appropriate length to avoid embarrassment. No wearing of earrings will be permitted under any circumstances. Just to remind you that earrings are not allowed in school. In addition, children must not dye their hair please, wear nail varnish or have an extreme hair cut.

Dressing for PE

On a PE day, your child can come to school in a white T-shirt with their school sweat shirt on and a pair of navy or black jogging trousers or blue shorts. No other sports gear will be allowed; spare PE clothes will be in each class if a child does not come dressed appropriately for the PE lesson.

We ask parents to name all items of clothing so that we can return lost property.

Restrictions

Durham LA recognise that government guidance has been significantly relaxed outside the workplace. However local case rates remain high in Co. Durham and indeed in Peterlee.

Please can we ask that if your child shows any COVID symptoms you administer a lateral flow test or take them for a PCR test. If a household member tests positive, it would be useful for school to know so we can keep an eye on your child. Guidance has changed but we still need to be vigilant. Please attend a local PCR testing site rather than request a postal test as this could delay your child returning to school.

Attendance

Firstly, and most importantly, a HUGE well done and thank you to all the children who have 100% attendance for the academic year to date. The Department for Education tracks attendance carefully and our aim is to have an attendance figure in excess of the national average of 96.7%.

If your child is too ill to attend school, please contact the school office before 9.25am with full details of your child's illness/symptoms. If we do not hear from you, we will ring you to find out why your child is not in school. If we are unable to make contact and you do not provide a reason for your child's absence, this absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

Regular Attendance means Punctual Attendance. Arriving on time for school is important as late arrivals are disruptive for the class and can be embarrassing for the child who is late. Children can also miss the initial teaching input causing great anxiety for your child. Gates open early on a morning to avoid congestion. However, staff are not on duty until 8:45am so parents of children on the lower yard **MUST** stay with their child until a member of staff greets you at the gate.



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Please note, a member of staff will open the gates each evening as all the classes (other than Reception) need to be ready on the yard to ensure their safe dismissal. Reception parents each evening are to collect their child from outside Reception Class.

Classroom doors open at 8.45am. Arrival after 9.10am is recorded as late and after 9:25am as unauthorised. Any unauthorised absence negatively impacts on our overall attendance figure as well as your child's attendance and achievement levels.



Communicating with Class Teachers

If you would like to speak to a member of staff, please contact them via Class Dojo, email the School Office or call the School Office during the school day. If you are having difficulty accessing dojo please see your child's teacher or contact the school office.

MacMillan Coffee Morning

Message from Miss Lawrence our Personal and Pastoral lead:

We are excited to say that, as a school, we will be raising money for the fantastic charity that is Macmillan Cancer Support on Friday 24th September. You are invited to join us at a coffee morning in the main hall in the upper building from 8.45am.

This week, in school, the children will gain an understanding of the charity. In addition, there will be a cake sale on both the lower and upper school yard at home time on Friday.

We are asking for donations of cakes and hoping there is a Great British Baker amongst us! Please remember that we are a nut free school. Donated cakes and biscuits can be dropped off from tomorrow please. Parent/carer helpers would be very welcome. Ring the office if you can help. Children can bring money in to buy cakes/biscuits during the day.

We look forward to celebrating this charity event together.





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Breakfast Club / Tea Time Club

We continue to operate our breakfast and afterschool provision. If you would like your child to attend either our breakfast or Tea Time Club, please email your request to wraparound.ourladyrosary.org.uk at the latest the day before you need the provision.

Thank you for your continued support over the last year; as always, we are very grateful.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs. M. Graham
Acting Executive Head Teacher

Mrs Sutherland
Deputy Headteacher

Please fill out as appropriate and return to school:

Child's name:..... Class teacher:.....

My preferred finishing time during COVID is:

KS1

3:00pm

3:15pm

3:30pm

KS2

3:00pm

3:15pm

3:30 pm



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