



Newsletter

No. 12. 28th March 2025

Website: www.ourladys.devon.sch.uk

Facebook: Our Lady's Catholic Primary School, Barnstaple

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

We are delighted to welcome three new staff members to the Our Lady's family. Miss Lancey has joined us as a Teaching Assistant. Miss Lancey is a former pupil of the school so it is particularly lovely that she has returned to Our Lady's. Mrs Newstead has also taken up a role as a Teaching Assistant across lower KS2. Finally, we welcome Mrs Schubert to the role of Pupil & Parent Support Advisor. We wish them all the best in their new roles.

We would like to thank the PTFA for organising the cream tea morning last Friday. This was a lovely event and it was good to see so many people in attendance. We hope you also enjoyed the opportunity to come into school and share your children's learning books with them.

We have a busy week ahead of us next week as we build towards the Easter holidays. Alongside school trips, sports tournaments and PTFA fun, we shall also be reflecting on the Stations of the Cross as we prepare for Holy week.

As this is the last newsletter before then, we would like to take the opportunity to wish you a peaceful and relaxing Easter and look forward to seeing you all in the Summer Term. We would also like to express our continued thanks to the wonderful team of staff at Our Lady's. When it comes, may you have a relaxing break with friends and family.

Rob Meech, Executive Headteacher and Eve Daunton, Head of School

Big Lent Walk

All the pupils and staff joined our Catholic family raising awareness of the needs of our brothers and sisters all over the world by participating in the Sponsored Big Lent Walk to raise money. Altogether we have walked over 200 miles and raised money. A Y6 pupil, Douglas, has raised over £150. Plus even the youngest members of our school have managed an incredible mile each.

Well done everyone we are very proud of all.



How wonderful, Lord Jesus, you came back
You suffered death but conquered it
You laid in the tomb but on the third day
You rose again
O joyful day, Lord Jesus, when you returned
You are the resurrection, our hope and our life
O glorious and victorious Redeemer
Help us not to be afraid of death
For we must pass through it to see you face to face
And on the last day we will rise again
For you said so
Let us rejoice and praise you
Our Blessed and triumphant Lord
On this happy, joyful feast.



Headteacher's Awards

Well done to the following children who have recently received Headteacher's awards:-



Robin	Puffin		Kingfisher
Joey-George	Misty	Jonah	George
	Ohemaa	Williams	Freja
Eagle	Casey	Wilson	Ava
Faith	Eliza	Liam	Harvey

Heart of Gold Awards

Well done to all the children who have achieved our Heart of Gold Award for displaying our school rules. We are so proud of you:-



Sophia	Suki-Blue	Lottie
Winnie	Olivia T	Darcie
Tommy	Eilidh	Arthur
Everley	Zachary	Elijah
Eliza	Fletcher	Nuvi
Eli	Liam	Grace
Willow-Ivy	Lily N	Faith

Swimming for Owl Class

Owl class have their last swimming session on Wednesday 2nd April.

Dinner Money and Extended Day Fees

Please could we ask you to check your parent pay accounts as there appears to be a lot of dinner money and Breakfast and After School Club fees outstanding. If you require a link code to sign up for Parentpay, please see Mrs Welland in the school office.

All children from Year 3 and above need to pay for their school dinners at £2.81 per meal, unless you are entitled to means tested free school meals. It is important that all dinner money is received by the school. Thank you for your co-operation.

Whole School Attendance

For the second week in a row we have had a class achieve **100%** attendance. Last week, congratulations went to **Puffin Class** and this week **Heron Class** have followed in their footsteps. Very well done, let's keep up the good work with attending school every day. **Whole school is 96.8%**



[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)



Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.

PUNCTUALITY MATTERS!

Being frequently late for school adds up to lost learning:

- Arriving 5 minutes late every day adds up to over 3 days lost each year.
- Arriving 15 minutes late every day is the same as being absent for 2 weeks a year.
- Arriving 30 minutes late every day is the same as being absent for 19 days a year.

19 days lost a year through being late means 90% attendance.

missed minutes = missed learning = missed opportunities!

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

Each academic school year is 38 weeks (Sept-July) or 190 days. The following chart shows how missed days affects overall attendance.

190 DAYS 100%	183 DAYS 96%	179 DAYS 94%	175 DAYS 92%	More than 18 days absence less than 90%
Very best chance of success	Off to a flying start	Less chance of success	Harder to make progress	Persistent Absentee (Not fair on your child)

Barn-a-b's at Our Lady's



We have planted potatoes and onions in our growing beds in the garden. Robin class have planted some strawberries. We have a raspberry bush and a blackcurrant bush. We are looking at how our food grows, talking about healthy foods, and avoiding ultra processed foods. If you love gardening, and have some spare plants, or want to help in our garden, please let us know.

All we need to do for the Emotion Coaching project that we are taking part in (you signed the consent forms in September) is to complete a survey in June. We will update you when we get the survey. We hope to do the staff training this coming September. This training works well with the PINS training the whole school has been taking part in. This is about being an inclusive school as well as understanding and supporting neurodiversity. Parents can get involved in this project too. This work celebrates the unique differences, attributes and ways of being that we all have, and ensures we all feel valued in our community.

Don't forget to renew your 30 hour codes. You will soon be hearing about your child's school place for September. Emails go to parents on Wednesday 16th April.

Happy Mother's day to you, we hope you love your child's creations and enjoy some lovely family time.

Cathy, Jane, Liia, Lisa and Tracey

Year 4 Cake Sale—Tuesday 1st April

We would like to give an explanation as why Year 4 are having a cake sale on Tuesday 1st March.

-The purpose of the cake sale is to raise money for the parents of the year 4 class to make their upcoming residential more affordable.

-This is something we want **all** classes to do when future trips arise, to put money towards the expensive coach costs. (we want more trips to happen as a school, but we also want to give our class parents an opportunity to fundraise to put towards the cost). The prices of coaches has risen considerably !

-It is by no means **essential**. No one has to buy a cake, it is solely for those who would like to donate.

Eagle class are really enthusiastic about being able to organise a fundraiser, and hopefully this will pave the way for other classes to do the same. Lets all embrace their enthusiasm and charitable spirit.



Summer Term Dates

Tue 1st Apr	Y4 Cake Sale
Wed 2nd Apr	Whole School Mass—St Mary's Church 10am
Wed 2nd Apr	Y5/6 Boys Football (Invitation)
Wed 2nd Apr	Owl Class Swimming (last one)
Thu 3rd Apr	Y3 and Y4 Eden Project
Fri 4th Apr	Whole School Trip to the Cinema
Fri 4th Apr	Last day of Term
Wed 16th Apr	Reception Places Confirmed for Sept 2025
Tue 22nd Apr	Summer Term Starts
Wed 23rd Apr	RNLI Talk in Assembly
Thu 1st May	Polling Day—Barn A Bs Closed
Mon 5th May	Bank Holiday—School Closed
Wed 7th May	Robin & Heron trip to Exmoor Zoo
Mon 12th May	Y6 SATS Week (Mon-Thu)
Tue 13th May	Y4 Residential—Wildside
Fri 16th May	Devon County Show
Wed 24th May	Y4 Residential—Wildside
Sun 18th May	Y6 Residential until 21st May
Fri 23rd May	Last day of half term
Mon 27th May	Half Term Holiday
Mon 2nd June	School Closed—Non Pupil Day
Tue 3rd June	School Returns for Pupils
Tu 22nd Jul	Last day of summer term

EDEN PARK HAF - EASTER HOLIDAY CLUB BOOKINGS OPEN

We are delighted to announce that we are able to start taking bookings for Easter as Devon HAF have launched the programme today.

To book for the funded 4 hours between 9.00am to 13.00pm please follow the link below on EEQU website

<https://www.eequ.org/book/eden-park-haf-programme-barnstaple-with-primary-sports-and-education-north-devon-ltd-14547>

If you would like to book for the extended time either until 3.30pm please follow the link below to our website:

<https://www.primary-sports.co.uk/events/2025/04/07/haf-extended-times-only-eden-park-academy-school-easter-activity-days>

Please note that we will not be able to accept bookings for the extended time if the funded spaces have not been booked via EEQU. If you have any issues booking via the EEQU please use their web chat which is available on their website.

Please do book as soon as possible as we only have 30 spaces available at Easter

We look forward to seeing your child/ren at the Eden Park Easter activity days.

Jemma Sloman and Tia James, North Devon Primary Sports

PTFA News



Our wonderful PTFA have also decided to treat the WHOLE SCHOOL to a visit to the cinema to see DOG MAN on April 4th 2025 during the school day. NO payment is necessary.

The PTFA would like to say a massive thank you to all parents/carers/friends for your contributions and continued support and are looking forward to seeing the delight on the children's faces at this event.

THANK YOU - We look forward to seeing you all at future events.

Please contact the school office if you would like to become involved in helping our lovely band of parents and staff that run our Parent, Teacher and Friends Association. They work tirelessly during the year to raise funds for school resources and treats and events for the children.

**Next Newsletter will go home on Friday 25th
April 2025**

PE Days

We have changed the PE days for Kingfisher and Owl classes for after the Easter Holidays. The new days for each class are as follows:-

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

Children should be coming into school in their PE kits and remaining in them all day. PE lessons will continue to be held outside even in the rain so please ensure that your child has a thin waterproof coat.



Aspire Performing Arts
INSPIRING YOUNG PERFORMERS

Easter Theatre Workshops



Monday 7th April
10am-5pm
8-16 years
Musical Theatre



Tuesday 8th April
10am-3pm
5-8 years
Musical Theatre



Monday 14th April,
10am-5pm
8-16 years
Musical Theatre

£35 per
child or
two for
£60!

Book
quickly
to secure
your
place!

Venue:
St Peter's
Church Hall,
5 Hill Top,
Fremington,
Barnstaple,
EX31 3BL

To book your child's place, visit our Facebook page at
Aspire Performing Arts

OR

Email aspireperformingarts@gmail.com

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about STREAMERS

Livestreaming has become a big part of the entertainment people consume, and what began as a series of gamers sharing their screens has grown into a huge industry packed with personalities - and potential risks for your children. With over 2.5 million people watching Twitch, the most popular streaming service, at any one time, it's important to remain aware of the risks associated with streamers.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT



Some gaming streamers will stick to family-friendly titles, but others will play more violent games that tend to be more popular. Non-gaming streamers could, in theory, discuss just about anything, and some streamers will often stream in revealing outfits.

NEGATIVE INFLUENCES



While things have improved, streamers are often paid by companies to promote products, and this isn't always stated explicitly. While it's unlikely these goods will be harmful to your child, some streamers and influencers have engaged (knowingly or not) in scams in the past.

FINANCIAL HARM

Streamers will often have donation buttons on their screens for users to submit money. What can start as small amounts can quickly spiral as streamers engage with paying viewers more often, potentially leading to financial issues.

UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS



Influencers often showcase how glamorous their lives are, making some users feel as though they are lesser. However, it's important to stress that, in many ways, this is an act, or at the very least, not common. Logan Paul, who has been successful as a streamer and influencer, has a Pokemon card worth \$5 million, but this is atypical of anyone working in the medium.

MISINFORMATION



Streamers are, in many ways, just like us - and they can get things wrong or reel off an opinion without having thought about it. Some can simply say awful things to get a rise out of viewers or to sway them to their side of a hot topic.

ADDICTION AND SCREEN TIME



If your child is watching a lot of a particular streamer, it can be just as damaging to their social life as playing too many video games.

Advice for Parents & Educators

EXPLAIN HOW STREAMING WORKS



For a younger viewer, being a streamer or influencer seems aspirational, but it involves a lot of work and no small degree of good fortune. Streamers are often managed and unable to speak freely due to sponsors, and influencers are just that - influencing young minds, for better or for worse.

DO NOT LOG PAYMENT INFORMATION



Streamers can reward donations with additional content, on-camera "shout outs" and more. If you're unsure about who or what your child is watching, consider avoiding linking payment information. This is especially notable with Twitch, which is owned by Amazon and therefore has some crossover.

CHECK OUT STREAMING PLATFORMS



While Twitch was the de facto streaming service for years, YouTube has gained popularity, too. Then there are Kick and Rumble, which have grown in popularity with moves for big-name streamers - despite many being dogged by controversy.

SET SCREEN TIME LIMITS



You can set screentime limits for mobile apps on iOS and Google, but with other platforms like a PC it may be more difficult to keep tabs. Consider checking in regularly to ensure your children aren't watching content they shouldn't be.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Games Editor of the Daily Star, and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/streamers>

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