



Newsletter

No. 4. 25th October 2024

Website: www.ourladys.devon.sch.uk

Twitter: @OurLadys_School

Telephone: 01271 345164

In Our Lady's Catholic Primary School we learn about God and try to follow his footsteps by showing care and respect for one another.

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for all of your support during this first half-term. The children have made a wonderful start to the school year and been working really hard.

It was great to see so many of you join the Year 4 Harvest Assembly last week. The Eagle Class did a great job and have raised a large amount of items to contribute to our Food Pantry, which sits by the front entrance gates. This Pantry is available to anyone that needs it, so please help yourselves.

We spent today, Friday 25th, celebrating our Academy, Plymouth CAST's, 10 year Anniversary. We worked on a 'ten' theme, alongside Times Table Rock Stars celebrating our number knowledge.

Thank you for your support and contributions towards the coffee/cake morning this morning, it was great to see so many faces from our school community. Any money raised will go to the Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth) so thank you. It was magical to see the children's excitement dressing up as Rock Stars for the day. We are so impressed with their enthusiasm towards times tables rock stars this term and next term we will be introducing weekly awards to acknowledge this (Times Table Rock Stars is used in KS2 and Numbots in EY/KS1).

Have a peaceful half term and we look forward to welcoming you back on Tuesday 5th November.

Kind regards

Rob Meech, Executive Headteacher and Lorna Wilby, Head of School

Autumn Term Dates

Fri 25th Oct	Last day of half term
Mon 28th Oct	Half Term Holiday
Thu 31st Oct	Deadline for secondary school places
Mon 4th Nov	Non Pupil Day—School Closed
Tue 5th Nov	Pupils Return to School
Wed 6th Nov	Swimming starts for Y4
Wed 13th Nov	Filled Shoebox's to be in school
Wed 13th Nov	Swimming Y4
Fri 15th Nov	PTFA Bingo Evening
Wed 20th Nov	Swimming Y4
Wed 27th Nov	Swimming Y4
Wed 4th Dec	Swimming Y4
Fri 6th Dec	PTFA School Disco
Wed 11th Dec	Last Swimming Y4
Fri 20th Dec	Children's Chocolate Raffle
Fri 20th Dec	Last day of term
Mon 6th Jan	Children Return to School

New Dinner Menu

Please be aware that our dinner menu will be changing from Tuesday 5th November. This is now on the school website and attached on parentmail with this newsletter.

https://www.ourladys.devon.sch.uk/web/school_dinners/288544

Please note that there will be a change to this menu on Thursday 7th November. As it is Fireworks week, we will be serving Rocket Dog (hotdog) or veggie rocket dog with chips, baked beans and peas with Rocky 'Rocket' Road for dessert.

School Website

Please keep a check on the school website as this will be updated regularly. The class pages will be updated with class newsletters, photos, areas of topic etc. You will find details on all our key documents and policies together with the current school dinner menu.

Please visit:- www.ourladys.devon.sch.uk

Heart of Gold Awards

Well done to all the children who have achieved our Heart of Gold Award for displaying our school rules:-



Midna	Leila –Jai	Emilia
Phoebe-Mae	Lillie	Willow
Vania	Deanna	Lexi
Nellie	Edwin	
Tyler	Steph	
	Anya	

PE Days

When your child has PE they should be coming into school in their PE kits and remaining in them all day.

Robin	Tuesday and Thursday
Heron	Wednesday and Friday
Puffin	Tuesday and Wednesday
Owl	Wednesday and Friday
Eagle	Monday and Thursday
Kingfisher	Monday and Friday
Swallow	Monday and Tuesday

PE lessons will continue to be held outside even in the rain so please ensure that your child has a waterproof coat, they may even need gloves and hats as we progress into the winter months.

As the weather gets colder, if you have not done so already, you can purchase, for £15, a PE Hoodie with the school logo for children to wear for PE. Alternatively children can wear their school jumper for PE. Please order these via the school office.

Don't forget that Eagle class will be attending swimming lessons every Wednesday afternoon from Wednesday 6th November until Wednesday 11th December. Eagle class can wear their PE kits on a Wednesday during this time.

Parents, Teachers and Friends Association (PTFA)

As always, our wonderful PTFA are thinking and planning ahead. Some dates for your diaries already are:-

Bingo Evening—15th November
Xmas Disco—6th December
Chocolate Raffle—20th December



We are looking for donations for prizes and raffle prizes for the bingo night, along with donations of chocolate for the Christmas Children's Chocolate Raffle. Please drop any donations off to the school office.

Please look out in the school newsletter or Parentpay for future PTFA planned events for the Autumn term.

Our PTFA meet on a Thursday once a month. Please contact the school office if you are willing to help and would like to attend the next meeting and put any ideas forward.

Absence guidance for Parents/Carers

What YOU must do:

Telephone the school (ideally before 8.30am) **each day** of your child's absence.

Tell the school in advance of any medical appointments and bring in appointment cards/letters.

If you are not sure whether your child is well enough to attend school, send them in anyway as they often perk up on arrival.

Have a backup plan for if your child misses transport, call on a family member, neighbour or friend.

If you and your child are experiencing difficulties with school attendance then talk to us as a first step so we can help!

What WE will do:

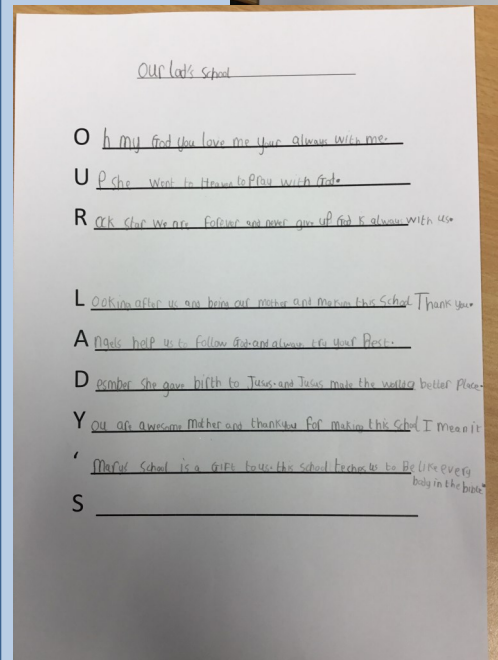
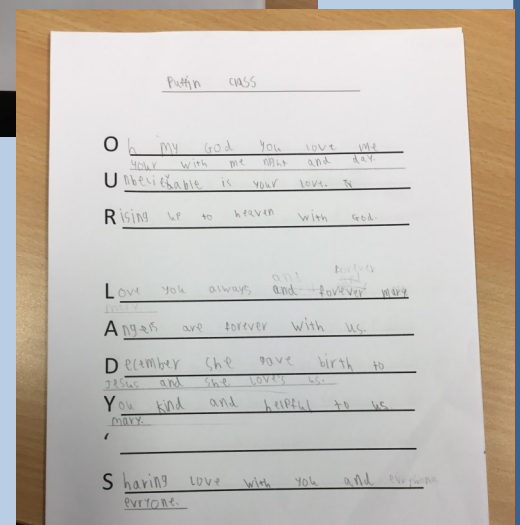
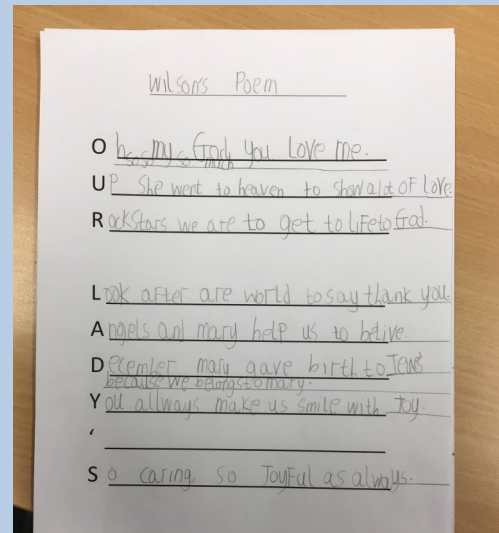
Check your child's attendance every day.

Phone home to discuss your child's attendance with you.

Invite you into school for attendance meetings if we are concerned.

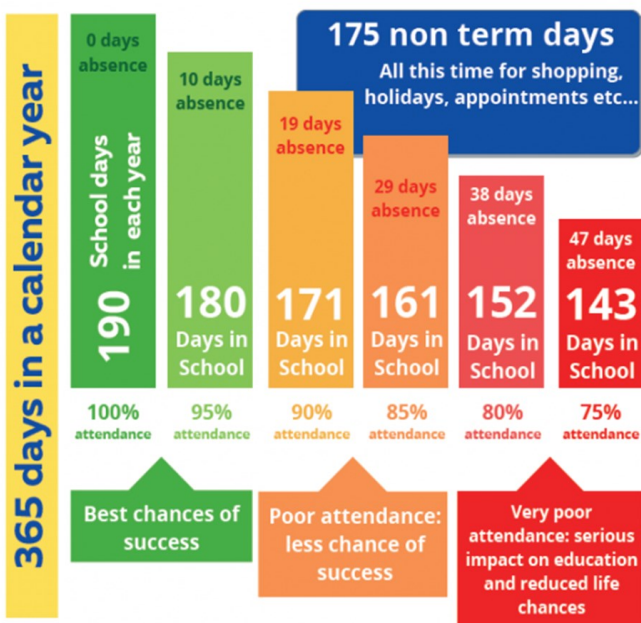
If we cannot establish a reason for absence, then we may make a welfare home visit.

Acrostic Poems by Puffin Class to celebrate 10 years of our school being part of the Plymouth CAST Multi Academy Trust.



Current school attendance is 96.4% which is slightly above national average of 95.7%.

ABSENCE



Please don't let your child miss out on the education they deserve.

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS!

Our Lady's Food Pantry

We would like to thank you for coming to our Harvest Assembly on Friday. It was a wonderful afternoon of prayer and celebration of all that food we have and can share. We are delighted to say that our Food Pantry is up and running. It is available to all and we would love if you could add and take away from it as you need. Many thanks for your support and help and lets care for each other by sharing with each other.

God bless

Mrs Cohen and the Chaplaincy Team



We will be collecting the shoeboxes (Samaritan's Purse again this year. Filled shoeboxes will need to be in school by Wednesday 13th November.



Shoebox Gift Suggestions

SPECIAL GIFT

- Football with pump
- Doll or cuddly toy
- Large toy car/truck
- Musical instrument



TOYS

- Skipping ropes
- Yo-yos
- Toy cars
- Toys that light up and make noise (with extra batteries)



PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

- Toothbrushes
- Washcloths
- Combs
- Hairbrushes



SCHOOL SUPPLIES

- Pens, pencils, sharpeners, crayons, and markers
- Notebooks and paper
- Colouring and picture books
- Solar calculators



ACCESSORIES

- Socks
- Sunglasses
- Jewellery and watches
- Wind-up Torch (or torch with extra batteries)



DO NOT INCLUDE

Toothpaste, sweets, lotions and liquids; used or damaged items; war-related items; seeds, gum, chocolate or food items; religious or political literature; medicines, aerosol cans, sharp or fragile items.



TORNADOS ALLSTARS

2024/25
SEASON STARTS NOW

3 Sessions a week
£3 a session !!

Elite Teams
Prep Teams
A team for all

Wednesday/Friday's
in Ilfracombe
4-7pm

Sundays
at urban sports
centre
9am - 12pm
starts 6th October

No experience
needed

Competitions
all over the UK

Message Head Coach Emma shorney if
interested

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about IN-GAME CHAT

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Video games are continuing to grow in popularity – including, of course, among children and young people – and the emergence of gaming communities has been accelerated by the inclusion of chat functionality across many different titles. While in-game chat isn't inherently a bad thing, it can create some concerns about online safety and the people that children might be interacting with.

DIFFERENT TYPES OF CHAT

There are a number of ways that gamers commonly chat with one another online. As the name would suggest, in-game chat happens within the game itself. There's also party chat: a group voice conversation that console users can have with anyone on the same platform. This tends to be more commonly used by players who already know each other. Finally, many gamers – especially on PC – will chat via a third-party app such as Discord.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Whether it's text- or voice-based, in-game chat is frequently open to all players to use. Many games default to making it an opt-in function, but some don't: meaning a child could start seeing messages within the game from people they're playing with, regardless of whether they know those individuals or not. While most strangers won't necessarily have ill intent, there are some who may behave inappropriately when chatting to a child – intentionally or otherwise.

DANGER OF GROOMING

It's been reported that some young gamers have encountered older players online who pretend to be a lower age to manipulate children, sending gifts in exchange for chatting and sending photos. Just as on any messaging platform, it's good to advise young people to avoid speaking to strangers; emphasise that they shouldn't accept gifts from anyone online that they don't know.

BULLYING AND ABUSE

While some in-game chat can turn toxic because of how a match plays out, others turn that way because of people who engage in trolling – in essence, behaving in an offensive and abusive way simply to cause pain or get a rise out of whoever they're talking to. These 'trolls' often lean on racial slurs, anti-LGBT sentiment and other hateful rhetoric; they normally feel most confident preying on younger, more impressionable gamers.

POTENTIAL FOR PRIVATE CHAT

If a player would like a re-match with a stranger after meeting them in the game, they can send a friend request, or use the party chat together in the future. For the most part, this is harmless – but it might lead to messages being exchanged in private. This could then escalate to the sharing of private information, and potentially attempts to manipulate or scam younger players.

COMPETITIVE ATMOSPHERE

Certain games are very competitive, and players can sometimes get upset if they feel a teammate is underperforming, an opponent won unfairly, or they're just a bad loser. This can lead to unpleasant messages that stray away from playful 'trash talk' and wander into the territory of bullying. Some players have been known to get incredibly abusive in situations like this, and the impact of this on a young gamer's emotional wellbeing could be severe.

Advice for Parents & Educators

LOCK-DOWN IN-GAME CHAT

In-game chat can often be disabled in the game's settings. This allows children to play without risk of contact from strangers – but it will need to be done in each individual game. Text chat appears in the corner of the screen in many titles, so it's normally easy to take a quick glance and see what's being said. With voice chat, explain to children what behaviour is inappropriate, so they can spot the dangers themselves.

REPORT POTENTIAL OFFENDERS

Most games offer a robust means of reporting other players, so you can flag an account as potentially harmful. This normally leads to the account not being matched with yours in the future and, if that person's conduct breaks any of the game's rules, they may be banned from playing entirely. This is done within the game itself, so each title has a slightly different process, but these tend to be designed for simplicity.

CONSIDER OTHER CHAT OPTIONS

If a child wants to play with people they know, consider using party chat or a third-party service like Discord. This allows everyone involved to chat on a private server and even enjoy each other's company while playing different games. It's also far more secure, as anyone looking to join will need to request and be granted access – normally by whoever is hosting the chat.

COMMUNICATION IS KEY

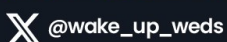
Make sure children understand the differences between being competitive and being abusive. Talk about what constitutes unusual or inappropriate behaviour from strangers online. Be clear that if anything ever concerns or worries them, they should tell a trusted adult as soon as possible. Empower children to identify the risks of in-game chat for themselves and reassure them they won't get in trouble for seeking help if anything goes wrong.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Editor in Chief of GGRecon and has been working in the games media industry for five years. He's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his work has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at nationalcollege.com/guides/in-game-chat



Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 02.10.2024

CAST 10th Anniversary Celebrations

We held a wonderful cake sale and coffee morning today. We also all dressed up as rock stars. Our School Chaplains (and our Chief Executive Officer, Zoe Batten) had great fun.



We also made welcome funds for the Catholic Children's Society.



Thank you to everyone that supported our event.




NORTH DEVON'S BIGGEST INSIDE PARKOUR CLUB!!

WHAT WE OFFER AT URBAN SPORTS CENTRE..

PARKOUR

PARKOUR IS THE SPORT EVERYONE IS TALKING ABOUT! DOES YOUR CHILD JUMP AND CLIMB EVERYTHING? THEN THIS IS PERFECT FOR THEM! PARKOUR IS GREAT FOR IMPROVING YOUR STRENGTH, BALANCE, CONFIDENCE, COORDINATION AND EVEN YOUR MINDSET! ALSO GREAT TO KEEP YOUR FITNESS UP WITH ALL THE FUN!

NERF WARS

WE PUT ON REGULAR NERF WARS THAT GO UP TO 5 HOURS LONG OF A VARIATION OF MINI GAMES AND CHALLENGES. WE SUPPLY ALL THE TACTICAL GEAR AND GUNS AND BULLETS, BUT ALLOW YOU TO BRING YOUR OWN CHOICE OF NERF GUNS!!

BIRTHDAY PARTIES!

WE OFFER PARKOUR OR NERF PARTIES AT OUR VENUE. Up to 25 people.

PARKOUR - LEARNING THE BASIC MOVEMENTS OF VAULTS / JUMPS / CLIMBING AND FUN CHALLENGES!

NERF - BUILDING BASES AND A VARIATION OF TEAM GAMES BATTLEING EACH OTHER!

CONTACT US TO BOOK A FREE TASTER SESSION

f URBAN SPORTS CENTRE

@ MOBILE - 07456643732

LOCATION UNIT 2, CHIVENOR BUSINESS PARK, EX314AY



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Introduction to REVIT for Architecture and CAD - delivered online
Sustainable Building Practices - delivered online
Women in Construction: An Introduction to Brick and Blockwork

COURSES FOR PARENTS/CARERS

Child Nutrition and Health
Parenting Skills in Early Years
Phonics for Parents/Carers of Primary Age Children - daytime
Supporting Your Child in Making the Leap from GCSE to A Levels

CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

Enhancing Confidence and Communication Through Performing Arts
Introduction to Digital Photography and Photoshop
Introduction to Graphic Design Principles
Introduction to Graphic Story Telling - delivered online
Introduction to Music and Audio Production Principles
Introduction to Printmaking
Introduction to Sewing and Textiles

CREATIVE WRITING

Introduction to Writing Poetry
Introduction to Writing Stories for Children

DIGITAL & IT

Coding for Beginners: Building Your First Website and Apps
--

EDUCATION, CHILDCARE & TEACHING

Introduction to Child Development and Wellbeing - delivered online
Introduction to STEM: Principles & Practical Applications

ENGINEERING & MOTOR VEHICLE

Introduction to MIG Welding Technique
Introduction to Solidworks

HAIR & BEAUTY

Introduction to Barbering Skills
Introduction to Hairdressing Skills

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

Understanding Common Conditions in Health Care - delivered online
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HUMANITIES

Architectural Legacy of Ancient Rome - delivered online
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SCIENCE & ENVIRONMENTAL

Introduction to Astronomy

SOCIAL SCIENCES

Introduction to Criminology: Understanding Serial Killers
Introduction to Level 3 Psychology

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Research for Beginners



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