



# Our Lady's News

Volume 8 Issue 6 22nd December 2023

*'With God, all things are possible' (Mt 19.26)*



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Dear parents/carers,

It is unusual for the autumn term to end so close to Christmas but I hope that you will agree that having the children in school this week has made the run-up to Christmas even more special. There have been so many activities over the last few weeks which have given us all the opportunity to reflect on the real meaning of Christmas.

The nativity play was performed so beautifully by the school's youngest children (some of which are only 3 years old). It is always a joy for staff to see the encouragement and love on the faces of the audience as the children perform.

The Christingle service and singing of Christmas carols also gave us an opportunity to take time away from the hectic preparations and focus on the important message of spreading kindness and peace in the world.

At this time of year, it is important to thank those who work so hard to make our school community what it is;

- Our governors who give up their time to make sure policies and procedures reflect the need of the whole community
- Our kitchen staff who produce lovely food every day and created a beautiful Christmas lunch for all pupils and staff
- Our cleaning staff who keep the school looking beautiful – it seems everything in school has been sprinkled with glitter this week, which is lovely for everyone except the cleaning staff!
- Our site staff who have ensured the area is safe for all pupils, parents and staff every day
- Our admin team to are on hand to help pupils, staff, parents and visitors with anything they need
- Our teachers and support staff who show love and support to all the children, bringing out the very best in each one of them
- And finally, our children who are just fabulous and make all the hard work worthwhile!

I know you will join me in wishing everyone within school a happy and peaceful Christmas.

His Grace, Archbishop Bernard Longley, has written a Christmas message to all Catholics schools.

You will find the link to his 3 minute message here:

[Christmas Message from Archbishop Bernard Longley 2023 \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

I hope that you all have a wonderful Christmas with your family and friends. Thank you for all that you do to support the school. I look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January.

Mrs K Oakley

Executive Headteacher



Join our 700+ followers on Twitter @OLCAFenton Follow us to see all recent news, events and pictures!

## DIARY DATES

**22.12.23:** Last day of Autumn term 2  
**08.01.24:** Inset day - school closed to pupils  
**09.01.24:** School reopens to pupils, start of Spring term 1  
**10.01.24-12.01.24:** Y5 Residential trip to Alton Castle  
**15.01.24:** Y5 swimming lessons commence Monday afternoons at Fenton Manor Swimming Baths  
**17.01.24:** Nursery 2024 open evening 4.30pm-6.00pm  
**25.01.24:** Clubs cancelled due to Staff Training  
**30.01.24:** Parent/Carer drop in 8.45am-9.30am  
**31.01.24:** Watch me Learn 9.00am-10.00am (more details to follow)  
**09.02.24:** Last day of Spring term 1

All the dates of this year's school terms and holiday dates can be found on our website <https://www.ourladyasca.org.uk/parents/term-dates>

### Parent/Carer drop in session

Parent/Carers are warmly invited to attend our next informal drop in session on Tuesday 30th January. The session will run from 8.45am-9.30am. This informal drop in session will be run by Danielle Costa from the Mental Health Support team. It will be a great opportunity to discuss any concerns you have around the feelings and emotions of your



### Red Cross First Aid link

<https://www.redcross.org.uk/first-aid/learn-first-aid>



### Year 5 Swimming Lessons

Swimming lessons at Fenton Manor Sports Complex will commence from Monday 15th January For the Spring Term Year 5 will be walking to and from these sessions with staff. Boys must have swimming trunks **not shorts** and girls should wear a one-piece costume. Pupils with long hair need to wear a swimming cap. Please do not forget that they will need a towel with them. Pupils need to come into school in their uniform and bring their swimming kit with them.

### Our Lady's Little Learners

**FREE Play and Stay Session for children aged 2+**  
 Every Wednesday 9:30-10:30 during Term Time Only  
 To book your place call 01782 254832 or email [littlelearners@olca.org.uk](mailto:littlelearners@olca.org.uk)

## P.E Spring term 2024

Children should arrive in school wearing their P.E kits on the day of their lesson. Kit to be worn all day. Pupils should remove all jewellery (including earrings) prior to taking part in any physical activities.



### Tues 9th Jan - Fri 22nd March

**Monday - Y4 & Y6**

**Tuesday - Reception & Nursery**

**Wednesday - Nursery, Y1,Y3,Y5**

**Thursday - Y2,Y4,Y3 & Y6**

**Friday - Y1 & Y2**

We would like to wish all our customers a Joyful and Peaceful New Year

## Christmas Opening Hours



**smart school uniform**

We will Close at 5pm on

**Wednesday 20th December 2023**

and Re Open on

**Wednesday 3rd January 2024**

Opening Hours

From 3rd January to

Friday 5th January

Will be

10am until 4pm

Please note that any web sales made after the 19th December will NOT be processed until Wednesday 3rd January.

### Christmas Events at Our Lady's



We managed to raise a total of £402.23 for the PTFA funds from all the Christmas events that took place in school this term. Many thanks to everyone who made a contribution

### Reception & Nursery September 2024

You can now apply for Reception and Nursery places for September 2024. Please apply online via: [www.stoke.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.stoke.gov.uk/admissions)

The closing date for Reception is

Monday 15th January

The closing date for Nursery is

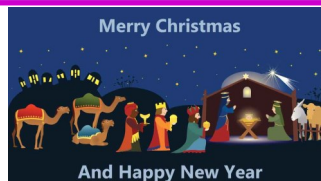
Wednesday 31st January



### Attendance

w/c 18/12/2023

Class	Total Percentage
YN	97%
YR	89%
Y1	97%
Y2	96%
Y3	98%
Y4	98%
Y5	92%
Y6	94%



Executive Headteacher: Mrs K Oakley

Chair of the Academy Committee: Mr P Williams

Email; [office@olca.org.uk](mailto:office@olca.org.uk) or [headteacher@olca.org.uk](mailto:headteacher@olca.org.uk)

Designated Child Protection Officer: Mrs K Oakley

Child Protection Academy Rep: Mrs V Wareham

[www.safeguardingchildren.stoke.gov.uk](http://www.safeguardingchildren.stoke.gov.uk)

Stoke on Trent Children's Services: 01782 235100