

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Catholic Primary Monthly Update

Living, loving and learning together
with our eyes focused on Jesus.



Address: Durham Rd, Esh Winning, DH7 9PA

Telephone: 0191 3734343

Email: ourladyqueenofmartyrs@durhamlearning.net

Website: www.olqstmj.durham.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Keenan

Sept 2022

Issue 1
(2022-2023)



@OLQM_EshW



A massive welcome back to all our children, parents and carers, and the warmest of welcomes to our new starters in reception, year 1, year 2 and their families. The beginning of school is always exciting, and this year is no exception! We are anticipating a wonderful year and have already planned many activities and trips for your children to engage in.

I am enclosing a lot of information in this update. As always, if you are in any doubt about anything, please contact the school for help and support.

*Our Lady Queen of Martyrs,
patron saint of our school,
mother to Jesus,
watch over us during this school year.
Help us, as you helped Jesus,
to be patient and kind
with each other and ourselves,
to give our very best in all that we do,
and to be thankful for all that we have.
Amen.*

Louise Keenan

#Article 2 (Non-discrimination)

#Article 3 (Best interests of the child)

Weekly and Monthly Communication

We have listened to what you have said and tried to plan well ahead and share this information with you. Please be aware, if there are circumstances beyond our control, we may need to move events.

The Monthly Update will continue this year and we will supplement it with a Weekly Calendar which will be emailed detailing what's happening in each class along with supplementary details. We hope these will help to aid communication and make this

easier for you as this was one area we feel, and you feel, we need to improve.

School Trips

You also told us you wanted more notice of trips to help spread the costs. Below under the dates is a table of trips, when we are hoping to go and an indication of cost. With increased fuel and venue costs, prices are not available until closer to travel. We have estimated the cost of trips and will ensure if over payments are made monies are moved to the next trip, and so on. We will inform you of the cost of each trip once we have it finalised.

Energy rising costs

As we all know, energy costs are currently soaring. Please ensure your child is warmly wrapped up to come to school, just as you did at the height of the pandemic (vests are excellent!) as we will be unable to put the heating on, as early as we used to, to 'take the chill off' as we have always done previously and it can, at times, be cool in school, particularly on a morning. To put your minds at ease the heating will be on in school but like yourselves we will be trying to reduce the time and temperature to meet these new costs. I am sure you understand the situation we are all in and that we need to work together on this matter.

Swimming – Year 6

Swimming for year 6 will begin on 14th September and continue all term. Children will need a towel, swimming cap and costume or trunks.

School Uniform

Full school uniform is required for September including black school shoes, not trainers, as per our school policy which will be adhered to. Orders for new uniform can be placed via [Tots To Teams](#) Uniform does not need to include a school badge, this is discretionary, but uniform must be adhered to.

Please remember to label all your child's belongings before they come into school so that we can ensure found items are returned to their rightful owner.

PE kits

As we informed you in our July update, this year we will be reverting to changing for PE rather than attending in PE Kit.



PE kit is to be sent into school in a bag at the start of term. This will be sent home at the end of each half term. PE kit needs to be: trainers, as we do go outside (not plimsoles), ROUND NECKED white T-shirt, navy shorts/joggers - NO LOGOS other than school badge. **(The wearing of badged uniform is at your discretion as we are aware that this can add extra costs.)**

Earrings and Jewellery

No jewellery is permitted in school - this includes friendship bracelets and **earrings** - including spacers. It is not part of our school uniform. If you would like your child to have their ears pierced, please do this early in the six weeks holidays so that their ears will be healed by autumn term. As with school uniform this rule will be enforced in September.

School Dinners

As we are now part of the Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust their catering section will be taking over the provision of school meals from September. If you have not done so already, please have a look at the menu – [it's in with the Monthly Updates and Weekly Calendar on the website.](#)

The meals will again follow a 3-week cycle but **will not** involve a pre-order system. Meals will be on display to the children and they will be able to choose from 3 'school dinners', 3 sandwich varieties and 3 jacket potato options daily. In total there will be 9 choices of meal to choose from each day. School Meal prices will increase to £2.40 per day - £12 per week.

Perhaps you'd like your child to give it a try for the few weeks? It would normally require just 1 week to switch between school meals and packed lunch. For the first few weeks, if you give it a try, no notice will be required. *For those of you that currently do a mix of packed lunch and school dinners, I'm sorry but that will no longer be an option.*

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club will start on Monday 12th September 8:00am. A Simply Sport Coach will be on site to take the children for PE activities before school and breakfast. The cost of breakfast club will be £2.50. It is imperative that these places be *booked and paid for in advance* through the school gateway. We cannot always guarantee places on an ad hoc basis as we are restricted to numbers. To avoid disappointment please ensure you book in advance.

After school club

After School Club starts on Tuesday 6th September with a coach from Simply Sport. The cost will be £2 per session and spaces are limited so please ensure you book online when the link arrives.

Wilderness Camp Residential in 2023 (Class 4)

We have pre booked the Wilderness camp in the Durham Dales again for next year, The dates are 22th to the 24th May 2023. The estimated cost is £220 per child. Secure a place by paying a deposit of £30 by Sept 30th payments may be made online from today. As in the past, a saving scheme will be set up in school to allow families to pay for the trip gradually. If you have any questions at all regarding this matter, please phone the school.

Flute

Those children in KS2 who do flute - lessons will continue to take place on a Tuesday afternoon starting from 13th September.

Recycle Week 20th-26th September

The theme for Recycling week this year is 'Let's get real about recycling'. If you would like to learn more yourself please follow this link: [Recycle Week 2022: Let's get real about recycling | WRAP](#).



Recycling fits perfectly with Pope Francis' encyclical Laudato Sii which inspires us to care for our common home – the earth - and help do all we can to reduce the damage that we are doing to it. During the week our PSHE lessons will focus on these areas.

Welcome Mass – 22nd September

We will be holding a welcome mass at 9.15 to welcome all our children back to school and to welcome all our new starters into the family community of the school and parish. It is a fantastic way to start the school year by receiving God's blessings! Please come along and share in this wonderful celebration.

Car Free Day – 22nd September

Thursday the 22nd is Car-Free day and we are all encouraged to give up our cars for a day. You could try walking to school rather than driving even walk just one way for one day! Come on we can do it! Think of the price of fuel, the health benefits but most importantly the environment.

Open School Prospective Parents – 23rd September



We will be opening the school to prospective parents and children on the 23rd September from 10-12pm to have a 'pop around the school'. If you have a child who is starting school next September or know anyone else who may like to attend, please pass on this information. All are welcome.

Jorvik Visit in York – Class 4 – 28th September

Class 4 will be visiting the Jorvik Viking Centre as part of their history topic. Children will be required to wear school jumpers, and will need: a packed Lunch, water Bottle and waterproof coat. It is probable the bus will leave early and return late. We will need helpers for this trip so if you are available please let Miss McKenna at the office know.



McMillan Coffee Afternoon - 30th September



It is that time of year again where we all come out in support of this wonderful charity and even better get to eat cake as well.

We would really appreciate donations of any kind of cakes – small, medium, large, home-made or shop bought to be brought to school on the morning of the 30th please. Non-uniform can be worn and children will then have the opportunity to buy cakes after lunch, max £1. We would love if you could also attend from 3pm and share a drink of tea/coffee/juice and a cake with your child.

Beamish Trip – Class 2 - 3rd October



Class 2 will be visiting Beamish Museum as part of their history topic. More details will be in the next update.

Oriental Museum – Class 3 – 4th October

Class 3 will be visiting Durham's Oriental Museum as part of their history topic. More details will be in the next update.

Reading Plus

Our KS2 children, (years 3-6) are now using the Reading Plus program to help become better readers. Reading Plus helps children develop the skills they need to be skilled readers and lifelong learners. The children seem to love it so please encourage them to read at home. Through regular Reading Plus practise, reading will become easier, and comprehension will increase. The children can engage with Reading Plus outside of school on a computer or any tablet with internet access. [Log in by clicking here.](#) Our school code is: **ourla**

Year of the Eucharist

The Diocese has declared this year to be the Year of the Eucharist. The aim of the year is to deepen the children's love and understanding of Jesus in the Mass and in the Sacrament of the Eucharist. Each month we will celebrate a different theme and focus on a different part of the mass. In September, our focus is on receiving the Body of Christ.



Our Lady Queen of Martyrs PTA

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs PTA (Parent Teacher Association) are always looking for new volunteers. All parents are automatically members and you can be involved in any way.

The PTA will be arranging their next meeting date soon. All can attend to find out more about what they do and how they could help.



If you would like any further information or can help in any way please speak to Terri Hosler, Sam Harmston or Miss McKenna. If you would like to email the group please send it to school to be passed on.

Upcoming Dates

I have added some key dates for the rest of the term in the hope that they give you some advanced warning. Please be aware that they may be subject to change and of course, more dates will be added as the diary fills.

This Month our Virtue to Live By is: Respect

“So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you.” Matthew 7:12

You treat others people as you would like to be treated. You treat people with courtesy and kindness not because of who they are or what they have done, but because, like you, they have a God-given dignity. You respect yourself so that you have the confidence to be yourself and not give in to things you know are wrong or not to give in to those who want you to do things you don't want to do. You show respect for creation through your care for nature.

In our Liturgical prayer and house groups we will be talking and learning about:

I respect myself and know I deserve respect from others

I treat everyone how I would like to be treated

I use good manners

I respect and follow school and classroom rules

I speak politely to everyone

I listen to others

I praise others for their good conduct

I respect and look after my own and other people's belongings How by living simply helps us to put more trust in God.

Dates for this month - OLQM**(May be subject to change)****September**

6 th	All Children except Reception return to school
7 th	Reception children begin their 1 st day of school 9.30 am through main door 3pm leave through main door
8 th	Reception enter through main door at 9:30am Collect from main gate at 3:30pm
9 th	All children enter through main gate by 8:55am & exit through main gate 3:30pm
16 th	International Day of Democracy
20-26 th	Recycle week - Focus on Laudato Sii /Fratelli Tutti
22 nd	Car Free Day – Try to walk to school today if you can
22 nd	Welcome Mass – All welcome to attend
23 rd	Open School Prospective Parents 10am-12pm
28 th	Class 4 trip to Jorvik in York
30 th	McMillan Coffee Morning - non uniform, juice, and biscuits

October

3 rd	Class 2 trip to Beamish
4 th	Class 3 trip to Oriental Museum
6 th	Phonics for Parents (pm but time to be confirmed)
7 th	Non-Uniform day for a bottle
10 th	Start of collection for Harvest Festival
12 th	Walk to school Day
18 th	Harvest Festival Mass
17 th	Parents afternoon / evening and reports distributed
21 st	School breaks up for half term and return on 31 st October
31 st	Return to school

November

1 st	All Saints Day
4 th	Non-Uniform for a selection box
8 th	Road Safety Day
8 th	SATs survival for parents 9:15-10:15am
11 th	Remembrance Day
14 th -18 th	Friendship/Anti-bullying week
21 st	Christ the King – Be a goodie wear a hoodie and donation to YMT
22 nd	World Toilet Day
25 th	Whole school Panto trip <i>Oh yes it is!</i>
28 th	Reverse Advent calendar begins

December

2 nd	Christmas Tree lighting up - TBC
6 th	Whole School Christmas Performance 6pm
7 th	Whole School Christmas Performance 10am
14 th	Christmas Lunches and Christmas Jumpers day (TBC)
16 th	Christmas Fayre (TBC)
19 th	Carol Concert am (TBC)
21 st	Christmas celebration/Parties/.Santa Saunter
22 nd	Break up for Christmas Holidays

January

11 th	Children return to school
------------------	---------------------------

Year B Cultural Diversity	School trips			
		Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
	Class 1		Durham Castle 15 th March £14 Ballet (Gala) 30 th April £12	
	Class 2	Beamish Museum 3 rd Oct £16	Ballet (Gala) 30 th April £12	
	Class 3	Oriental Museum 4 th Oct £14		Durham Cathedral 26 th June £14
	Class 4	Jorvik Centre – York 28 th Sept £22		OAA Residential 24 th May £220
	Whole School	Pantomime 25 th Nov £14		Beach 27 th June £14