



Our Lady & St Joseph Catholic Primary School

'We Learn, We Love, We Grow in Jesus' Name'

School email: olsj@olsj.bwccet.com

Phone: 01207 503979

Website: www.ourladyandstjosephs.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ourladystjosephsprimaryleadgate/

Twitter: @OLSJBrooms <https://twitter.com/olsjbrooms>

Newsletter:

12 January 2024

Joanne Cruise

Executive Headteacher



Spring Dates



Date	Event	Time	Parents Invited
Tuesday 16 January	Y6 Booster Lesson	3.30-4.30pm	No
Tuesday 16 January	First Confessions at Brooms Church	5.30pm	Yes
Wednesday 17 January	Meeting for Dukeshouse Wood Y6 Residential	3.30pm	Yes (Y6 Parents)
Thursday 18 January	Trust Celebration Free Lunch for all children	Lunchtime	No
Friday 2 February	NSPCC Number Day – Wear something with a number on	All Day	Yes
Saturday 3 February	Liturgy 4 Mass (Holy Communion children) Brooms Church	5.30pm	Yes
Monday 5 February	Children's Mental Health Awareness Week	All Week	No
Monday 5 February- Wednesday 7 February	Year 6 Residential – Dukeshouse Wood	Residential	No
Tuesday 6 February	Safer Internet Day	All Day	No
Tuesday 6 February	Holy Communion Session (in school)	3.30pm – 4.30pm	No
Friday 9 February	Half Term Holidays start	3.20pm	
Wednesday 14 February	Ash Wednesday		
Monday 19 February	Children return to school	8.45am	No

Statement to Live By
'I can set a simple target for myself'

After School Clubs

Monday – Meaningful Colouring

Tuesday – Movie Club

Wednesday – Sports Club

Thursday – Sewing Club

**Please remember to book your child's place
and pay on Arbor or cash in to school, 50p per
session.**

Year 6 Booster Lesson

Many thanks to the parents/carers who have completed and returned the form regarding Y6 Booster Lessons. The first lesson will start on Tuesday 16 January straight after school and finish at 4.30pm. The lessons will continue until SATs.

Year 6 Residential – Dukeshouse Wood
5 – 7 February 2024

Year 6 children were sent home with letters on Monday regarding their Residential. We will be holding a meeting for children and their parents on **Wednesday 17 January 2024 at 3.30pm** to provide further information. Payments can be made via the Arbor app under trips. Any queries please contact the school office. Thank you

Breakfast Club

Our breakfast club now starts at **8am**. Children can be admitted up to **8.15am**. If your child wishes to bring their own breakfast to school, they can do so. Please remember children for breakfast club should be in school no later than 8.15am. Please book via telephone 503979 or email: olsj@olsj.bwcet.com
50p per session, please remember payment

Durham Music Service

Durham Music Service are offering private tuition music lessons in school. For further information please visit: durhammusic.org.uk


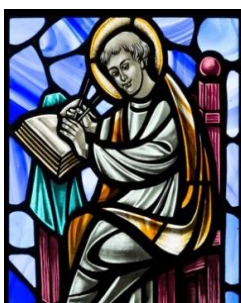


First Confessions

The children will be making their First Confessions on **Tuesday 16 January 2024 at 5.30pm at Brooms Church**. Please ensure your child arrives on time and sits near the front of the Church. Please keep the children in your prayers as they receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Thank you

Trust Celebration Free Lunch

The Trust are once again providing a free lunch for all children on Thursday. There will be a selection of food consisting of chicken nuggets, potato wedges, pizza, sandwiches, sausage rolls and salads.

HOUSE POINTS

Feast Days	St Aidan	St Bede	St Benedict	St Cuthbert
31 August				
25 May				
11 July				
20 March				
Weekly Total	292	243	216	341
Running Total				

Congratulations to this week's winners – St Cuthbert's House

Primary Admissions – Closing Date 15 January 2024

Will your child turn 5 between 1 September 2024 and 31 August 2025?

You are now able to apply for a primary school place in County Durham for your child for September 2024. You will need to complete an application online and state which school you would like your child to attend from September 2024.

Visit www.durham.gov.uk/primaryschoolplaces where you can access a useful guide to help with your application. The easiest way to apply is online. If you are unable to apply online, paper application forms are available on request.

You will still need to apply even if your child attends the nursery unit attached to the school, or already has a sibling at the school. Please note – a late application, i.e. after 15 January 2024, greatly reduces your chances of getting into your preferred school.

The offer of a school place will be made in April 2024. As in previous years, we are strongly encouraging parents/carers to apply on-line for a school place for their child.

For more information please contact:

School Places and Admissions Team

www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions Tel: 03000 265896

Wednesday Word

THE WORD SHARING SUNDAY'S GOSPEL A Weekly Gift to Your Family from Your Catholic Parish School

Wednesday 10th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

January is traditionally the month of beginnings – a time for making a **NEW START**.

In this Sunday's Gospel, we hear about the two disciples of John the Baptist making a new start. They may not have known what John meant when he said 'Look, there is the Lamb of God,' but they knew what he wanted them to do: they had to start afresh and get close to Jesus.

Once John's disciples got to know Jesus, they couldn't wait to tell their friends and share their joy with them. We too are filled with this same joy when we get close to Jesus and share the good news.

Regardless of our past, God is always ready to help us to begin again. God invites each one of us to 'Come and See' – to make a **NEW START** with Him, each and every day.

Dom Henry Wedderburn

A Word from Pope Francis: "Let us allow God's constant help to make us new people."

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 14th January 2024

As John stood with two of his disciples, Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him and said, "Look, there is the Lamb of God." Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, "What do you want?" They answered, "Rabbi," – which means teacher – "where do you live?" "Come and see," he replied, so they went and saw where he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that day. It was about the tenth hour. One of these two (who became followers of Jesus after hearing what John had said) was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. Early next morning, Andrew met his brother and said to him, "We have found the Messiah," – which means the Christ – and he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked hard at him and said, "You are Simon son of John; you are to be called Cephas," – meaning Rock.

Adapted from John 1:35-42

The 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year B

Everyone can learn more about this Gospel in church: all are very warmly invited.

2024 The Year of Prayer

The Wednesday Word – It's Good News for Families

Pope Francis has declared 2024 as a special Year of Prayer. In this very special year, why not set a New Year's resolution: resolve to join in with The Wednesday Word Family Time each week (see overview)? Families who regularly pray together find they grow closer and experience the joy that comes from 'Come & See'.

Connecting Home, School & Parish through Sunday's Gospel www.wednesdayword.org

Share the Good News

Print and complete the leaflet with your child & SHARE A DIGITAL COPY with your friends

A Free Weekly Gift for Everyone

Recommended Reads for January 2024



EYFS



KS1



Lower KS2



Upper KS2

School Information for January 2024 - Reminder

School Timings

Start of school day

Flexible drop off between 8.45am – 8.55am

Children must be in class for 8.55am for registration

End of the school day - **All Classes – 3.25pm**

School Uniform

Purple Jumpers or Cardigans

Black or Grey Skirt or Pinafore

Black or Grey Trousers

White Shirt or Blouse (tucked in at all times)

Warmer Weather

Purple and White Checked or Striped Dress

Plain Dark Shorts

White Polo Shirt

PE Days & Kit

PE Days

Class 1 - Thursday

Class 2 - Monday

Class 3 - Wednesday

Children should come to school wearing their school uniform and bring their PE Kit in with them.

PE Kit should consist of:

Plain dark shorts / leggings / tracksuit bottoms

White polo shirt/white shirt or white T shirt.

School cardigan or jumper

No other clothing is appropriate.

Children who are unable to wear correct PE Kit must come to school in normal school uniform and bring their own PE Kit in a bag to change into at the start of the lesson

Jewellery

Can we please remind parents/carers that no jewellery is permitted and can cause injury to your child and others.

Chunky chains/necklaces are not part of school uniform and therefore should not be worn in school.

Ideally ear rings should not be worn. If ear rings are worn, parent/carers should sign a consent form. Ear rings should be removed on PE Days.

Holiday Absence

Just a reminder that all holidays are entered as unauthorised absences as outlined in DCC policies for Truancy /attendance. Any 7 days of unauthorised absence in any 12 week rolling period will result in a Fixed Penalty Notice. We are very mindful of the financial pressures on families at this time but improved school attendance is a priority for us as a school, regionally and nationally. Often families can reduce the impact on attendance by tagging holidays onto a school break.

Swimming

Year 5 children will be swimming every Monday until February half term. Please ensure your child comes to school with their swimming kit.

Classroom & School Rules

Following our first week back to school, we are really pleased with the positive start the children have made. We hope this continues throughout this term.